



# **AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**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 on **26 April 2022** commencing at **11:00am** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

**Please Note: The Council Meetings are recorded**

Michael Urquhart  
**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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## 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 to 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 |
|---------|-------|
|         |       |

## 1. OPENING OF MEETING

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

## 2. 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.*

## 3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### Leave of Absence

#### Recommendation:

That the leave of absence received from \_\_\_\_\_ is accepted and leave of absence granted.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

## 4. 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 |
|------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |
|            |          |                         |        |



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

### **5.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29 MARCH 2022**

| <b>Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 29 March 2022</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held 29 March 2022, 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> |

**Attachments:**

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 29 March 2022



**MINUTES FOR THE  
ORDINARY COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Michael Urquhart  
GENERAL MANAGER

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL HELD AT  
THE WALGETT SHIRE CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022 AT 11:35AM**
**OPEN FORUM****Public Presentations:**

Nil

*The Mayor declared the meeting open at 11:35AM***PRESENT**

|                    |                                                  |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Jane Keir          | (Mayor)                                          |
| Greg Rummary       | (Deputy Mayor)                                   |
| Clr Alf Seaton     |                                                  |
| Clr Colin Hundy    |                                                  |
| Clr Daniel Walford |                                                  |
| Clr Ian Woodcock   |                                                  |
| Clr Jasen Ramien   |                                                  |
| Clr Michael Cooke  |                                                  |
| Clr Sue Currey     |                                                  |
| Michael Urquhart   | (General Manager)                                |
| Tony Hughes        | (Chief Financial Officer)                        |
| Bob Stephen        | (Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services) |
| Bronte Kerr        | (Minute Secretary)                               |

**Leave of Absence:**

Nil

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

| Councillor | Item No. | Report title/ Subject matter                                                         | Pecuniary/Non-Pecuniary | Reason                   |
|------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mayor Keir | 10.3.1   | Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – as at 28 February 2022                          | Pecuniary               | Family Business interest |
|            | 12.2.1   | Fixing Country Roads - Reconstruction and Sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road |                         |                          |
| Clr Ramien | 10.3.1   | Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – as at 28 February 2022                          | Pecuniary               | Family Business interest |
|            | 12.2.1   | Fixing Country Roads - Reconstruction and Sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road |                         |                          |
|            | 12.2.2   | Fixing Local Roads Program – Burranbaa Road Reconstruction and Sealing of 10.6 kms   |                         |                          |

**4/2022/1 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 22 February 2022****Resolved:**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held 22 February 2022, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings on the meeting.

Moved: Clr Cooke  
 Seconded: Clr Rummery  
 CARRIED

**4/2022/2 Monthly Mayoral Report****Resolved:**

That the Mayoral report for March 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Currey  
 Seconded: Clr Ramien  
 CARRIED

**4/2022/3 Council's Decision Action Report****Resolved:**

That the Resolution Register as at March 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock  
 Seconded: Clr Rummery  
 CARRIED

**4/2022/4 Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government****Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Department circular 22-02 through to 22-05 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Rummery  
 Seconded: Clr Seaton  
 CARRIED

**4/2022/5 Important Dates for Councillors – Upcoming Meetings & Events****Resolved:**

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

Moved: Clr Woodcock  
 Seconded: Clr Cooke  
 CARRIED

| 4/2022/6 Community Development Report - November 2021- February 2022                                                                                                                                        |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>That the report for Community Development: November 2021- February 2022 be received.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Clr Woodcock<br/> <b>Seconded:</b> Clr Walford<br/> <b>CARRIED</b></p> |  |

| 4/2022/7 Monthly Outstanding Rates Report as at 28 February 2022                                                                                                                        |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>The 28 February 2022 outstanding rates report be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Clr Seaton<br/> <b>Seconded:</b> Clr Hundy<br/> <b>CARRIED</b></p> |  |

| 4/2022/8 Cash and Investment Report as at 28 February 2022                                                                                                           |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>That the Investment report be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Clr Hundy<br/> <b>Seconded:</b> Clr Currey<br/> <b>CARRIED</b></p> |  |

*At 11.51am Mayor Keir and Councillor Ramien declared a pecuniary interest and exited the Council Chamber. Deputy Mayor Rummary then presided over the meeting.*

| 4/2022/9 Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – February 2022                                                                                                                                                         |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Resolved:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for February 2022.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Clr Woodcock<br/> <b>Seconded:</b> Clr Currey<br/> <b>CARRIED</b></p> |  |

*Mayor Keir and Councillor Ramien returned to the Council Chamber at 11.52am and Mayor Keir resumed the chair.*

**4/2022/10 Monthly Progress Report – As at 28 February 2022****Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for February 2022.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Seaton  
**CARRIED**

**4/2022/11 Flood Restoration Works – Update****Resolved:**

That Council receive and note the flood restoration works report as at 28 February 2022.

**Moved:** Cllr Currey  
**Seconded:** Cllr Hundy  
**CARRIED**

**4/2022/12 Move into Closed Session**

**Time:** 11:54am

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A 92) (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 Seaton  
**Seconded:** Cllr Ramien  
**CARRIED**

*At 11:55am Mayor Keir declared a pecuniary interest and exited the Council Chamber. Deputy Mayor Rummery then presided over the meeting.*

**4/2022/13 Submission to Whiddon Group****Resolved:**

That Council make submission to Whiddon Group for the acquisition of the property at 146-148 Fox Street Walgett being Lot 3 DP803866.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Cooke  
**CARRIED**

*Cllr Ramien declared a pecuniary interest and exited the Council Chamber at 12.01pm.*

**4/2022/14 Fixing Country Roads - Reconstruction and Sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road****Resolved:**

1. That council receive and note the report.
2. Council accept Batterline Earthmoving Pty Ltd's submission for the reconstruction and sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road.
3. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the contract.
4. A dedicated project officer be assigned to the project and report to Council on a monthly basis.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Hundy  
**CARRIED**

*Mayor Keir returned to the Council Chamber at 12.16pm and resumed the chair.*

**4/2022/15 Fixing Local Roads Program – Burranbaa Road Reconstruction and Sealing of 10.6 kms****Resolved:**

1. That council receive and note the report.
2. Council accept Batterline Earthmoving Pty Ltd's submission for the reconstruction and sealing of 10.6kms of the Burranbaa Road between Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge.
3. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the contract.
4. A dedicated project officer be assigned to the project and report to Council on a monthly basis.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock  
**Seconded:** Cllr Currey  
**CARRIED**

*Cllr Ramien returned to the Council Chamber at 12.29pm.*

**4/2022/16 Return to open session****Resolved:**

That Council return to open session.

**Moved:** Cllr Cooke  
**Seconded:** Cllr Hundy  
**CARRIED**

| 4/2022/17 Adoption of closed session reports                                                   |             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Resolved:</b><br><br>That Council adopt the recommendations of the Closed Committee Reports |             |
| <b>Moved:</b>                                                                                  | Clr Walford |
| <b>Seconded:</b>                                                                               | Clr Hundy   |
| <b>CARRIED</b>                                                                                 |             |

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 12.35pm

To be confirmed at the next meeting of Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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



## 6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/DELEGATES

### 6.1 BARWON-DARLING CUSTOMER ADVISORY GROUP MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 17 MARCH 2022 - DRAFT

#### Barwon-Darling Customer Advisory Group Minutes of Meeting



Location: Video Conference  
Date: 17 March 2022  
Time: 9.00am

**Present:** Bruce Coward, Leonie Brown, Ian Cole, Jeff Sowiak, Greg Hill, Matthew Miles, Michael Urquhart, David Miller, Nerida Sloane (observer), Claire Miller (observer), Jonathan Dickson, Andrew Scott, Enrico Proietti, Sonia Townsend and Toni Hayes.

The following attended for specific agenda items: David Stockler, Russell Cocks, David Swift-Hoadley, Jack Finch, Naomi Bell, Hank Hochfaerber, Alastair McKenzie-McHarg, Jayme Wilson, Ryan Lynn, Greg Abood, Irene Zinger, Michael Scotland, Shagofa Ali, Andrew Richardson, Peter Hyde.

**Meeting Opened:** 9.00am.

**1. Introduction and Acknowledgement of Country:**

**1.1 Welcome and introductions:**

**1.2 Apologies:** Bill Murray, Jason Wilson.

**1.3 Confirmation of Agenda Items:**

**1.4 Declaration of Interest(s):**

- Declarations of interest were sought from attendees in relation to the meeting's agenda items. No interests were declared. Items included in the agenda are not considered confidential unless declared as such.

**1.5 Minutes of Previous Meeting, 21 October 2021:**

- Resolved the minutes of meeting held on 21 October 2021 be confirmed as a correct record. Taken as read.

*Ian Cole/Greg Hill  
carried*

**1.6 Actions arising from minutes**

- See action sheet attached.

**2. Water System Operations:**

**2.1 Water System Operations update (A Scott)**

- WaterNSW provided an overview of what will be presented at this afternoon's ROSCCo meeting, including system flows summary, water access, EOI, IDEC discussion and Claydon Review update.
- Moving forward, WaterNSW will review how operations updates are presented to customers.
- Customers sought an update on the recent Black Water in the Darling. WaterNSW advised this will be discussed at the Lower Darling ROSCCo meeting to be held on 22 March. See also [https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/500722/NSW-Murray-Darling-Basin-dissolved-oxygen-update-No-7-14-March-2022.pdf](https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/500722/NSW-Murray-Darling-Basin-dissolved-oxygen-update-No-7-14-March-2022.pdf)
- The Barwon-Darling ROSCCo, will be held following the CAG meeting. Please visit the [ROSCCo page](#) on WaterNSW's website for more information.

**2.2 Water Quality update (T Fulford)**

- WaterNSW provided a summary of the current algal situation in the Barwon-Darling system. For more information, please visit [www.waternsw.com.au/water-quality/algae](http://www.waternsw.com.au/water-quality/algae)

Contact us  
Call us on 1300 662 077  
Visit us at [waternsw.com.au](http://waternsw.com.au)  
Follow us on Twitter @WaterNSW

[waternsw.com.au](http://waternsw.com.au)



- Algae concentrations in the mid-lower Darling have risen rapidly with the reducing flows. Algae production appears to be accelerating. Given the present river flows are still significant, it is surprising to see the algae concentration elevate so soon after good flows in the system after flooding.
- Customers queried what the driver is for the unusual algal growth. WaterNSW advised there is a number of factors, including overland flow with the inflow of nutrients (whether natural or from fertilizers). If there's adequate sunlight and the water is warm enough, that is good conditions for algae to flourish. WaterNSW is monitoring using satellite imagery and samples and will watch closely.
- Council's questioned whether they should be issuing an alert to constituents. WaterNSW advised it's not usually necessary for amber alerts, however that is a matter for Council's to decide. Councils should monitor WaterNSW's website (per above link) and advise constituents as they see fit.
- Customers queried at what point an alert becomes an algal bloom. This is usually a concern at red alert level.

### 3. Presentations/Consultation:

#### 3.1 Water Reform Implementation Plan (WRIP) update

##### Non-Urban Metering Reform update – WaterNSW (R Cocks)

- WaterNSW provided an update on the non-urban metering reforms, including a recap on the roll out dates, metering requirements for surface, groundwater and at-risk groundwater sources and what water users need to do to get meter ready.
- Water users are strongly encouraged to check the mandatory conditions on work approvals as they supersede the requirements in the regulations. Use the online [Metering Guidance Tool](#) to see if and how the rules apply to you.
- Customers can choose to make an authorised work inactive to be exempt from the metering rules. Customers must complete the [application form](#) and pay an administration fee. Once inactive, customers will not be able to use their work to take any water, including basic landholder rights. Unregulated and groundwater customers will be billed on a one-part tariff (full entitlement charge). To make a work active again, customers will need to submit a new application and provide evidence that the work adheres to the metering regulations, noting that works in 'at-risk' water sources may not be re-approved.
- All works captured by the metering rules will need to be fitted with a pattern-approved meter by the regional rollout date. It may be possible to keep an existing meter if it was installed before 1 April 2019. For more information, please refer to the DPE leaflet [Non-Urban Water Metering in NSW: what water users need to know](#).
- Irrigation Australia has a full list of AS4747 pattern-approved meters on its website at <https://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/certification/as4747-pattern-approved-meters> as well as a list of DQPs in NSW <https://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/certification/certified-meter-installer-validator>
- If it is past your rollout date and you have not yet started the process, it is vital you begin immediately. If you have taken some action but are still not yet compliant, you must keep records of all communication with your DQP and equipment providers.
- All licensed water users in at-risk groundwater sources must meter all usage regardless of the size of your bore. There is a potential regulation change that would allow water users to make a work inactive (exempt from rules) but still take water for BLR. For more information, please refer to the [At-risk Groundwater Sources](#) fact sheet.
- Water users who connect to telemetry (mandatory and voluntary) will receive a telemetry rebate of \$975 which is credited against the telemetry fee that is applied to your bill over the next 4 years



(the IPART annual telemetry charge is \$182-\$226 per year). This does not apply to water users with Government-owned meters.

- Customers stated they were under the impression the rebate would be paid in one go, not over 4 years (ie \$975 credit). WaterNSW will ensure the messaging is consistent on our website.
- Recording and reporting requirements a meter presented and discussed.
- WaterNSW is developing a process for customers to inform us if the work installed is smaller than what is specified on your work approval, without the cost of amending the approval (subject to regulatory approval). To see what is listed on your work approval, visit the [NSW Water Register](#).
- **Faulty metering equipment** must be reported within 24 hours by completing the online s91i form at [www.waternsw.com.au/s91i](http://www.waternsw.com.au/s91i)
- There are a number of metering resources available on WaterNSW and DPE's websites to help customers identify their metering requirements to ensure they are meter ready. Please visit [www.waternsw.com.au/metering](http://www.waternsw.com.au/metering) and <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/nsw-non-urban-water-metering>.

#### Non-Urban Metering Reform update – DPE (A McKenzie-McHarg)

- There are currently 15 compliant meters available, 5 compatible telemetry devices and over 160 DQPs across NSW (refer <https://www.irrigationaustralia.com.au/>).
- There are five exemptions that may be applied to non-urban water metering – works solely used to take water under BLR; works that have been made inactive; works that cannot physically comply with the non-urban metering rules; works that are not nominated against an access licence; and small, low-risk works used solely to take water under a licensed S&D access licence. Customers should use the online [NSW Metering Guidance Tool](#) to see if exemptions apply to them.
- The Minister has granted a temporary exemption (233) from the non-urban metering rules for works that are required to connect to telemetry but cannot because they are in a site that does not receive IOT network coverage (note this is not the mobile network). For more information, please visit <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/nsw-non-urban-water-metering/what-water-users-need-to-know/telemetry-coverage-exemption>
- DPE is developing a Metering and Measurement virtual marketplace tool which connects water users, meter installers and suppliers and includes non-urban and floodplain harvesting.
- Floodplain Harvesting regulatory amendments were made in December 2021 however were subsequently disallowed on 24 February 2022. The disallowance means that implementation dates for floodplain harvesting remain uncertain. The department remains committed to the regulation of floodplain harvesting to legal limits set out in NSW water sharing plans and the Basin Plan. For enquiries, please email [floodplain.harvesting@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:floodplain.harvesting@dpie.nsw.gov.au). Floodplain harvesting licences are only issued when the WSP takes effect.
- Customers stated there is speculation that the disallowance and proclamation make floodplain harvesting illegal and questioned DPE's position on this. DPE agreed there is uncertainty around it but cannot comment further.

#### 4.2 NRAR Compliance update

##### Regulatory Priorities 2021-22 (I Zinger)

- A principal objective of NRAR is to ensure effective, efficient, transparent and accountable compliance and enforcement measures to support natural resources management legislation. NRAR's regulatory priorities are published to show how and where efforts are focussed to build and maintain public confidence in water management in NSW.





- Enduring and annual priorities presented and discussed, including unauthorised flood works program. There will be a state-wide focus on metering and overdrawn accounts and targeted focus on irrigated agriculture and extraction limits in at-risk water sources in some valleys.
- To view NRAR's Regulatory Priorities 2021-22, please visit [https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/387902/nrar-regulatory-priorities-2021-22.pdf](https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/387902/nrar-regulatory-priorities-2021-22.pdf)

#### Metering Compliance (R Lynn)

- NRAR presented statistics on tranche 1 (Dec 2020) compliance rates and its compliance approach for tranche 2 (Dec 2021) and tranche 3 (Dec 2022) for affected works under the non-urban water metering framework, including state-wide and Macquarie Bogan comparisons. Compliance is reported on active works that are in scope, within the metering threshold for the tranche.
- Tranche 1 compliance in the Barwon, Darling and West has increased to 86% (69% state-wide).
- Customers questioned if these figures include people who cannot connect due to no fault of their own. NRAR advised that if licence holders have complied with telemetry exemptions they are deemed to be compliant and included in the 86%.
- NRAR will visit high volume water users in tranche 2 in early 2022. Each case will be considered on its own merit. There is an expectation that all water users have at least entered into a formal arrangement with a meter installer before their deadline. Alternative pathways will be recognised.
- Tranche 3 compliance involves WaterNSW, DPE Water and NRAR working to ensure widespread awareness with the new rules. Communication channels including advertising, social media and hosting information events will be part of this.
- NRAR has developed an e-tool, NRAR Assist, to help customers find answers to common compliance questions. Please visit [nrar.nsw.gov.au/nrar-assist](http://nrar.nsw.gov.au/nrar-assist)
- NSWIC stated it is available to help get relevant information out to licence holders via newsletters etc if NRAR feeds the information direct.

#### 4.3 Regional Water Strategies update (M Scotland/S Ali)

- DPE is preparing 12 Regional Water Strategies across NSW to identify current and future regional water security challenges with priorities and actions for town and communities, industry, Aboriginal people and the environment.
- DPE has heavily invested in ground-breaking climate science, which underpins the strategies. Data and graphs on what the new climate data is showing presented.
- Approach to developing the Western Region Water Strategy presented and discussed, including timeline, key challenges identified (declining water security, loss of cultural access to water, protecting and enhancing natural systems, reduced connectivity impacting critical needs, poor water quality), connectivity challenges and options being considered, and details of public exhibition.
- Customers sought an explanation of how the NARCLIM data amplifies the stochastic climate change data. DPE explained that it is a different data set – stochastic is past looking, NARCLIM is forward looking. DPE has used the driest NARCLIM scenarios.
- Customers questioned if all four NARCLIM scenarios will be presented in the final report to provide transparency. No, only one scenario will be presented with the stochastic data set. The important part of the process is what we do with the information and how we use it in water management and decision making. The challenge with NARCLIM is that it is continuously updated.
- Customers stated that data presented needs to be clear and transparent in order for a balanced conversation and well-informed planning. DPE will add a caveat to the slide pack prior to sending out stating that the NARCLIM data presented is based on the driest climate change scenario and may not eventuate.



#### 4.4 Cold Water Pollution update (A Richardson)

- WaterNSW is required to address cold water pollution (CWP) under some work approvals subject to funding being provided. WaterNSW high priority CWP sites that require mitigation options funding are Copeton, Keepit, Wyangala and Blowering dams.
- WaterNSW sought funding for a CWP mitigation options study for works to improve temperature monitoring in its rural pricing submission to IPART. Funding was approved for 3 high priority sites (Copeton, Blowering and Keepit) and 3 temperature monitoring sites (Toonumbar, Lostock and Carcoar).
- The CWP mitigation options studies on the three dams will commence March 2022 through to June 2023 with expected outcomes being a robust assessment process, identification of the best CWP solution with the greatest environmental benefit at least whole-life cost and a benchmark to apply to lower priority dams. The CWP temperature monitoring works will occur in FY22-FY24.

#### 4.5 Barwon-Darling Unregulated Water Sharing Plan update (P Hyde)

- DPE provided an update on the Barwon Darling WSP issues and proposed consultation.
- The current *Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River Water Source 2012* is due to expire in 2023 and a draft replacement plan will be prepared. Amendments are likely to occur in 2022, including trade of historical account water (clause 42(3)) and floodplain harvesting rules as well as other changes primarily arising from NRC review and commitments, Vertessy investigation into fish deaths and the Claydon Review.
- Customers queried if the trades under clause 43 (3) can only be traded in the same section of the river. DPE confirmed that normal trade rules apply. There is a proposal to list the WALs that this applies to in the WSP.
- WaterNSW highlighted that the rules need to be in place first in relation to IDEC temporary trading for WaterNSW systems to be able to process these transactions.
- Customers questioned what changes from NRC and Vertessy is DPE focussed on. DPE stated that they are looking at the long-term impacts and work. NRC recommended that we look at B and C Class trigger levels and that has been rolled into the planning.
- Related projects include connectivity work being undertaken as part of the Western Regional Water Strategy, Wilcannia Weir infrastructure upgrades and pump recalibration work.
- Proposed Q2 2022 consultation approach presented and discussed, including webpages, letters to licence holders, public exhibitions and information webinars and face to face information session.

#### 4.6 Regulatory Economics – Pricing Determination Engagement update (J Dickson)

##### Customer Conversations:

- Feedback from the Kitchen Table Kit provided insights that will inform future engagement, with key themes of pricing (including water availability, postage stamp pricing, tariff structure, water accounting), regulatory complexity and licensing (minimum invoice amounts, fees for sleeper licences).
- Future engagement is intended to align with the IPART Engagement Framework and themes received will be used in the next phase. Starting engagement earlier than in the past remains a focus of WaterNSW.

##### Increasing Transparency:

- Based on customer feedback, WaterNSW is improving the description and breakdown of charges on your bill. Pass-through charges collected by WaterNSW on behalf of MDBA and DBBRC are now listed separately as "other pass-through charges". This change does not impact the overall fees



and charges levied against a water licence, only separated to improve transparency. All pass-through charges are determined by IPART.

#### ACCC Consultation:

- The nine MDB valleys and rural customers in the Fish River Water Supply (FRWS) scheme have been regulated by IPART under the Water Charge (Infrastructure) Rules 2010 (WCIR). The Coastal valleys and urban FRWS customers are regulated by IPART under the IPART Act.
- Following the ACCC review of the WCIR, the Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources accepted the ACCC's advice to return the regulation of bulk water infrastructure charges back to the basin states, which resulted in several amendments to the WCIR in 2020.
- Following these changes, WaterNSW has notified the ACCC that it has been made aware of a matter that may result in WaterNSW ceasing to be subject to Commonwealth legislation. If approved, this would allow IPART to regulate all of WaterNSW's water services under the IPART Act. If not approved, regulation of the MDB valleys will revert to the ACCC for the 2025 Determination.
- Details of the review can be found at <https://www.accc.gov.au/regulator/infrastructure/water/water-projects/waternsw-decisions-under-part-6-of-the-water-charge-rules-2010/waternsw-ceasing-to-be-a-part-6-operator-consultation>

#### What are customers paying for?

- WaterNSW presented a response to action BD2110.01, as requested by CAG members at previous meetings.
- The total user share revenue requirement in the Barwon-Darling Water Management Charges over the 2021 Determination is \$6.7M over four years. These funds contribute to the services provided by all WAMC agencies (WaterNSW (36%), DPE (27%) and NRAR (37%)).
- DPE, NRAR, MDBA and BRC pass-through charges and services for cost recovery presented.
- WaterNSW's user share revenue requirement in the Barwon-Darling over the 2021 Determination is \$2.4M over four years and includes surface water quality and quantity monitoring; data management, reporting and algal monitoring; customer billing and management; blue-green algae and environmental water management; and infrastructure services to support all of these activities, including hydrometric assets and business systems.
- The combined revenue requirement of the three agencies over the 2021 Determination in the Barwon-Darling is less than it was in the 2016 Determination. The increase in the total prices in the Barwon-Darling is largely driven by increases in MDBA and BRC pass-through water management charges (which IPART set at cost reflective levels).
- Customers noted the total has gone up by \$2.7M over the 4-year period, stating they would like to see a break-up of NRAR and DPE charges and comparison with other valleys. WaterNSW does not have this information.

#### 4.7 CAG Term of Office (S Townsend)

- WaterNSW made specific mention and thanks to all current members and alternates who have contributed to CAGs over the current term, noting the efforts and service of the Chair. We do appreciate the time and effort made by many to attend and provide feedback on the services provided by WaterNSW.
- The current term of office for WaterNSW CAGs expires on 30 June 2022, with a new term commencing 1 July 2022. Letters have been sent to your nominating organisations inviting nominations for the 2022-25 term.





- If you are considering renominating as a member of the CAG, please contact your nominating organisation to complete your nomination. Nominations close on 14 April 2022.

#### **4.8 WAVE update (J Dickson)**

##### **WAVE – Pilot Coming Soon:**

- WaterNSW continues to renew core systems to improve and streamline the way customers transact. A pilot for our new customer portal will launch soon to test functionality with new customers, prior to being extended to existing customers.
- The customer portal will provide customers with choices on how they transact with WaterNSW. New functionality will enable customers to access our services at anytime from anywhere, with the opportunity to manage water needs in one place. The portal will be progressively launched throughout 2022, with the first stage being rolled out in March allowing customers to submit new basic landholder rights (BLR) bore applications via the portal.
- Additional functionality being introduced over the next 12 months includes WAL applications, ordering and trading water, viewing water account balances, meter reads, other licensing application types and paying your WaterNSW bills.
- For more information, please visit <https://www.waternsw.com.au/customerportal>

#### **4.9 What's New (J Dickson)**

##### **Controlled Allocation Order Update**

- A new Controlled Allocation Order has been made under section 65 of the WMA 2000, with registrations of interest open from 18 March–18 April 2022.
- A controlled allocation provides a right to acquire a water access licence for a specified water source by auction, tender or other mean specified in an order published in the Government Gazette.
- For more information, or to register your interest, please visit <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/controlled>

#### **5. Business Papers:**

- Noted and taken as read.

#### **6. General Business:**

- Nil general business raised.

##### **Meeting Review and Close**

**Next Meeting:** 14 July 2022

**Meeting closed:** 12.10pm



### Barwon-Darling Customer Advisory Group – Actions – 17 March 2022

| Carried forward actions |                              |                |        |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| Action No.              | Action                       | Responsibility | Status |
|                         | Nil carried forward actions. |                |        |
| New actions             |                              |                |        |
| Action No.              | Action                       | Responsibility | Status |
|                         | Nil new actions.             |                |        |

**Contact us**  
 Call us on 1300 642 077  
 Visit us at [waterNSW.com.au](http://waterNSW.com.au)  
 Follow us on Twitter @WaterNSW

[waterNSW.com.au](http://waterNSW.com.au)



## 6.2 MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 18 MARCH 2022 – DRAFT

### MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INCORPORATED, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 18th MARCH 2022, AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB, 243 ANSON ST, ORANGE, NSW.

#### Present in person

Cr Michael Banasik  
Cr Phyllis Miller OAM  
Cr Mathew Deeth  
Steve Loane OAM  
Cr Kevin Duffy  
Cr Jason Hamling  
Cr Scott Ferguson  
Cr David Somerville  
Kent Boyd  
Cr Peter Batten  
Heather Nicholls  
Brad Cam  
Cr Mathew Dickerson  
Murray Wood  
Cr Dennis Brady  
Cr Denis Todd

Wollondilly Shire Council (Chair)  
Forbes Shire Council (Dep Chair)  
Wollondilly Shire Council  
Forbes Shire Council  
Orange City Council (Dep Chair)  
Orange City Council  
Blayney Shire Council (Ex Comm)  
Blayney Shire Council  
Parkes Shire Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Mid Western Regional Council  
Dubbo Regional Council  
Dubbo Regional Council  
Lachlan Shire Council (Ex Comm)  
Warrumbungle Shire Council (Ex Comm)

#### By Zoom

Cr Dom Figliomeni  
Jon Shillito

Wollongong City Council  
Lachlan Shire Council

#### Apologies

Cr Liz McGlynn  
Cr Jim Hickey  
Peter Vlatko  
Cr Peter Abbott  
Cr Jarrod Marsden  
Cr Des Kennedy  
Cr Andrew Dawson  
Rebecca Ryan  
David Henry  
Cath Blakey  
Ron Zwicker  
Cr Elaine Bendall  
Cr Rob Hooke  
Andrew Johns  
Greg Tory  
Cr Jane Keir  
Mike Urquhart  
Gary Woodman  
Cr Ros Jackson  
Cr Katrina Walker  
Cr John Stafford  
Colleen Worthy  
Cr Aneillo Iannuzzi

Bland Shire Council  
Broken Hill City Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Mid Western Regional Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Blayney Shire Council  
Wollondilly Shire Council  
Wollongong City Council  
Wollongong City Council  
Lachlan Shire Council  
Gunnedah Shire Council  
Gunnedah Shire Council  
Lachlan Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
Warrumbungle Shire Council

#### In attendance

Greg Lamont, Executive Officer (Minute Taker); Liza Schiff (Melting Pot Planning);  
Roy Butler (MP Barwon accompanied by Senior Policy Officer Troy Leonard and

Brett Cooke from Phil Donato's office – MP Orange) and Ross De Rango (Electric Vehicle Council, Tim McMinn (DPE-Hydrogen Hub) by zoom.

**1. Welcome by Chair.**

The Acting Chair, Councillor Michael Banasik welcomed members to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 9.20am. Chair asked all delegates to introduce themselves and outline why their Council is a member of MERC. Delegates were amazed with the level of investment in mining & renewable energy projects in their LGA's.

What was interesting were the Councils that were setting up their own energy sources eg Mid Western Regional Council's Megawatt Solar Farm; Wollongong City Council has a Renewable Energy Action Plan and Blayney but projects are being held up by Essential Energy approvals.

A welcome address to delegates was provided by the Mayor of Orange City Council, Cr Jason Hamling, highlighting the level of investment in tourism and in mining in and renewable energy in the region with the Council leading by example by undertaking the following projects:-

*Airport carports with solar on them; Aquatic Centre has solar energy in place; Wade Park, major sporting facility have plans for energy upgrade; Water Treatment Plant has 450kw solar plant ground mounted; Waste Water Treatment Plant re-use scheme & stormwater harvesting; Civic Centre has roof top solar, EV charging station and plans for EV charging stations in carpark and solar on the Library.*

**2. Acknowledgement of Country by Chair**

"I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that we meet on today and pay our respects to the Elders past, present & emerging".

**3. Apologies.**

**AGM 1/2022** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Banasik) that the apologies as per the above list be received and noted

**4. Disclosures of Interest.**

(a) Cr Dom Figliomeni declared his interest as a shareholder in New Hope and Whitehaven mining companies;

**AGM 2/2022** Resolved (Loane/Nicholls) that the disclosures of interest and reasons for them be received and noted.

**5. Adoption of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**

**AGM 3/2020** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Banasik) that the minutes of the Association's Annual General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019, be received and noted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**6. Business arising from the Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Nil**

**7. Chairperson's 2020 Annual Report.**

**AGM 4/2022** Resolved (Cr Banasik/Cr Miller) that the Chairperson's 2020 Annual Report be received and noted.

**8. Executive Officer's 2020 Annual Report.**

**AGM 5/2022** Resolved (Cr Ferguson/Cr Duffy) that the Executive Officer's 2020 Annual Report be received and noted. The Executive Officer and Executive Committee to discuss MERC's Strategic Plan 2020-2023 core business approach given the rapid expansion and growth of renewable projects in NSW, since the Strategic Plan was adopted in 2020 and due for review in 2023.

**9. Election of Chairperson, Deputy Chairpersons and Executive Committee.**

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 9.30AM**

**Election Executive Committee**

**AGM 6/2022** Resolved (Cr Figliomeni/Cr Batten) That the meeting be suspended to allow the Returning Officer to conduct the election of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Officer reported that the nominations for the Executive Committee received by the due date equated to the vacancies for Chair and the two Deputy Chair positions, however there were still three positions vacant for the Executive Committee that need to be sought from delegates.

The Returning Officer (MERC Executive Officer) called for nominations from the floor for positions on the Executive Committee, noting that Cr Figliomeni declined his nomination due to his level of commitments. The Executive Officer announced the result being Councillors Scott Ferguson (Blayney Shire), Dennis Brady (Lachlan Shire) and Denis Todd (Warrumbungle Shire) were duly elected to the Executive Committee of MERC. The results of the election were as follows:

- Chair – Cr Michael Banasik (Wollondilly Shire Council);
- Deputy Chair – Cr Phyllis Miller OAM (Forbes Shire Council);
- Deputy Chair – Cr Kevin Duffy (Orange City Council);
- Executive Committee –
  - Cr Scott Ferguson (Blayney Shire Council), Cr Dennis Brady (Lachlan Shire Council) and Cr Denis Todd (Warrumbungle Shire Council)

Delegates congratulated the Executive Committee on their appointments

**Speaker- Roy Butler, MP Barwon**

Roy Butler, Troy Leonard (MP Barwon's office) and Brett Cooke (MP Orange office) entered the meeting at 9.45am and Chair allowed them to address delegates on current regional issues whilst meeting was in suspension.

Matters discussed were:- Resources for Regions Program; Mining, Rural and Business rates changes; Shared Equity in Housing; Energy Projects being held up by Essential Energy approvals; Solar Waste Management toxicity issues; Virtual Power Plants and Voluntary Planning Agreements. Roy undertook to follow the issues up (Essential Energy) and communicate with Executive Officer on them to forward to delegates the results of his representation.

Speakers left meeting at 10.10am

**RESUMPTION STANDING ORDERS AT 10.10AM**

**AGM 7/2022** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Figliomeni) that the Association resume the Annual General Meeting business.

**10. Financial Statements – 1/7/20 to 30/6/21**

**AGM 7/2022** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Brady) that the Financial Report for 2020-2021 financial year be referred to the NSW Department of Fair Trading to note, in accordance with the Association Incorporations Act 2009.

**11. 2021-2022 Budget**

**AGM 8/2022** Resolved (Cr Todd/Cr Brady) that the 2021-2022 budget as presented be adopted by the Association.

**12. Membership Fees**

**AGM 9/2022** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Brady) that the Association membership fees for 2021 – 2022 be increased by the rate peg, set by the State Government the previous year, plus GST and this be applied annually. (Note 2021/22 rate peg is 0.07%)

**13. 2022 Meeting Dates & Venues**

**AGM 10/2022** Resolved (Cr Duffy/Cr Miller) that the following meeting cycle be adopted for 2022 – next 2 meetings to be in Sydney (May and August) and November in Dubbo.

**14. General Business**

**Item (a) Delegates appointments - Nil**

**AGM 11/2022** Resolved (Cr Hall/Cr Moore) that the information in item (a) be noted.

**15. Next Meeting of Annual General Meeting.**

Refer decisions in Item 12

**16. Close.** The meeting closed at 11.04am

The minutes (pages 1-4) were confirmed at the Annual General meeting of the Association held on the \_\_\_\_\_ 2022 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022

.....  
Cr Michael Banasik  
Chairperson

## 6.3 MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD 18 MARCH 2022 – DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB, 243 ANSON ST, ORANGE, 18th MARCH 2022

### Present in person

Cr Michael Banasik  
Cr Phyllis Miller OAM  
Cr Mathew Deeth  
Steve Loane OAM  
Cr Kevin Duffy  
Cr Jason Hamling  
Cr Scott Ferguson  
Cr David Somerville  
Kent Boyd  
Cr Peter Batten  
Heather Nicholls  
Brad Cam  
Cr Mathew Dickerson  
Murray Wood  
Cr Dennis Brady  
Cr Denis Todd

Wollondilly Shire Council (Chair)  
Forbes Shire Council (Dep Chair)  
Wollondilly Shire Council  
Forbes Shire Council  
Orange City Council (Dep Chair)  
Orange City Council  
Blayney Shire Council (Ex Comm)  
Blayney Shire Council  
Parkes Shire Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Mid Western Regional Council  
Dubbo Regional Council  
Dubbo Regional Council  
Lachlan Shire Council (Ex Comm)  
Warrumbungle Shire Council (Ex Comm)

### By Zoom

Cr Dom Figliomeni  
Jon Shillito

Wollongong City Council  
Lachlan Shire Council

### Apologies

Cr Liz McGlynn  
Cr Jim Hickey  
Peter Vlatko  
Cr Peter Abbott  
Cr Jarrod Marsden  
Cr Des Kennedy  
Cr Andrew Dawson  
Rebecca Ryan  
David Henry  
Cath Blakey  
Ron Zwicker  
Cr Elaine Bendall  
Cr Rob Hooke  
Andrew Johns  
Greg Tory  
Cr Jane Keir  
Mike Urquhart  
Gary Woodman  
Cr Ros Jackson  
Cr Katrina Walker  
Cr John Stafford  
Colleen Worthy  
Cr Aneillo Iannuzzi

Bland Shire Council  
Broken Hill City Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Cobar Shire Council  
Mid Western Regional Council  
Cabonne Shire Council  
Blayney Shire Council  
Wollondilly Shire Council  
Wollongong City Council  
Wollongong City Council  
Lachlan Shire Council  
Gunnedah Shire Council  
Gunnedah Shire Council  
Lachlan Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Warren Shire Council  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
Warrumbungle Shire Council

### In attendance

Greg Lamont, Executive Officer (Minute Taker); Liza Schiff (Melting Pot Planning); Roy Butler (MP Barwon accompanied by Senior Policy Officer Tim Leonard and Brett Cooke from Phil Donato's office – MP Orange) and Ross De Rango (Electric Vehicle Council, Tim McMinn (DPE-Hydrogen Hub) by zoom.



**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB, 243 ANSON ST, ORANGE, 18th MARCH 2022**

**1. Welcome by Chair.**

The Chair, Councillor Michael Banasik, welcomed members to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 11.15am.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country by Chair**

"I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that we meet on today and pay our respects to the Elders past, present & emerging".

**3. Apologies.**

OM 1/2022 Resolved (Cr Miller/Loane) that the apologies as per the above list be received and noted

**4. Disclosures of Interest.**

Cr Dom Figliomeni declared an interest as a shareholder in New Hope and Whitehaven mining companies.

**5. Adoption of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

OM 2/2022 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Loane) that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 be received and noted.

**6. Business Arising from Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Nil**

**7. Receipt of the Notes on the Executive Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

OM 3/2022 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Duffy) that consideration of the notes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be deferred until after the Executive Officer provides a background report on the items & recommendations.

The Executive Officer went through the items in his report that related to matters on the Agenda for this meeting prior to consideration of the notes.

OM 4/2022 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Banasik) that the notes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be received and noted.

**8. Business Arising from the Notes of Executive Committee Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 - Nil**

**9. Delegates Reports – Nil.**

**SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS AT 11.02AM**

OM 5/2022 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Duffy) that the meeting be suspended at 11.02am to receive the presentations from the two speakers via zoom.

**10. Speakers:**

**(a) Ross de Rango – Electric Vehicle Council**

Spoke on 'Local Government and the transition to EV's" outlining fuel savings; the phenomenal uptake of EV's; energy and distance travelled; charging at home

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB, 243 ANSON ST, ORANGE, 18th MARCH 2022**

options; charging on the go; the layers of government (Federal, State and Local Government) and where they play; Council fleets- start with light vehicles with known usage patterns; Moreland and Casey City Councils in Victoria examples of EV's used in pool vehicles and waste removal; public EV charging facilities in NSW; NRMA to roll out EV drive days as example of consumer education; some wider considerations – content for the EV's needs to be mined from copper, lithium, nickel and what about hydrogen? (Slides were distributed to all delegates prior to the presentation).

**(b) Cr Mathew Dickerson – Mayor Dubbo Regional Council**

Spoke on the practical aspects of having Electric Vehicles after Ross' presentation and on how Dubbo Regional Council is introducing renewable energy options to save energy costs plus the future of EV's. He also provided his mayoral Electric Vehicle for delegates to drive – a Hyundai Ioniq 5 EV.

**(c) Tim McMinn & Michael Probert – DPE, Hydrogen Hub.**

Outlined what the NSW State Government is doing with Hydrogen to build on the work of the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap. A copy of the government's Hydrogen Strategy will be forwarded with the March Newsletter along with the link to the green hydrogen site for hydrogen powered garbage trucks. (Slides when available will be distributed to delegates).

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 12.30PM**

OM 5/2022 Resolved (Cr Duffy/Cr Brady) that standing orders be resumed at 12.30am to continue the meeting.

**11. Executive Officer's Report – Dealt with in Item 7**

**12. General Business**

**(a) Essential Energy Delays**

OM 6/2022 Resolved (Loane/Cr Batten) that:

1. the Association write to the Minister for Energy Hon Matt Kean, outlining the processing delays being caused by the under resourced Essential Energy in processing energy supply applications being experienced in regional NSW which are bogging down the construction of renewable energy developments; and
2. requesting that he intervene to ensure the level of service from Essential Energy is urgently improved to rectify the situation in (1).

**(b) Life Memberships**

OM 7/2022 Resolved (Cr Duffy/Cr Brady) that consideration of the nominations for life memberships for Owen Hasler and Peter Shinton be referred to the next Executive Committee meeting as per protocol.

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**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT ORANGE EX SERVICES CLUB, 243 ANSON ST, ORANGE, 18th MARCH 2022**

**(c) Departing Delegates & Australia Day Honours**

**OM 8/2022** Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Ferguson) that the Association forward letters of appreciation to departing delegates and letters of congratulations to delegates that received recent Australia Day honours.

**Close – the meeting closed at 12.35pm**

The minutes (pages 1-4) were confirmed at a meeting of the Ordinary Meeting held on the May 2022 and are a concise and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary General meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

.....  
**Cr Michael Banasik**  
**Chairperson**



## 6.4 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD 28 FEBRUARY 2022 – DRAFT

Page 1 of 6

### CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022  
AT 10:32AM.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs D. Batten, B. Fisher, Z. Holcombe, M Cooke, I. Woodcock, T Denis and N. Kinsey  
P. Cullen

**ABSENT:** Cllr A Brewer and Cllr G Peart

**STAFF MEMBERS:** M. Urquhart (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Biosecurity Officer),  
and R Wilson (Minute Secretary).

**WELCOME:** Meeting was opened at 10.32am and General Manager Michael Urquhart (Returning  
Officer) welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.

#### 02/22/1 Leave of Absence

**Resolved:**

That the leave of absence received from Councillors Andrew Brewer and Greg Peart are  
accepted and a leave of absence granted.

**Moved:** Cllr Cullen

**Seconded:** Cllr Kinsey

**Carried**

#### Declaration of oath/Affirmation of Office

Pursuant to Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the following Councillors took an  
Oath of Office;

- Cllr Patrick Cullen
- Cllr Noel Kinsey
- Cllr William Fisher
- Cllr Zoe Holcombe
- Cllr Denis Todd
- Cllr Doug Batten
- Cllr Ian Woodcock
- Cllr Michael Cooke

#### 02/22/2 Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

**Resolved:**

That Council adopt the ordinary ballot method for the election of the Chairperson and Deputy  
Chairperson.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Cllr Cooke

**Carried**

**02/22/3 Destruction of Election Ballot Papers****Resolved:**

That any ballot papers used now be destroyed.

**Moved:** Clr Fisher

**Seconded:** Clr Holcombe

**Carried**

**02/22/4 Election of Chairperson for Period Ending September 2023****Resolved:**

That the report be received and noted and the election for the position of Chairperson be held now.

**Moved:** Clr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Clr Cullen

**Carried**

The General Manager (Retuning Officer) declared that as only one (1) nomination was received for the position of Chairperson, *Clr Doug Batten* is duly elected to the position.

**02/22/5 Election of Deputy Chairperson for Period Ending September 2023****Resolved:**

That the report be received and noted and the election for the position of Deputy Chairperson be held now.

**Moved:** Clr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Clr Cullen

**Carried**

The General Manager (Retuning Officer) declared that as only one (1) nomination was received for the position of Deputy Chairperson, *Clr Bill Fisher* is duly elected to the position.

At this juncture, the General Manager vacated the Chair and handed over to the elected Chairperson *Clr Doug Batten* to chair the meeting.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- Nil**

**02/22/6 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021****Resolved:**

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**Moved:** Clr Cullen

**Seconded:** Clr Woodcock

**Carried**

**02/22/7 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements and Audit Report****Resolved:**

That Council receive the Audited Financial Reports together with the Auditor's Reports for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

**Moved:** Clr Kinsey

**Seconded:** Clr Todd

**Carried**

**02/22/8 2020-2021 Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – Annual Report 2020/2021****Resolved:**

That Council formally adopts its Annual Report for 2020/2021.

**Moved:** Clr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Clr Fisher

**Carried**

**02/22/9 Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government****Resolved:**

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 21-33 to 22-01 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

**Moved:** Clr Kinsey

**Seconded:** Clr Cullen

**Carried**

**02/22/10 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2021****Resolved:**

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 as tabled.

**Moved:** Cllr Todd

**Seconded:** Cllr Fisher

**Carried**

**02/22/11 Second Quarter Operational Plan 2021/2022****Resolved:**

That Council accept the progress made on the 2021/2022 Operational Plan as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

**Moved:** Cllr Fisher

**Seconded:** Cllr Holcombe

**Carried**

**02/22/12 Cash and Investment Report- 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022****Resolved:**

That the investment report for 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 be received and noted.

**Moved:** Cllr Woodcock

**Seconded:** Cllr Kinsey

**Carried**

**02/22/13 Important Dates for Councillors – Upcoming Meetings and Events****Resolved:**

1. That Council receive and note the list of coming meetings and events.
2. Cllr Todd accepted the nomination to be the County Council's Delegate to attend the Central West Regional Meeting in Coonabarabran on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**Moved:** Cllr Kinsey**Seconded:** Cllr Cullen**Carried****02/22/14 Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report****Resolved:**

That the report be received and noted.

**Moved:** Cllr Kinsey**Seconded:** Cllr Holcombe**Carried****Questions without Notice**

Cllr Batten – Requested that the General Manager write to all constituent Council's advising of an increase of 0.7% to annual co-contributions for 2022/2023, in line with IPART's 2022-2023 Rate Peg.

**Question:** Cllr Todd – Does CMCC conduct inspections at Waste Facility Management Centres?

**Response:** Senior Bio Security Officer advised – Inspections are conducted as required, additional inspections can be scheduled if there is concerns regarding noxious weed infestations.

**Q:** Cllr Cullen – Are fines being issued to Land Owners following failure to treat identified noxious weed infestations?

**Response:** Senior Bio Security Officer advised – Inspections and Re-inspections are conducted to monitor noxious weed treatment. Successful fine penalties as a result of failure to comply with treatment is difficult to achieve as minimal or some treatment is deemed to be compliant.

**02/22/15 Control of African Boxthorn****Resolved:**

That the General Manager write to North and Central West Local Land Services requesting information on any activity or action planned to support the control of African Boxthorn

**Moved:** Clr Fisher

**Seconded:** Clr Kinsey

**Carried**

*Clr Pat Cullen left the meeting at 11:50am*

*Clr Pat Cullen returned to the meeting at 11:55am*

**02/22/16 Leave of Absence****Resolved:**

That a leave of absence request from Councillor Denis Todd for the period of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022 is accepted and a leave of absence granted.

**Moved:** Clr Fisher

**Seconded:** Clr Kinsey

**Carried**

Date of the next CMCC Council Meeting to be Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 in Lightning Ridge to align with Hudson Pear Taskforce and North West Regional Meetings.

Bus Tour for CMCC Councillors including a tour of the Hudson Pear Bio Control Facility in Lightning Ridge to be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 11.55am.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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

## 6.5 ALLIANCE OF WESTERN COUNCILS (AWC) MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD 30 MARCH 2022 – DRAFT

### AWC Board Meeting Minutes

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|                    |                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Meeting of:</b> | <b>Alliance of Western Councils (AWC)</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>       | <b>30 March 2022</b>                      |
| <b>Time:</b>       | <b>9.00am</b>                             |
| <b>Venue:</b>      | <b>Gilgandra Services Club</b>            |

---

#### ATTENDEES:

|                              |                                                       |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Clr Glenn Neil               | Mayor <del>Bogan</del> Shire Council                  |
| Clr Vivian Slack-Smith       | Mayor <del>Brewarrina</del> Shire Council             |
| Clr Jared Marsden            | Deputy Mayor <del>Cobar</del> Shire Council           |
| Clr Mathew Dickerson         | Mayor Dubbo Regional Council                          |
| Clr Doug Batten              | Mayor Gilgandra Shire Council                         |
| Clr Des Kennedy              | Mayor Mid-Western Regional Council                    |
| Clr Craig Davies             | Mayor Narromine Shire Council                         |
| Clr Milton Quigley           | Mayor Warren Shire Council                            |
| Cr Ambrose <del>Doolan</del> | Mayor <del>Warrumbungle</del> Shire Council           |
| Derek Francis                | General Manager <del>Bogan</del> Shire Council        |
| Jeff <del>Sowiak</del>       | General Manager <del>Brewarrina</del> Shire Council   |
| Greg Hill                    | General Manager, Central Darling Shire Council        |
| Peter <del>Vlatko</del>      | General Manager <del>Cobar</del> Shire Council        |
| Bruce <del>Quarmby</del>     | Acting General Manager Coonamble Shire Council        |
| Murray Wood                  | CEO, Dubbo Regional Council                           |
| David Neeves                 | General Manager Gilgandra Shire Council               |
| Brad Cam                     | General Manager Mid-Western Regional Council          |
| Jane Redden                  | General Manager Narromine Shire Council               |
| Michael Urquhart             | General Manager Walgett Shire Council                 |
| Gary Woodman                 | General Manager Warren Shire Council                  |
| Roger Bailey                 | General Manager <del>Warrumbungle</del> Shire Council |

#### GUESTS

|            |                                                                                  |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ben Walker | Representing Member for <del>Dubbo</del> , the Hon <del>Dugald</del> Saunders MP |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## 1 WELCOME

Clr Craig Davies declared the meeting open at 9.00am and Cr Doug Batten then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Brad Cam assumed the Chair and called nominations for the position of Chair.

Clr Craig Davies was nominated by Clr Des Kennedy, seconded Clr Doug Batten. No further nominations were received, therefore Clr Craig Davies was declared as Chair of the Alliance of Western Councils for the ensuing term.

Nominations were called for the two positions of Deputy Chair. Two nominations were received, those of Clr Milton Quigley and Clr Glenn Neil (both nominated by Clr Doug Batten, seconded Cr Mathew Dickerson). No further nominations were received. Clr Milton Quigley was declared elected as Deputy Chair 1 and Clr Glenn Neil declared elected as Deputy Chair 2 for the ensuing term.

## 2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received for:

|                            |                                              |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Clr Barry Holman           | Mayor Bourke Shire Council                   |
| Clr Tim Horan              | Mayor Coonamble Shire Council                |
| Clr Jane Keir              | Mayor Walgett Shire Council                  |
| Mark Riley                 | General Manager Bourke Shire Council         |
| Bob Stewart                | Administrator, Central Darling Shire Council |
| Hein Basson                | General Manager Coonamble Shire Council      |
| The Hon Dugald Saunders MP |                                              |
| Roy Butler MP              |                                              |

**2022/01 RESOLVED** Clr Des Kennedy/Clr V Slack-Smith, that the apologies received be accepted.

CARRIED

## 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Brad Cam declared an interest in Item 6.3, due to his position as Chair of the Orana RDA.

CARRIED

## 4 CONFIRMATION OF NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2021

**2022/02 RESOLVED** Clr Glenn Neil and Jeff Sowiak, that the notes of the meeting held on 24 November 2021 to discuss the formation of the Alliance of Western Councils be received and noted.

CARRIED



**5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Nil

**SECRETARIAT**

Cllr Davies congratulated Brad Cam for his secretariat services provided to the Alliance of Western Councils as he hands on the responsibilities to another Council

**CONDOLENCES**

The Alliance passed on their sincere condolences to Cllr Barry Hollman, Mayor of Bourke Shire Council, on the recent passing of his daughter.

**6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**6.1 Draft Minutes of the General Managers' Meeting held on 21 February 2022**

***Minister of Western NSW LGA Boundaries***

Discussion took place on the alignment of what Councils are classified as Western Councils under the portfolio of the Minister of Western NSW.

Ben Walker noted the concerns from the floor, acknowledged that the boundaries are currently under review, and agreed to take the concerns back to the Minister with the expressed desire that the boundaries should include the member Councils of the Alliance for the purpose of his Portfolio.

**2022/03 RESOLVED** Cllr Milton Quigley/Cllr Mathew Dickerson, that the AWC write to the Minister of Western NSW, the Hon ~~Dugald~~ Saunders MP expressing the Alliance's interest to include all councils of the Western Alliance under the definitions of "Western Councils".

***~~Biodiversity~~ Offset Scheme***

Discussion was held regarding concerns with the scheme. It was noted that no further information has been forthcoming from the NSW Government review of the scheme as presented by the Hon ~~Dugald~~ Sanders MP, Member for Dubbo; Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Western NSW and Gary Barnes, Secretary, Department of Regional NSW at the General Managers' meeting.

**2022/04 RESOLVED** Brad Cam/Clr Doug Batten, that the AWC make written representations to James Griffin (Minister for Environment and Heritage) and the Hon Dugald Saunders MP of our concerns on the detrimental impacts that Biodiversity Offset Scheme is having on Development in Regional NSW and that the Alliance be provided with an update on the forecast Changes. Further that such letter include example from Councils in the Alliance and an invitation be sent to James Griffin to attend the next meeting of the Western Alliance to provide an update.

***Planning Portal Discussions***

It was noted the ongoing concerns by a number of member Councils with how the portal works, the problems associated and the impacts to Councils processes.

**6.2 Draft Alliance of Western Councils' Constitution**

A comprehensive discussion was held on the Alliance Constitution, Fees and Structure

**2022/05 RESOLVED** Brad Cam/Clr Glenn Neill that, noting the need for an AGM, the date for the AGM be set as 1 July 2022.

**2022/06 RESOLVED** Clr M Dickerson/Clr Des Kennedy that all member Councils be charged a flat fee of \$5000 to cover the establishment costs and secretariat service of the alliance for the coming 12 months.

**2022/07 RESOLVED** Jeff Sowjak/Clr Jared Marsden that the constitution be adopted as presented with the following amendments:

- a) Section 24 read "Any elected Councillor of a member council may attend and speak at meetings of the Alliance. Any councillor or senior officer of a council which is a member may also attend and speak at meetings of the Board of the Alliance with the permission of the Mayor of the member council".
- b) In Sections 23, reference to chairmen be amended to "chairperson" to be consistent with other references throughout the constitution.

**6.3 Secretariat opportunity – Brad Cam, GM Mid-Western Regional Council**

Brad Cam declared an interest and left the meeting at 10.55am.

**2022/08 RESOLVED** Clr Doug Batten/Clr Des Kennedy

1. That the Alliance decline the offer from RDA to provide the secretariat services and that the secretariat service be provided by the Council of the Chair, in this case Narramine Shire Council at a fee of \$25,000.

2. That a scope of works for the secretariat services be developed by the GM's and presented to the meeting.

Brad Cam returned to the meeting at 11.05am, having taken no part in discussion or voting.

#### **6.4 Staffing within our Hospitals and Schools – Cllr Doug Batten**

A general discussion was held regarding the significant lack of resources in the Health Services and Education sectors across the region.

#### **2022/09 RESOLVED Jeff Sawiak/Cllr Vivian Slack-Smith:**

1. That the alliance write to the Minister for Health and the Minister Regional Health requesting a detailed report of the resourcing gap of Health Services across each of the member Councils.
2. That Mr Mark Spittal CEO Western LHD and the Hon Minister Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health, and Minister for Mental Health, be invited to address the AWC at its next meeting.
3. That the Department of Regional Health be asked to outline their strategy to address the critical shortages of health service professionals across the alliance at such meeting.

#### **2022/10 RESOLVED Mike Urquhart/Brad Cam:**

1. That the alliance write to the Minister for Education requesting a detailed report of the resourcing gap of Education vacancies across each of the member Councils.
2. That Lisa Muir (Ph 4088 3560) and/or Dean White (Ph 6937 3815), Regional Directors of NSW Education and The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Learning, be invited to address the AWC at its next meeting
3. That Department of Education be asked to outline their strategy to address the critical shortages of teachers and education professionals across the alliance at such meeting.

#### **6.5 Regional Housing proposal from Housing Plus – Brad Cam, Chair of Housing Plus**

The Alliance received a verbal report from Brad Cam in his role of Chair of Housing Plus.

**2022/11 RESOLVED** Cllr Mathew Dickerson/Cllr Vivian Slack-Smith that the AWC provide a letter of support to Housing Plus on their proposal to reactivate disused, poorly maintained and dilapidated public housing currently owned by the Land and Housing Corporation across the Alliance region.

**7 PRESENTATION**

**7.1 Orana Water Utilities Alliance (OWUA)**

Doug Moorby, Chair, presented and provided the AWC with an update on key activities and issues currently being experienced by the OWUA.

**8 UNSCHEDULED ITEMS**

- Cllr Davies provided verbal update on Narromine Shire Council's association with Indigico, an Indigenous Training Provider and made the offer for Alliance Council's to participate in the program. A meeting will be scheduled in April or May with invitations sent to member councils
- Cllr Davies congratulated Jeff Sawiak on his new appointment as General Manager at Balranald Shire Council and thanked him for his contributions over the past 5 years
- It was noted that the Hon Dugald Saunders MP and Roy Butler MP were invited to the meeting but were apologies due to parliament sitting. It was noted with disappointment that both Ashley Albury and Melissa Gibbs of Regional NSW were invited but did not attend.

**9 NEXT MEETING**

Friday, 1 July 2022 in Nyngan. Networking Dinner be held on the Thursday evening 30 June 2022.

**10 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.15 am.

the Minutes (pages 1 to 5) were circulated to the Alliance of Western Councils for review on 30 March 2022, and were considered by all to be a full and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on 30 March 2022.

Chair:

**6.6 LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING  
HELD 31 MARCH 2022 – DRAFT**



**MINUTES  
LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

**10AM**



### **Delegation to Councils – Regulation of Traffic**

A Council can regulate traffic for the specific reasons set out in Division 1 of Part 8 of the Roads Act, 1993 such as carrying out work on a road, etc. whereas the RMS can regulate traffic for any purpose.

If a Council wishes to regulate traffic for purposes other than those specified in Division 1 of Part 8 of the Roads Act, 1993, it must seek the advice of its Local Traffic Committee and act in accordance with the RMS's "Delegation to Councils – Regulation of Traffic".

Section 50 of the Transport Administration Act 1988 confers the power to the RMS to delegate the following Traffic Regulation responsibilities to Council;

- (1) **Section 50 to Section 55 (inclusive)** of the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999. Install, display and remove prescribed traffic control devices
- (2) **Section 122** of the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Regulation 1999. Establish and operate a special event parking scheme for any road
- (3) **Section 116 to 119 (inclusive)** of the Roads Act 1993 Part 8 Division 2. The erection (or removal) of any notice or barrier, the carrying out of any work or the taking of any other action for the purpose of regulating traffic (restrict or prohibit the passage along a road of persons, vehicles or animals) on a public road for purposes other than those referred to in Division 1 (i.e. Sections 114 and 115)

#### **115 Roads authority may regulate traffic in connection with road work etc.**

- (1) A roads authority may regulate traffic on a public road by means of barriers or by means of notices conspicuously displayed on or adjacent to the public road.
- (2) The power conferred by this section may be exercised by the RMS for any purpose but may not be exercised by any other roads authority otherwise than:
  - (a) For the purpose of enabling the roads authority to exercise its functions under This Act with respect to the carrying out of road work or other work on a public road, or
  - (b) For the purpose of protecting a public road from serious damage by vehicles or animals as a result of wet weather, or
  - (c) For the purpose of protecting earth roads from damage caused by heavy vehicles Or by animals, or
  - (d) For the purpose of protecting members of the public from any hazards on the public road, or
  - (e) For the purpose of protecting vehicles and other property on the public road From damage, or
  - (f) For the purpose of enabling a public road to be used for an activity in respect of which a permit is in force under Division 4 of Part 9, or
  - (g) For a purpose for which the roads authority is authorised or required, by or under this or any other Act or law, to regulate traffic.

The Council may sub-delegate their powers to Councillors, the General Manager or an employee of the Council for items 1 and 2 above.

The Council may not sub-delegate item 3.

For further information please refer to the following document

**"A Guide to the Delegation to Councils for the Regulation of Traffic (including the operation of Traffic committees)" RMS – 2007**

**Advice to Councils – Regulation of Traffic**

**Local Traffic Committee Advice to Council on a proposal referred to it by Council must be recorded as one of the following**

- 1. Unanimous support;**
- 2. Majority support;**
- 3. Split vote;**
- 4. Minority support; or**
- 5. Unanimous decline.**

## MINUTES

### PRESENT

|                  |                                                                          |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Michael Urquhart | (General Manager)                                                        |
| David Vant       | (Road Safety & Traffic, Western Region, Transport NSW)                   |
| Trent Swinton    | (Inspector - Central North Police District)                              |
| Bob Stephen      | (Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services - Walgett Shire Council) |
| David Sullivan   | (Elected Member)                                                         |
| Erica Dowell     | (Secretary)                                                              |

### • APOLOGIES

| Apologies – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 |                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Resolved:</b>                        |                                                  |
| Apologies accepted from;                |                                                  |
| Jane Keir                               | (Mayor – Walgett Shire Council)                  |
| Emma Maxwell                            | (Road Safety & Traffic, Western Region, RMS NSW) |
| Greg Rummery                            | (Deputy Mayor – Walgett Shire Council)           |
| Michael Cooke                           | (Councillor - Walgett Shire Council)             |
| <b>Moved:</b> David Vant                |                                                  |
| <b>Seconded:</b> Michael Urquhart       |                                                  |

### • DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

David Sullivan – Non Pecuniary Interest – (Crown Land Manager)

### • CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

| Minutes of Local Area Traffic Committee Meeting – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022                                                                                                       |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Resolved:</b>                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
| That the minutes of the Local Area Traffic Committee meeting held 31 <sup>st</sup> of March 2022, have been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting. |  |
| <b>Moved:</b> David Vant                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| <b>Seconded:</b> Michael Urquhart                                                                                                                                                   |  |

### • MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- Fred Reece Way & Lorne Road – 50km speed limit and 12 tonne weight limit still being implemented, 1 ballroom has been filled in the other waiting on advice from specialist.
- Relocation of 80km Speed Signs – Collarenebri & Carinda – Completed.

### • AGENDA ITEMS

- Proposed Signage & Pedestrian Crossing at Burren Junction School – Replace all existing signage, remove pedestrian crossing and upgrade to a children's crossing Bob Stephen to Liaise with David Vant.

**Airstrip on Kamilaroi Highway Burren Junction** – Proposed airstrip on Bugilbone Rd Bob Stephen to investigate & collect data from Toll & Westpac Helicopters and bring to the next meeting.

- Airstrip on Cumberland Way Carinda – Vegetation control needed at the Airstrip.

*Minutes – 31 March 2022*

- **Signage at Grawin Store Intersection – Speed Limits** – Bigger signage towards Glengarry, David Sullivan to organise trees & scrubs to be cleared. Formal request from Council to David Vant to conduct a speed zone review of sealed section and implement signage.
- **GENERAL BUSINESS**
- Upgrade of 2 signs for Lightning Ridge Rotary Club
- Identify exact address of Lightning Ridge Bore Baths and upgrade signage.
- Pedestrian crossing at Walgett PCYC – not viable, install blisters at intersections.
- David Vant proposed change of days & start times for future meetings. 12pm-2pm Monthly Davit to advise.
- Proposed shared position with Coonamble Shire Council for a Roads Safety Officer.
- Canals at Lightning Ridge are a safety concern for cars, cyclists and pedestrians.
- Road closure for the Lightning Ridge Easter Festival – Erica to follow up with Sharon.
- 
- **CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING -**
- **CLOSE OF MEETING – 11:15am**

## 7. MAYORAL MINUTES

**REPORTING SECTION:** Office of Mayor  
**AUTHOR:** Jane Keir OAM  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0048

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### Summary:

This report provides Council with information regarding the activities of the Mayor for the past month.

### Background:

- Quiet month with only 3 weeks since last report & Easter break in the middle, I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday, it was certainly busy across the Shire with visitors, so good to see.
- Mayor and General Manager, on 5.4.22, inspected aged care facility Kookaburra Court, which closed its doors permanently on 31.3.22. WSC has submitted an expression of interest to the owners, The Whiddon Group.
- Mayor was an apology for the Traffic Committee meeting on 31.3.22 due to the closure of her work place.
- Mayor, GM, Councillor Rummery & Councillor Hundy met with Mark Coulton, Federal Member for Parkes at WSC on 6.4.22, discussed several topics including the lack of housing in the Shire & poor telecommunication services especially from Telstra across the Shire.
- Mayor attended the AGM of the Come By Chance Picnic Race Club on 7.4.22 they will hold a race meeting on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2022; the first in 2 years.

### Monthly Mayoral Report

#### Recommendation:

That the Mayoral report for April 2022 be received and noted.

#### Moved:

#### Seconded:

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS

### 8.1 LETTER FROM COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW



## Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Ken Keith OAM  
PO Box 337, Parkes NSW 2870  
02 6861 2333  
ABN 92 803 490 533

4 April 2022

The Executive of Country Mayors is focusing on the major issues affecting rural and regional local government, and in December 2020 asked councils to identify areas they considered to be of importance to their Council. The information received has been used to prioritise Ministerial guest speakers, and to encourage member councils to submit motions on the priority issues to the quarterly meetings of the Country Mayors Association.

The results of the 2020 survey were

Most Category Issues

- Financial
- Regional Development
- Councillor Matters
- Emergency Services

The 10 Largest single issues in order of importance were

- Water Security
- Access to Health Services
- Financial Assistance Grants
- Skills and Education
- Road Funding
- Telecommunications Blackspots
- Cost Shifting
- Inability of Small Councils to Make Co-contributions for Projects and Grant Applications
- Housing and
- Disaster Preparedness and Fair Funding

In the last fifteen months there have been a number of events that may alter rural and regional council priorities.

The Executive Committee requests that you review the above priorities and advise whether your Council

- Agrees with the identified 2020 priorities
- Thinks the order of importance should be amended
- Identifies a new priority/priorities to be included in the list and recommends what current priority/priorities should be deleted or pushed back.

Your councils recommendations in respect of the above should be forwarded to the Secretariat Allan Burgess [alkanat@bigpond.com](mailto:alkanat@bigpond.com) by the 29 April 2022.

Cr Ken Keith OAM  
Chairman



## **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 – MARCH 2022**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03

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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 become3s 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 Resolution 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.

| Council's Decision Action Report                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That the Resolution Register as at March 2022 be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment:**

Action Resolution Register.

|          |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                    |
|----------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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> <p>12.12.19 RFQ document under external review</p> <p>18.03.21 Options being investigated</p> <p>15.11.2021 GM to call tender for new pool when additional grant funds become available.</p> | In progress                                                        |
| 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> <p>22.10.2019 Work in progress</p> <p>14.02.2020 Work in progress</p> <p>17.03.2020 Work in progress</p> <p>20.05.2020 work in progress</p> <p>9/6/2020 work in progress</p> <p>22/7/2020 work in progress</p> <p>16/9/2020 collected all the information required and the process in completion stage.</p> <p>21/10/2020 Council's crown land manager is working on it.</p> <p>16/11/2020 " "</p> <p>14/02/2022 GM to follow up as current status</p>                                                                                        | This is still in progress delay due to change of ownership of land |
| 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> <p>22.10.019 Work in progress</p> <p>14.02.2020 Work in progress</p> <p>17.03.2020 Received survey plan</p> <p>20.04.2020 Registration is in progress</p> <p>20.05.2020 work in progress</p> <p>9/6/2020 work in progress</p> <p>22/7/2020 work in progress</p> <p>16/9/2020 work in hold at this stage as the related staff has other important other commitments</p> <p>18.03.21 Crown Lands to authorise licence</p>                                                                                                                                                                       | Waiting on approval from crown lands                               |
| 8.02.18  | 1/2018/2  | <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <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> <p>23.10.19 – 5.community satisfaction survey agreed with Council within next 12months ie.by Oct 2020</p> <p>6.Work in progress – Collarenebri established under Economic Development</p> <p>7. No progress to date</p> <p>15/4/20 ratepayer survey to be undertaken July 2020</p> <p>16.09.20 Survey complete. Report to Oct 2020 meeting</p> <p>15.11.2021 The General Manager is participating in Minerals Environment and Geoscience community consultation process for opening up of OPA4.</p>                                                                             | Partly completed                                                   |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 26 APRIL 2022 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                               |
|----------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|          |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |      | 15.11.2021 The General Manager in the forthcoming year to investigate precinct committees.<br>15.03.2022 Precinct committee to be established for Walgett & Burren Junction, at request of community. GM attended Walgett meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                               |
| 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  | <p>Council has received funding from Department of Planning Industry and Environment to undertake completion of the planning proposal. Consultants Cityplan have commenced work on the project.<br/>Cityplan's name has changed to "Gyde"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gyde has received a draft servicing report from SMEC and are working through it with them;</li> <li>The bridging report is under preparation with the intention of it being finalised shortly after the engineering issues are closed out; and</li> <li>The bridging report will be provided to Council's DES for review. Gyde will then amend the report as required.</li> </ul> <p>09/02/2022 – TEAMS meeting with Gyde Planning and DPIE representatives on Friday 4/02/2022 to discuss recommendations of Bridging Report.<br/>15/02/2022 – Further technical analysis required by Gyde Planning.</p> | In progress                                                   |
| 17.12.19 | 12/2019/4  | Council investigate the options of highlighting Mr Frederick York Wolseley's contribution towards the shearing industry in the form of a monument and associated historical information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | GM   | GM investigating tourist possibilities<br>Rural Aid project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | In Progress                                                   |
| 25.02.20 | 1/2020/12  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council participate in the Museums &amp; Galleries of NSW – Museum Advisors Program.</li> <li>The Chief Financial Officer arrange to engage a suitably qualified and highly recommended advisor for the program.</li> <li>Other organisations in the shire having heritage/cultural and museum collections and facilities be invited to participate in the program</li> <li>Funding of \$10,000 be allocated annually and indexed for the next six (6) years.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | GM   | 15.11.2021 Awaiting information for advisors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | In progress                                                   |
| 28.04.20 | 3/2020/15  | That Council endorse Council Officers to advertise and write to owners of businesses that they believe require this Annual Fire Safety certificate, on the basis of the report to complete a tender for Council, but offsetting travel and accommodation costs for active community Business Owners whom wish to part of the process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | DES  | <p>Delayed pending appointment of new DES.<br/>15.11.2021 To be followed up by DES in early 2022.<br/>15.02.2022 – Consultation with business owners to commence in March '22.<br/>19.04.2022 Acting Director Environmental Services to investigate</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Ongoing                                                       |
| 25/08/20 | 9/2020/19  | That Council note and accept the proposal to implement the 40 km/h speed zone in Walgett CBD in following sections of the roads:<br>i. Fox street between Euroka Street and Warrena Street<br>ii. Wee Waa Street between Peel Street and Pit Street                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | DETS | <p>16.9.2020 discussed in Traffic Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and advised to send council resolution to all traffic committee members.<br/>21.10.2020 Engineering department in process for community consultation<br/>16.11.2020 Community consultation is progress<br/>18.03.21 Funding being sought for signage</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Waiting on funds from TfNSW                                   |
| 25/08/20 | 9/2020/23  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a Planning Proposal to amend the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013 by relocating "intensive plant agriculture" from Permitted with consent to Permitted without consent in the RU1 Primary Production zone.</li> <li>Forward the planning proposal to NSW planning, industry &amp; environment with a request for a gateway determination;</li> <li>Request delegation from the Minister to "make" the amendment to the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013;</li> <li>Give delegation to the General Manager to make any minor alterations as requested by NSW Planning, Industry &amp; Environment; and</li> <li>Undertake the state agency and public consultation as per the requirements of the Gateway Determination and Schedule 1, Clause 4 of the Environmental Planning &amp; Assessment Act 1979,</li> </ol> | DES  | <p>Work on this project is suspended due to high number of development applications and enquiries.<br/>15.02.2022 – No change</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Planning consultant to progress actions for planning proposal |
| 15.12.20 | 15/2020/17 | That Walgett Shire Council resolve to:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a trial of bin banks in the vicinity of the existing Landfills at Grawin and Sheeppyard.</li> <li>Following the appointment of a casual Landfill Attendant site locations and number of bins be rolled out in a phased manner following a community consultation process.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | DES  | <p>Negotiations with stakeholders has commenced.<br/>19.04.2022 Acting Director Environmental Services to investigate</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Ongoing                                                       |
| 23.03.21 | 3/2021/14  | That Council adopt the WSC draft policies on Partnering and Relationship Management, Environmental and Quality Control and they be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, inviting submissions from the public during this time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | DETS | <p>15.11.2021 To be followed up January 2021.<br/>19.04.2022 Belle to follow draft policies and report to GM</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | In Progress                                                   |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 26 APRIL 2022 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

|          |           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |             |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |             |
|----------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 27.04.21 | 4/2021/15 | Council accepts the tender for the refurbishment of the grandstand at the Collarenebri Race Track from GLETAN GROUP in the sum of \$360,495.11 excluding GST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CFO         | 22.07.21 Project underway<br>15.11.21 Bar area 95% complete, main steel supports are in place, holes for foundations being prepared                                                                        | In progress |
| 29.06.21 | 6/2021/3  | A. Council authorise the General Manager to further investigate the Walgett Aero Club proposal for an Avgas fuelling station at the Lightning Ridge Airport.<br>B. The General Manager report back to Council on the outcome of investigations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | GM          | 15.11.2021 The General Manager has spoken to Committee members and is waiting on financial information.<br>19.04.2022 GM to report to May 2022 meeting re tender option for provision of fuelling station. | In progress |
| 08.02.22 | 2/2022/2  | Tender for Construction of the Collarenebri Artesian Hot Spring<br>Having not received competitive bids for construction of the Collarenebri Artesian Hot Spring facility, now, in accordance with Section 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, enter into negotiations with Lukas Building and Excavation of Brewarrina, with the view of entering into a best value contract with the contractor.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | GM          | 22.02.2022 – Lukas Building advised GM that they could not complete the project by deadline<br>15.03.2022 – GM in negotiations with contractors                                                            | In Progress |
| 22.02.22 | 3/2022/22 | b) That Council agree to sell both Lot 156 and Lot 157 DP 882747 Duff Street Walgett to Michael Hughes Transport for \$85,000 (GST exclusive).<br>c) A condition of sale being, the blocks are land locked and Council is not obligated to provide access via Duff Street, with connection to water/septic services, power, and Council's half share of fencing, and removal of soiled fill, and relocation of the septic main to allow development be at the expense of Michael Hughes Transport.<br>d) The General Manager and Mayor be authorised to execute the sale of documents and the Council's Seal be affixed accordingly. | GM          | 19.04.22 GM wrote to interested parties and has, so far, not received a response.                                                                                                                          |             |
| 22.02.22 | 3/2022/23 | Lorne Road Reconstruction and Sealing of 5.79kms – RFT 21/014<br>1. Council accept McMahon Services Australia Pty Ltd's tender for the reconstruction and sealing of 5.79kms Lorne Road Lightning Ridge Project.<br>2. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the contract.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | DETS/<br>GM | 15.03.2022 – Contract with McMahon Services Australia for signing                                                                                                                                          | Complete    |
| 29.03.22 | 4/2022/13 | That Council make submission to Whiddon Group for the acquisition of the property at 146-148 Fox Street, Walgett – being Lot 3 DP803866                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | GM          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            | In progress |
| 29.03.22 | 4/2022/14 | Reconstruction and Sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road<br>2. Council accept Batterline Earthmoving Pty Ltd's submission for the reconstruction and sealing of 54.96kms of Come by Chance Road.<br>3. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the contract.<br>4. A dedicated project officer be assigned to the project and report to Council on a monthly basis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | DETS/<br>GM | 05.04.2022 – Letter of Award for Batterline, signed and returned to ArcBlue                                                                                                                                | In progress |
| 29.03.22 | 4/2022/15 | Burrumbidgee Road Reconstruction and Sealing of 10.6 kms<br>2. Council accept Batterline Earthmoving Pty Ltd's submission for the reconstruction and sealing of 10.6kms of the Burrumbidgee Road between Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge.<br>3. That the General Manager be authorised to sign the contract.<br>4. A dedicated project officer be assigned to the project and report to Council on a monthly basis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | DETS/<br>GM | 05.04.2022 – Letter of Award for Batterline, signed and returned to ArcBlue                                                                                                                                | In progress |



## 10.1.2 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03

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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:

- 22-06 / Information about Ratings 2022-23
- 22-07 / Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23
- 22-08 / Model Social Media and Councillor and Staff interaction Policies
- 22-09 / Councils' Obligations Under the Modern Slavery Act 2018
- 22-10 / Local Government Amendment Act 2021 – Guidance on local government rating reforms
- 22-11 / Misuse of Council Resources – May 2022 Federal Election

### 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 Department circular 22-06 through to 22-11 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>     | 22-06 / 1 April 2022 / A814194                                                                 |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 21-04 – Information about Rating 2021-22                                                       |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / 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                                                             |

### Information about Ratings 2022-23

#### What's new or changing

- The maximum boarding house tariffs for 2022-23 have been determined.
- The maximum interest rate payable on overdue rates and charges for 2022-23 has been determined.
- The section 603 certificate fee for 2022-23 has been determined.
- The statutory limit on the maximum amount of minimum rates for 2022-23 has been determined for commencement on 1 July 2022.

#### What this will mean for your council

Councils should incorporate these determinations into their 2022-23 rating structures and Operational Plan Statement of Revenue Policies.

#### Key points

##### Boarding House Tariffs

In accordance with section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), it has been determined that for the purpose of the definition of 'boarding house' and 'lodging house', the maximum tariffs, excluding GST, that a boarding house or lodging house may charge tariff-paying occupants are:

- Where **full board and lodging** is provided:  
**\$409** per week for single accommodation; or  
**\$675** per week for a family or shared accommodation
- Where **less than full board or lodging** is provided:  
**\$275** per week for single accommodation; or  
**\$454** per week for family or shared accommodation

##### Maximum Interest Rate on Overdue Rates and Charges

In accordance with section 566(3) of the Act, it has been determined that the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 (inclusive) will be **6.0% per annum**.

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 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541  
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 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

The methodology used to calculate the interest rate applicable for the period 1 June 2022 to 30 June 2023 is the Supreme Court methodology (the Reserve Bank cash rate plus 6%), rounded to the nearest half per cent of the maximum interest rate for the previous year. The cash rate used for the purposes of the maximum interest rate for local government is based on the cash rate set by the Reserve Bank on 7 December 2021.

Notice giving effect to these decisions will be published in the NSW Government Gazette.

#### Section 603 Certificate

Under section 603 of the Act, councils may issue a certificate as to the amount (if any) of rates, charges, etc due or payable to the council for a parcel of land. Section 603(2) states the application must be accompanied by the approved fee. In accordance with the approved methodology, the approved fee for 2022-23 is determined to be **\$90**. This is an increase of \$5 from the 2021-22 fee.

This determination applies to the issuing of a certificate for the matters specified in section 603(2) of the Act. Where a council offers to provide other information as an optional service, the council is not prevented from separately determining an approved fee for that additional service. Furthermore, a council is not prevented from determining approved fees for additional services required by an applicant for the expedited processing of a section 603 certificate.

#### Statutory limit on the maximum amount of minimum rates

Following a recommendation by IPART, clause 126 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* will be amended on 1 July 2022 by the *Local Government (General) Amendment (Minimum Amounts of Rate) Regulation 2022* so that under section 548(3)(a) of the Act, the maximum amount of the minimum ordinary rate to be **\$569** for 2022-23.

The maximum amount of a minimum special rate (not being a water supply special rate or a sewerage special rate) prescribed by section 548(3)(b) of the Act will remain unchanged at **\$2**.

#### **Where to go for further information**

The NSW legislation website at [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).



**Melanie Hawyes**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Crown Lands and Local Government**

Office of Local Government  
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Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-07/6 April 2022/A815377                                                              |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 22-03 Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23             |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / Rating and Finance Staff                               |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Policy Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Information                                                                             |

### Subject

#### Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23

**\*\*\* The ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of, and supersede, the ASV Guidelines issued in Circular 22-03 \*\*\***

#### What's new or changing

- The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will accept and process an additional round of 2022-23 Special Variation (ASV) applications from councils.
- For applications made under the ASV process, the ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of the [Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a special variation to general income](#) issued by the Office of Local Government in 2020.
- The ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of, and supersede, the ASV Guidelines issued in Circular 22-03.
- For more information on when these ASV Guidelines apply, please see 'What this will mean for your council' below.
- This one-off ASV round is available for the 2022-23 financial year only.
- This one-off ASV round is for councils that can show that the special variation will enable them to meet the obligations they set for 2022-23 in their 2021-22 Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documentation.
- Councils seeking a permanent special variation will also need to demonstrate the need for the special variation to be included in their rate base on an ongoing basis.
- Separately, IPART has also agreed to undertake a broader review of its rate peg methodology, including the Local Government Cost Index, with outcomes from the review expected to shape rate peg determinations in future years.

#### What this will mean for your council

- The ASV Guidelines set out in this Circular apply where council is applying for:
  - a temporary or permanent single year special variation for 2022-23 under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), AND
  - the percentage sought in the application is the lower of:
    - 2.5% (including population factor) or

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- the council's assumed 2022-23 rate peg as set out in its 2021-22 IP&R documentation (including population factor)
- For ASV applications made under the Guidelines set out in this Circular, councils will need to provide IPART with the following information:
  - Council's 2021-22 IP&R documentation identifying that council budgeted for an income increase above the percentage specified for the council for 2022-23 under section 506 of the Act; and
  - Where councils are applying for a permanent special variation, in addition to the above information, the council's 2021-22 IP&R documentation identifying that the council forecast an average Operating Performance Ratio (OPR) of 2% or lower over the next 5 years or, alternatively, evidence of need, for example, but not limited to, that the council needs to maintain a higher OPR so it can meet its capital funding requirements; and
  - Council has resolved to apply for the special variation under section 508(2) of the Act and that the resolution clearly states:
    - whether the resolution is for a temporary or permanent special variation under section 508(2) of the Act; and
    - the additional income that council will receive if the special variation is approved; and
    - why the special variation is required; and
    - that the council has considered the impact on ratepayers and the community in 2022-23 and, if permanent, in future years if the special variation is approved and considers that it is reasonable.
- The ASV application process is a simpler more targeted application process.
- IPART will not require councils to demonstrate community consultation or criteria outside of the processes outlined above. To demonstrate community consultation, IPART will consider the consultation undertaken through the IP&R process and consider the resolution to apply for a ASV meets the requirements outlined above.
- Revised application forms and further information will be released by IPART shortly.
- Under this ASV round of applications:
  - IPART will accept applications until 29 April 2022;
  - IPART will publish applications to enable community consultation for a period of at least three weeks; and
  - IPART will notify councils of its decision no later than 21 June 2022.

#### Key points

- In late 2021, IPART announced the rate peg for the 2022-23 financial year was set at an increase of between 0.7% and 5.0%.
- Special variations provide an opportunity for councils to vary general income by an amount greater than the annual rate peg. However IPART's normal period for special variation applications in relation to the 2022-23 rate peg has now passed.
- The Office of Local Government and IPART recognise that, due to the delayed council elections and the determination of the 2022-23 rate peg at a lower rate than councils had forecast, councils may not have had sufficient time to prepare special variation application within the normal timeframe.

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This may result in some councils not having sufficient funds to pay for required infrastructure and services.

- As such the NSW Government and IPART have agreed to a one-off ASV round for the 2022-23 financial year only.
- This process is not intended to address applications from councils that require a special variation (above 2.5%) to achieve long term financial sustainability for reasons other than those set out in the criteria above, which should be addressed through the standard special variation process.
- [IPART's website](#) will be updated with revised application forms and information papers shortly.

**Where to go for further information**

- For further information please contact IPART on 02 9290 8400 or by email to [ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au).

**Melanie Hawyes**

**Group Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government**

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## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-08 / 7 April 2022 / A806228                                                                                                               |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 21-08: Consultation on draft Model Social Media and Councillor and Staff Interaction Policies and on the development of a Model Media Policy |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / Council governance and communications staff                                                                 |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Council Governance/ (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                                                                                                           |

### Model Social Media and Councillor and Staff Interaction Policies

#### What's new or changing

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has finalised the *Model Social Media Policy* and *Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy*.
- The model policies have been developed following two rounds of consultation with the local government sector and represent a 'best practice' approach.
- The model policies are also informed by advice provided by key NSW Government agencies, including:
  - the Independent Commission Against Corruption
  - the Information and Privacy Commission
  - the State Archives and Records Authority, and
  - Resilience NSW.

#### What this will mean for your council

- The model policies are not mandatory, and councils are free to choose whether to use them or to adapt them for their own purposes. If adopted, the policies will operate to supplement the provisions of councils' adopted codes of conduct.

#### Key points

- OLG has previously issued a *Model Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* for use by councils.
- The *Model Social Media Policy*, *Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy* and *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* are available on OLG's website [here](#).

#### Where to go for further information

- For further information, contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100.

**Melanie Hawyes**

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## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-09 / 11 April 2022 / A803923                                                                     |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | N/A                                                                                                 |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / council governance and procurement staff                           |
| <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>      | Council to Implement                                                                                |

### Councils' obligations under the *Modern Slavery Act 2018*

#### What's new or changing

- Modern slavery is a serious violation of an individual's dignity and human rights. Exploitative practices including human trafficking, slavery, servitude, forced labour, debt bondage and forced marriage are all considered modern slavery and are serious crimes under Australian law.
- The International Labour Organisation estimates there are more than 40 million people in modern slavery conditions worldwide.
- The commencement of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (NSW), introduces new obligations for councils under the *Local Government Act 1993* relating to modern slavery.

#### What this will mean for your council

- From 1 July 2022, councils will be required to take reasonable steps to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the council are not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (NSW).
- Commencing from the 2022/23 financial year, each council will be required to publish in their annual reports:
  - a statement of the action taken by the council in relation to any issue raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of the council and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue, and
  - a statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the council during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (NSW).

#### Key points

- "Modern slavery" is defined in the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (NSW) as any conduct constituting a modern slavery offence within the meaning of that Act and any conduct involving the use of any form of slavery, servitude or forced labour to exploit children or other persons taking place in the supply chains of organisations

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**Where to go for further information**

- Information on modern slavery is available [here](#).
- The *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (NSW) is available [here](#).
- 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).



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## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-10 / 12 April 2022 / A812712                                                                  |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 21-07                                                                                            |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / Finance and Rating Staff / Corporate Governance and Legal staff |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Policy Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>          |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Council to Implement                                                                             |

### **Local Government Amendment Act 2021 – Guidance on local government rating reforms**

#### **What's new or changing**

- Guidance on local government rating reforms (Guidance) has been prepared to assist NSW councils with reforms to the rating system that were made through the *Local Government Amendment Act 2021* (Amendment Act) in 2021.
- The Guidance covers four rating reforms that came into effect immediately on 24 May 2021. These are:
  1. allowing each council created by merger in 2016 to bring together (harmonise) its rating structures gradually, over up to eight years, in consultation with its community
  2. enabling a different rate peg to be set for each council, or for different cohorts of councils, and allowing it to be set as a methodology rather than a percentage, including by specifying a base percentage to which an additional figure may be added in specified circumstances
  3. allowing all councils to set separate rates for different residential areas within a contiguous urban area, in certain circumstances, whether or not they have different 'centres of population', and
  4. allowing all councils to set farmland rates based on geographic location.

#### **What this will mean for your council**

- Guidance has been prepared to assist councils in the implementation of the rating reforms that came into effect on commencement of the Amendment Act.
- The Guidance does not cover other non-rating related reforms that formed part of the Amendment Act, or those further rating reforms which are yet to come into effect.
- The Guidance has been prepared in consultation with NSW council finance and rating professionals and Local Government NSW.

#### **Key points**

- Six further rating reforms formed part of the Amendment Act but did not come into effect on assent. These will be commenced by the Minister for Local Government by proclamation once, where required, supporting regulations and guidelines are in place.

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- The Office of Local Government will continue consulting with NSW council finance and rating professionals and key stakeholders to develop the required regulations and supporting guidance to implement the remaining rating reforms.

**Where to go for further information**

- A copy of the *Local Government Amendment Act 2021 – Guidance on local government rating reforms* document is available on the OLG website at <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/council-finances/financial-guidance-for-councils/rating-and-special-variations/>
- The Local Government Amendment Act 2021 is available at <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au>.
- The Office of Local Government issued circular for commencement of the Local Government Amendment Act 2021 is available at <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/21-07.pdf>.



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## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-11 / 19 April 2022 / A815626                                                                     |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | N/A                                                                                                 |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / All council staff                                                  |
| <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 / Council to Implement                                                                  |

### Misuse of Council Resources – May 2022 Federal Election

#### What's new or changing

- In the lead up to the May 2022 Federal election, councillors, council staff and other council officials need to be aware of their obligations under the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct) in relation to the use of council resources.

#### What this will mean for your council

- It is important that the community has confidence that council property and resources are only used for official purposes.
- Councils are encouraged to ensure that councillors, council staff and other council officials are aware of their obligations regarding the use of council resources.

#### Key points

- The Model Code of Conduct provides that council officials must not:
  - use council resources (including council staff), property or facilities for the purpose of assisting their election campaign or the election campaign of others unless the resources, property or facilities are otherwise available for use or hire by the public and any publicly advertised fee is paid for the use of the resources, property or facility
  - use council letterhead, council crests, council email or social media or other information that could give the appearance it is official council material for the purpose of assisting their election campaign or the election campaign of others.
- These obligations apply to all election campaigns including council, State and Federal election campaigns.
- Councils should also ensure that they exercise any regulatory powers in relation to election activities such as election signage in an impartial and even-handed way and in accordance with established procedures and practices.
- Failure to comply with these requirements may result in disciplinary action under the code of conduct.

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**Where to go for further information**

- For more information, contact OLG's Council Governance Team by telephone on 4428 4100 or by email to [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).



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### 10.1.3 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart  
**FILE NUMBER:** 12/14-03

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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 not 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> |

**Attachments:**

Upcoming meetings and events schedule.

**IMPORTANT DATES – Upcoming Meetings and Events**

| DATE                       | MEETING/FUNCTION                                                | LOCATION                                | NOTES                                            |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1 May to 3 May 2022        | Mid-Term Meeting<br>Western Division of<br>Councils             | Cobar Bowling and<br>Golf Club          | Mayor and<br>General Manager                     |
| 3 May 2022                 | Castlereagh Macquarie<br>Country Council<br>General Meeting     | Lightning Ridge                         | Clr Woodcock, Clr Cooke<br>and General Manager   |
| 6 May 2022                 | BROC Ordinary<br>Meeting                                        | Moree                                   | Mayor, Deputy Mayor<br>and GM                    |
| 11 May 2022                | LEMC Meeting                                                    | Walgett Police<br>Station               | General Manager                                  |
| 22 May 2022                | Mining & Energy<br>Related Councils<br>(NSW)<br>General Meeting | TBA                                     | Mayor, Clr Rummery<br>and GM                     |
| 24 May 2022                | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 19 June to 22 June<br>2022 | ALGA – National<br>General Assembly                             | National Convention<br>Centre, Canberra | Mayor, Clr Cooke,<br>Clr Ramien and GM           |
| 28 June 2022               | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 1 July 2022                | Alliance of Western<br>Councils Meeting                         | Nyngan                                  | Mayor, Clr Rummery<br>and GM                     |
| 14 July 2022               | Barwon-Darling<br>Customer Advisory<br>Group Meeting            | Video Conference                        | Mayor, Clr Rummery<br>and GM                     |
| 26 July 2022               | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 10 August 2022             | LEMC Meeting                                                    | Walgett Police<br>Station               | General Manager                                  |
| 23 August 2022             | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 27 September 2022          | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 25 October 2022            | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 9 November 2022            | LEMC Meeting                                                    | Walgett Police<br>Station               | General Manager                                  |
| 22 November 2022           | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |
| 20 December 2022           | Council Meeting                                                 | Walgett Chambers                        | Councillors, GM and<br>Executive Staff to attend |

### 10.1.3 LIGHTNING RIDGE MEGA PARK – EVERYONE CAN PLAY

**REPORTING SECTION:** Executive Services  
**AUTHOR:** Michael Urquhart – General Manager  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0045

---

#### **Summary:**

This report is presented for Council's consideration regarding the location of the proposed Mega Park at Lightning Ridge funded under the "Everyone Can Play funding program".

#### **Background:**

Council in 2020 made application to DPIE under the "Everyone Can Play" program for a new park at Lot 9 DP 1123745 Pandora Street, Lightning Ridge.

The proposal was to incorporate a new park for all ages alongside the existing skate park, and this facility would complement the existing recreational pool and gym complex located adjacent to the park. In May 2021 Council formally resolved to endorse the General Managers actions in executing the funding agreement with Council making a contribution allocation of \$79,975 in the 2021/22 Operational Plan. The project grant funding totals \$431,952.50.

It was subsequently revealed an Aboriginal Land Claim had been lodged over Lot 9 DP 1123745 and is currently being processed by the Crown Lands Aboriginal Land Claims Unit. Crown Lands advise the determination process may take years to complete.

This being the case Council staff began investigations into an alternative site that was under Council management.

#### **Current Position:**

After a second round of investigations Council staff recommended a space on the playing fields in Kaolin Street. DPIE have conducted a highly successful community consultation process with overwhelming support from community members and organisations for the park to be located at the sporting field's precinct. This is value adding and creating inclusivity for the broader community.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March the General Manager met with a small number of concerned residents (6) that are opposed to the Kaolin site, saying the park will impede upon certain sporting disciplines use of the oval.

Since the meeting with concerned residents, Council staff have once again investigated alternative sites with a much preferred option found on the corner of Onyx and Kaolin Street. The site is within the ovals precinct, however it's far superior to the original site in terms of compliance with "Crime Prevention through Environmental Design" standards and for its inclusion of mature trees providing shade to users of the park. The new corner site is currently home to the old practice cricket nets and a small piece of unused oval. DPIE playground architects have redesigned the oval (see attached plan) in such a way so as not to interfere with the allotted sports playing fields of league, rugby, cricket, soccer, little athletics that can take place on the oval. The redesign has both cricket and league fields running north south, not east west as is currently the case. This location also provides improved parking space along Onyx Street with nose to kerb bays that can be easily maintained.

Distance from toilets is an issue, however this can be overcome with a relocation of the proposed amenities for Lions Park to Onyx Park. Council has received funding for construction of an amenities building under the NSW Government – Drought Stimulus Package for Lions Park

**Relevant Reference Documents:**

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government Regulation (2005)

Walgett Shire Council Procurement & Asset disposal Policy.

Walgett Shire Council Local Preference Purchasing Policy.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council

Walgett Shire Community

New South Wales State Government

**Governance issues:**

Council compliance with the abovementioned policies and legislation.

**Environmental issues:**

NIL

**Financial Implications:**

The project attracts grant funding totalling \$431,952.50 with Council making a contribution of \$79,975.00. Moving to the new site requires relocation of the practice cricket nets to the north of the proposed park, an additional expense in the order of \$15,000 for two (2) new concrete surfaces and net relocation.

**Legal issues:**

No legal issues have been identified.

**Alternative solutions:**

Council contact DPIE and request the Mega park project be transferred to Gray Park Walgett.

**Conclusion:**

The writer has exhausted all options to accommodate construction of the Mega Park within the allotted timeframe, and on Council managed crown land in Lightning Ridge. The General Manger highly recommends construction of the Mega Park at the corner of Onyx and Kaolin Street.

**Lightning Ridge Mega Park – Everyone Can Play**

**Recommendation:**

That Council:

- (a) Approve construction of the Mega Park on the corner of Onyx and Kaolin Streets as per the attached plan on Lot 7309 DP 1137757.
- (b) Relocate the existing cricket nets to the northern side of the proposed Mega Park in Onyx Street.
- (c) Allocate funding of \$15,000 for the cricket nets relocation in the 22/23 Operational Plan.
- (d) Request a variation to the approved NSW Government (Drought Stimulus Package) agreement to have the Lions Park amenities relocated to the proposed Onyx Street Park.

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**Attachment:**

Plan of Onyx and Kaolin Streets sporting complex.





SITE PLAN 1  
Scale 1:500 @ A1



## 10.2 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### 10.2.1 MONTHLY OUTSTANDING RATES AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Tony Hughes – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0046

---

#### **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 to achieve a recovery of rates and annual charges levied in any given financial year of greater than 90%.

#### **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 and 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."

Walgett Shire Council is classified as a Regional and Rural Council and the benchmark used for these councils in the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting is less than 10% for the Rates, Annual Charges and Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage as at the end of the financial year.

#### **Current Position:**

Collection of the current years levy and arrears as at 31 March 2022 is 70.52% which is 2.52% less than the previous year collection at 31 March 2021 of 73.04%. Collections have increased in the first week of April with a total of 70.94% 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 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.

| Monthly Outstanding Rates Report as at 31 March 2022                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>The 31 March 2022 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 &amp; Annual Charges as at 31 March 2022

|                                                         | 10 April 2022         | 31 March 2022         | 31 March 2021         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Arrears from previous year                              | 1,178,458.83          | 1,178,458.83          | 1,073,123.02          |
| Adjustment                                              |                       |                       |                       |
| Sub Total                                               | 1,178,458.83          | 1,178,458.83          | 1,073,123.02          |
| <b>Current Year Activity</b>                            |                       |                       |                       |
| Legal fees (Including write off's)                      | (10,778.00)           | (10,778.00)           | (647.00)              |
| Adjusted Levy                                           | 10,149,835.97         | 10,149,835.97         | 9,814,045.49          |
| Interest (Including write off's)                        | 57,173.77             | 57,068.34             | 19,619.73             |
| Adjustments (Including Write Off's)                     | (4,598.36)            | (4,598.36)            | (89,068.38)           |
| Sub Total                                               | 10,191,633.38         | 10,191,527.95         | 9,743,949.84          |
| <b>Total Arrears and Adjusted Levy</b>                  | <b>11,370,092.21</b>  | <b>11,369,986.78</b>  | <b>10,817,072.86</b>  |
| <b>Payments</b>                                         | <b>(7,866,483.20)</b> | <b>(7,818,338.38)</b> | <b>(7,702,983.99)</b> |
| Pensioner Concessions - Govt                            | (97,374.78)           | (97,356.09)           | (97,335.30)           |
| Pensioner Concessions - Council                         | (79,674.29)           | (79,659.01)           | (79,642.16)           |
| Discount                                                | 0.00                  | 0.00                  | 0.00                  |
| Special Rebate Council                                  | (22,487.25)           | (22,487.25)           | (21,212.50)           |
| Sub Total                                               | (8,066,019.52)        | (8,017,840.73)        | (7,901,173.95)        |
| <b>Total Remaining Levy</b>                             | <b>\$3,304,072.69</b> | <b>\$3,352,146.05</b> | <b>\$2,915,898.91</b> |
| <b>Current</b>                                          | <b>2,367,339.55</b>   | <b>2,400,336.33</b>   | <b>2,236,850.10</b>   |
| <b>Arrears</b>                                          | <b>576,231.93</b>     | <b>590,274.62</b>     | <b>343,055.76</b>     |
| <b>Interest b/f from previous years</b>                 | <b>188,670.11</b>     | <b>188,935.33</b>     | <b>181,098.21</b>     |
| <b>Current year interest</b>                            | <b>49,315.30</b>      | <b>49,753.06</b>      | <b>15,509.94</b>      |
| <b>Legals</b>                                           | <b>122,515.80</b>     | <b>122,846.71</b>     | <b>139,384.90</b>     |
| <b>Total Remaining Levy</b>                             | <b>\$3,304,072.69</b> | <b>\$3,352,146.05</b> | <b>\$2,915,898.91</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 | 70.94%                | 70.52%                | 73.04%                |
| Collected YTD % of Levy                                 | 77.19%                | 76.71%                | 79.05%                |

Note (1) 2020-2021 Rates and Charges levied in accordance with OLG Circular 20-12/ 17 April 2020 (1st Instalment/Payment in Full - Due Date 30 September 2020)

## 10.2.2 CASH & INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Tony Hughes – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0038

---

### **Summary:**

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

### **Background:**

The investment portfolio consists of on-call bank accounts, fixed rate interest bearing term deposits and floating rate interest bearing deposits. The portfolio is regularly reviewed to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Council's investment portfolio does not have a secondary market available for the trading of investments and is not subject to share market volatility.

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

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

### **Current Position:**

Council at month end held a total of \$32,782,474 in on-call and interest-bearing term deposits with financial institutions in Australia. The investments are compliant with the Local Government Act (NSW), the associated Regulations and Ministerial Order and Council's Investment Policy.

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

Interest rates have shown signs of improving slowly although the RBA's Governor Lowe continues to remain cautious, he has stated that rate rises starting late in 2022 are deemed "a plausible scenario". The market is also affected by the availability of investment opportunities with many Authorised Deposit-Taking Institutions not offering term deposits on a regular basis. Longer term investments taken out in prior years and the use of cash accounts are providing Council with a reasonable return in the current investment climate. These longer term deposits are maturing and Council is reviewing investment options each month with a view to maximising returns.

### **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 June 2021)

### **Governance issues:**

Nil

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Financial Implications:**

As per report

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Residents of Walgett Shire Council  
Financial Institutions

**Conclusion:**

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 Walgett Shire Council's total cash and invested funds totalled \$32,782,474 a decrease of \$2,187,546 from the previous month.

**Attachment:** Attachment 1 Walgett Shire Council's Portfolio report from Imperium Markets.

**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*.
2. I hereby certify that Council's Cash Book and General Ledger have been reconciled to the bank statement as at the end of month.

Tony Hughes

**Chief Financial Officer – Responsible Accounting Officer**

| <b>Cash and Investment Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.</b>                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b><br/>That the Investment report as at 31 March 2022 be received and noted.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment:**

Walgett Shire Council's Portfolio report from Imperium Markets.  
Refer to Attachment Documents

### **10.2.3 PERMANENT ADDITIONAL SPECIAL RATE VARIATION APPLICATION**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Corporate Services  
**AUTHOR:** Tony Hughes – Chief Financial Officer  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0047

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**Summary:**

This report is prepared for Council to consider the application for a one-off special rate variation for the 2022/23 financial year as outlined in OLG Circular No: 22-07/6 April 2022/A815377 - Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23 (as attached to this report).

The recommendation is to apply for an additional 1.3% increase to rates in addition to the 0.7% rate pegging increase already announced via the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

**Background:**

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) annually determines the maximum percentage by which Councils in NSW may increase notional rate income without making a Special Rate Variation application. This process is referred to as "Rate Pegging".

Early this calendar year IPART set the 2022/23 Rate Pegging Percentage at 0.7% and subsequent to that the Minister for Local Government requested IPART to consider a one off permanent or temporary additional percentage increase for all Councils. In response, IPART advised that all Councils may apply to increase rates by the percentage published in their Delivery Plan for 2022/23 adopted last year i.e. in June 2021 up to a maximum of 2.5%. In Walgett Shire Council's case, 2.0% is the maximum increase that can be applied for given that a 2.0% increase was included in Council's Delivery Plan as adopted in June 2021.

**Current Position:**

This report is seeking an initial resolution of Council in relation to whether it will be applying for the additional 1.3% Additional Special Variation or only applying the 0.7% as initially approved by IPART.

The budget documents will be presented at a workshop for councillor's on 10 May 2022 on the basis of the decision made by Council in this report and will comprise the following possible scenarios:

1. Scenario 1 – 0.7% rate pegging applied. Relatively normal capital expenditure projects included but no additional major projects included in the budgets going forward.
2. Scenario 2 – Further 1.3% Additional Special Rate Variation with same level of capital expenditure as scenario 1.

Any decision of Council in regards to the imposition of an additional rate variation needs to be considered in light of the ability to fund future major capital projects. Not seeking the additional 1.3% now may be viewed negatively by IPART when considering any future SRV applications.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Nil

**Governance issues:**

Nil

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council Community

Walgett Shire Ratepayers

Walgett Shire Council

**Financial Implications:**

The additional 1.3% rate variation will provide an additional \$77k in the 2022/23 year and a further \$770k (approximately) over the following 10 years due to the compounding effect of this one-off increase available to the rating base. This funding will be vital in Council striving to remain viable and continue to fund ongoing service levels into the future.

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Alternative scenarios shown above.

**Conclusion:**

This report recommends that Council resolve to apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a Special Rate Variation of 1.3% in addition to the approved rate pegging increase of 0.7% for the 2022/23 financial year.

| <b>Special Rates Variation Report</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>That Council resolve to apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a permanent Additional Special Rate Variation of 1.3% (representing income of approximately \$77,000 per year) under section 508 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 (in addition to the approved rate pegging increase of 0.7%) for the 2022/23 financial year. This increase is in order to fund the operational and capital works as contained within Council's current adopted Long Term (10 Year) Financial Plan 2021/2022 to 2030/2031 with the impact on ratepayers and the community being considered reasonable.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

OLG Circular No: 22-07/6 April 2022/A815377 - Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23



Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

|                             |                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Circular Details</b>     | 22-07/6 April 2022/A815377                                                              |
| <b>Previous Circular</b>    | 22-03 Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23             |
| <b>Who should read this</b> | Councillors / General Managers / Rating and Finance Staff                               |
| <b>Contact</b>              | Policy Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Action required</b>      | Information                                                                             |

### Subject

#### Guidelines for Additional Special Variation (ASV) Process for 2022-23

**\*\*\* The ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of, and supersede, the ASV Guidelines issued in Circular 22-03 \*\*\***

#### What's new or changing

- The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will accept and process an additional round of 2022-23 Special Variation (ASV) applications from councils.
- For applications made under the ASV process, the ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of the [Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a special variation to general income](#) issued by the Office of Local Government in 2020.
- The ASV Guidelines set out in this circular apply in place of, and supersede, the ASV Guidelines issued in Circular 22-03.
- For more information on when these ASV Guidelines apply, please see 'What this will mean for your council' below.
- This one-off ASV round is available for the 2022-23 financial year only.
- This one-off ASV round is for councils that can show that the special variation will enable them to meet the obligations they set for 2022-23 in their 2021-22 Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documentation.
- Councils seeking a permanent special variation will also need to demonstrate the need for the special variation to be included in their rate base on an ongoing basis.
- Separately, IPART has also agreed to undertake a broader review of its rate peg methodology, including the Local Government Cost Index, with outcomes from the review expected to shape rate peg determinations in future years.

#### What this will mean for your council

- The ASV Guidelines set out in this Circular apply where council is applying for:
  - a temporary or permanent single year special variation for 2022-23 under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), AND
  - the percentage sought in the application is the lower of:
    - 2.5% (including population factor) or

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- the council's assumed 2022-23 rate peg as set out in its 2021-22 IP&R documentation (including population factor)
- For ASV applications made under the Guidelines set out in this Circular, councils will need to provide IPART with the following information:
  - Council's 2021-22 IP&R documentation identifying that council budgeted for an income increase above the percentage specified for the council for 2022-23 under section 506 of the Act; and
  - Where councils are applying for a permanent special variation, in addition to the above information, the council's 2021-22 IP&R documentation identifying that the council forecast an average Operating Performance Ratio (OPR) of 2% or lower over the next 5 years or, alternatively, evidence of need, for example, but not limited to, that the council needs to maintain a higher OPR so it can meet its capital funding requirements; and
  - Council has resolved to apply for the special variation under section 508(2) of the Act and that the resolution clearly states:
    - whether the resolution is for a temporary or permanent special variation under section 508(2) of the Act; and
    - the additional income that council will receive if the special variation is approved; and
    - why the special variation is required; and
    - that the council has considered the impact on ratepayers and the community in 2022-23 and, if permanent, in future years if the special variation is approved and considers that it is reasonable.
- The ASV application process is a simpler more targeted application process.
- IPART will not require councils to demonstrate community consultation or criteria outside of the processes outlined above. To demonstrate community consultation, IPART will consider the consultation undertaken through the IP&R process and consider the resolution to apply for a ASV meets the requirements outlined above.
- Revised application forms and further information will be released by IPART shortly.
- Under this ASV round of applications:
  - IPART will accept applications until 29 April 2022;
  - IPART will publish applications to enable community consultation for a period of at least three weeks; and
  - IPART will notify councils of its decision no later than 21 June 2022.

#### Key points

- In late 2021, IPART announced the rate peg for the 2022-23 financial year was set at an increase of between 0.7% and 5.0%.
- Special variations provide an opportunity for councils to vary general income by an amount greater than the annual rate peg. However IPART's normal period for special variation applications in relation to the 2022-23 rate peg has now passed.
- The Office of Local Government and IPART recognise that, due to the delayed council elections and the determination of the 2022-23 rate peg at a lower rate than councils had forecast, councils may not have had sufficient time to prepare special variation application within the normal timeframe.

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This may result in some councils not having sufficient funds to pay for required infrastructure and services.

- As such the NSW Government and IPART have agreed to a one-off ASV round for the 2022-23 financial year only.
- This process is not intended to address applications from councils that require a special variation (above 2.5%) to achieve long term financial sustainability for reasons other than those set out in the criteria above, which should be addressed through the standard special variation process.
- [IPART's website](#) will be updated with revised application forms and information papers shortly.

**Where to go for further information**

- For further information please contact IPART on 02 9290 8400 or by email to [ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au).

**Melanie Hawyes**

**Group Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government**

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## 10.3 ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING / TECHNICAL SERVICES

### 10.3.1 MONTHLY MAINTENANCE GRADING REPORT - AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering / Technical Services  
**AUTHOR:** Bob Stephen - Acting Director Engineering / Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0040

---

**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to update Council about the road maintenance programme on Shire Roads for the period ending 31st March 2022.

**Background:**

The maintenance budget has been prepared based on the available funding to maintain the Unsealed Local and Regional Roads to provide an acceptable level of service. This budget will be used to maintain the roads as per demand and Road best practice manual. Details of maintenance grading and flood work locations are detailed in the attached report.

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Council's approved 2021/2022 Shire Roads Maintenance Grading Works schedule.

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
 Walgett Residents  
 Tourists

**Financial Implications:**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022- \$546,884.88 has been spent.

November Flood work costs up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, actual cost \$1,332,572.46 and committed costs \$200,143.03 **Total \$1,532,715.40**

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Conclusion:**

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

| Monthly Maintenance Grading Report – March 2022                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the monthly maintenance grading works report for March 2022.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b><br/> <b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

Monthly maintenance grading works.

| Road Name                    | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Expenditure For July 2021 | Expenditure For August 2021 | Expenditure For Sept. 2021 | Expenditure For Oct. 2021 | Expenditure For Nov. 2021 | Expenditure For Dec. 2021 | Expenditure For Jan. 2022 | Expenditure For Feb. 2022 | Expenditure For March 2022 | Expenditure For April 2022 | Expenditure For May 2022 | Expenditure For June 2022 | Total Cost to Date   |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <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             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Regans Road SR58             | 3.2                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Marra Creek Road SR60        | 17.5                 | \$ 10,850.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 6,365.00                 | \$ 6,365.00                |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 12,730.00         |
| Lochlomond Road SR74         | 8.4                  | \$ 5,208.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 53.12                  |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 53.12             |
| Maroubra Road SR76           | 8.3                  | \$ 5,146.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Nedgara Road SR77            | 10.7                 | \$ 6,634.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 9,691.89               | \$ 3,400.00               | \$ 1,621.33               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 14,713.22         |
| Mac Masman Road SR81         | 8                    | \$ 4,960.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Binghi Road SR113            | 20.1                 | \$ 12,462.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 2,800.00               |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 2,800.00          |
| Aberfoyle Road SR115         | 26.2                 | \$ 16,244.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 12,815.00                |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 12,815.00         |
| Gungalman Road SR31          | 43.7                 | \$ 27,094.00                    | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 6,812.34               | \$ 13,213.92              |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 20,026.26         |
| Gilwarry Road SR32           | 7.9                  | \$ 4,898.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 1,484.97               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,484.97          |
| Teranyan Road SR33           | 13.7                 | \$ 8,494.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 6,200.00               |                           | \$ 6,759.90               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 12,959.90         |
| Bogewong Road SR114          | 48.7                 | \$ 30,194.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 25,310.00                |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 266.56                 |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 25,576.56         |
| Ginghet Road SR40            | 47.6                 | \$ 29,512.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 10,672.33                |                            |                           |                           | \$ 2,587.06               |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 13,259.39         |
| Bushs Road SR43              | 8.7                  | \$ 5,394.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Miralwyn Road SR73           | 17.9                 | \$ 11,098.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 13,369.05                |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 13,369.05         |
| Brewon Road SR112            | 54.7                 | \$ 33,914.00                    | C             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 1,929.73               | \$ 11,218.43              | \$ 3,309.97               | \$ 2,940.00               | \$ 4,702.82               |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 24,100.95         |
| Billybingbone Road RR7516    | 18.67                | \$ 11,532.00                    | C             |                           | \$ 2,990.00                 | \$ 2,990.00                |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 646.02                  |                            |                          |                           | \$ 6,626.02          |
| Merri Merri Road RR202       | 6.57                 | \$ 7,166.00                     | C             |                           | \$ 1,265.00                 | \$ 1,265.00                |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 1,603.87               |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 4,133.87          |
| <b>Sub total Zone 1</b>      | <b>392.29</b>        | <b>\$ 250,640.00</b>            |               | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 72,786.38</b>         | <b>\$ 10,620.00</b>        | <b>\$ 1,929.73</b>        | <b>\$ 27,110.32</b>       | <b>\$ 9,297.03</b>        | <b>\$ 19,618.54</b>       | <b>\$ 22,640.29</b>       | <b>\$ 646.02</b>           | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 164,648.31</b> |
| <b>Zone 2</b>                |                      |                                 |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                      |
| Boorooma Creek Road SR48     | 19.1                 | \$ 11,842.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Wimbledon Road SR64          | 3.4                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 3,455.55               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,455.55          |
| 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             |                           | \$ 15,375.44                | \$ 15,375.44               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 30,750.88         |
| Lone Pine Road SR70          | 9.6                  | \$ 5,952.00                     | D             |                           | \$ 5,952.00                 |                            | \$ 4,394.14               | \$ 413.45                 |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 4,807.59          |
| Kurrajong Road SR110         | 27.8                 | \$ 17,236.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 6,717.60                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 6,717.60          |
| Wilby Wilby Road SR101       | 28.7                 | \$ 17,794.00                    | D             | \$ 7,526.60               | \$ 468.09                   | \$ 468.09                  | \$ 7,408.81               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 15,871.59         |
| Grawin Opal Fields Road      | 0.9                  | \$ 557.00                       | C             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Woodlands Road SR 130        | 2.33                 | \$ 1,445.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| Cumborah Town Roads          |                      |                                 | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                 |
| <b>Sub total Zone 2</b>      | <b>181.95</b>        | <b>\$ 116,702.00</b>            |               | <b>\$ 7,526.60</b>        | <b>\$ 22,561.13</b>         | <b>\$ 15,843.53</b>        | <b>\$ 11,802.95</b>       | <b>\$ 413.45</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 3,455.55</b>        | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 61,603.21</b>  |

| Road Name                      | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Expenditure For July 2021 | Expenditure For August 2021 | Expenditure For Sept. 2021 | Expenditure For Oct. 2021 | Expenditure For Nov. 2021 | Expenditure For Dec. 2021 | Expenditure For Jan. 2022 | Expenditure For Feb. 2022 | Expenditure For March 2022 | Expenditure For April 2022 | Expenditure For May 2022 | Expenditure For June 2022 | Total Cost to Date  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Zone 3</b>                  |                      |                                 |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
| Springs Road SR19              | 2.7                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Bonanza Road SR46              | 16.9                 | \$ 10,478.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 5,220.00                |                            |                          |                           | \$ 5,220.00         |
| Schmalkuche Road SR47          | 14.4                 | \$ 8,928.00                     | E             |                           | \$ 5,467.50                 | \$ 5,467.50                |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 10,935.00        |
| Millencowbah Road SR51         | 27.7                 | \$ 17,174.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 4,117.50                 | \$ 4,117.50                |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 8,235.00         |
| Willis Road SR52               | 14.5                 | \$ 8,990.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 2,025.00               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 2,025.00         |
| Koomalah Road SR53             | 28.4                 | \$ 17,608.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Burranbaa Road SR55            | 18.1                 | \$ 11,222.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 1,600.00                 | \$ 1,600.00                |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,200.00         |
| Cambo Road SR61                | 21.1                 | \$ 13,082.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Woolaroo Road SR69             | 1                    | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 1,402.59               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,402.59         |
| Kia-Ora Road SR86              | 6.8                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Fabians Road SR88              | 24.8                 | \$ 15,376.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 9,585.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 9,585.00         |
| Banarway Road SR95             | 1.2                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Purtle Road SR126              | 26.8                 | \$ 16,616.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 3,780.00               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,780.00         |
| Boora Road SR127               | 63.8                 | \$ 39,556.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 6,075.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 6,075.00         |
| Bore Head Road SR45            | 5.1                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 1,617.73               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,617.73         |
| Lorne Road SR98                | 6.9                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | D             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 2,978.70               | \$ 214.38                 |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,193.08         |
| Angledool Road SR102           | 49.3                 | \$ 30,566.00                    | C             | \$ 5,469.62               | \$ 12,100.00                | \$ 12,100.00               | \$ 6,363.54               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 36,033.16        |
| Ridge/Sherman Way RR426        | 70.1                 | \$ 68,275.00                    | C             |                           | \$ 16,664.11                |                            | \$ 7,965.00               |                           |                           | \$ 3,105.00               | \$ 3,755.22               | \$ 2,650.47                |                            |                          |                           | \$ 34,139.80        |
| Gundabloui Road RR457          | 40.9                 | \$ 32,798.00                    | C             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| <b>Sub total Zone 3</b>        | <b>440.5</b>         | <b>\$ 316,337.00</b>            |               | <b>\$ 5,469.62</b>        | <b>\$ 55,609.11</b>         | <b>\$ 23,285.00</b>        | <b>\$ 17,307.24</b>       | <b>\$ 3,234.70</b>        | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 8,910.00</b>        | <b>\$ 3,755.22</b>        | <b>\$ 7,870.47</b>         | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$125,441.36</b> |
| <b>Zone 4</b>                  |                      |                                 |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
| Franxton Road SR1              | 19                   | \$ 11,780.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 9,040.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 9,040.00         |
| Bellara Road SR2               | 21.4                 | \$ 13,268.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 3,680.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,680.00         |
| Clarkes Road SR3               | 6                    | \$ 4,278.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 2,160.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 2,160.00         |
| Cryon Road SR5                 | 56.75                | \$ 35,185.00                    | C             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 6,080.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 6,080.00         |
| Woodvale Road SR13             | 8.96                 | \$ 8,556.00                     | E             |                           | \$ 3,200.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 3,200.00         |
| Baroona Road SR14              | 11.1                 | \$ 6,882.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 4,480.00               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 4,480.00         |
| 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             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 5,760.00                |                            |                          |                           | \$ 5,760.00         |
| Dundee Road SR124              | 13.9                 | \$ 8,618.00                     | F             |                           | \$ 8,640.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 8,640.00         |
| Glen Eden Road SR125           | 24.6                 | \$ 15,252.00                    | E             |                           | \$ 13,280.00                |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 13,280.00        |
| Millie Road SR12               | 9.1                  | \$ 5,642.00                     | C             |                           | \$ 4,800.00                 |                            |                           | \$ 4,960.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 9,760.00         |
| Rossmore Road SR71             | 10.7                 | \$ 6,634.00                     | C             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Rowena Road SR123              | 34.5                 | \$ 21,390.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 6,341.55               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 6,341.55         |
| Camerons Road SR128            | 15.2                 | \$ 9,424.00                     | D             |                           | \$ 8,320.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 4,640.00               |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 12,960.00        |
| Mercadool Road SR16            | 57.7                 | \$ 35,774.00                    | C             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 1,461.27               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,461.27         |
| Moomin Road SR59               | 31                   | \$ 19,220.00                    | D             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 14,720.00              |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 14,720.00        |
| Beanbri Road SR117             | 4.9                  | \$ 4,278.00                     | C             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 9,280.00                |                            |                          |                           | \$ 9,280.00         |
| 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>Sub total Zone 4</b>        | <b>432.91</b>        | <b>\$ 282,379.00</b>            |               | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 50,960.00</b>         | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ 20,661.27</b>       | <b>\$ 19,541.55</b>       | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$ 4,640.00</b>        | <b>\$ 15,040.00</b>        | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$110,842.82</b> |

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL AGENDA – 26 APRIL 2022 – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

| Road Name                  | Total Length of Road | Budget Required for Entire Road | Road Category | Expenditure For July 2021 | Expenditure For August 2021 | Expenditure For Sept. 2021 | Expenditure For Oct. 2021 | Expenditure For Nov. 2021 | Expenditure For Dec. 2021 | Expenditure For Jan. 2022 | Expenditure For Feb. 2022 | Expenditure For March 2022 | Expenditure For April 2022 | Expenditure For May 2022 | Expenditure For June 2022 | Total Cost to Date  |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| <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             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 433.17                 | \$ 7,485.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 7,918.17         |
| Colrose Road SR27          | 20.6                 | \$ 12,772.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 7,815.00               | \$ 3,450.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 11,265.00        |
| Wingadee Road SR28         | 11.8                 | \$ 7,316.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 7,125.00               |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 7,125.00         |
| Epping Road SR57           | 15.4                 | \$ 9,548.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Middle Route Road SR72     | 9.6                  | \$ 5,952.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           | \$ 784.97                 |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 784.97           |
| 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             |                           | \$ 1,920.00                 |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,920.00         |
| Belaba Road SR89           | 11.2                 | \$ 6,944.00                     | F             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Hollywood Lane SR119       | 29.9                 | \$ 18,538.00                    | E             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 8,952.50               | \$ 1,760.00               |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 10,712.50        |
| O'Niels Road SR131         | 31.1                 | \$ 19,282.00                    | D             |                           | \$ 376.29                   | \$ 376.29                  | \$ 12,720.00              |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 13,472.58        |
| 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             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           | \$ 918.18                 |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 918.18           |
| 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             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           | \$ 1,524.73               |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 1,524.73         |
| Yarraldool Road SR118      | 41.3                 | \$ 25,606.00                    | C             |                           |                             |                            | \$ 296.49                 |                           | \$ 16.46                  |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 312.95           |
| Haynes Hut SR68            | 4.5                  | \$ 2,790.00                     | E             |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ -                |
| Come By Chance Road RR7716 | 60.9                 | \$ 65,450.00                    | C             |                           | \$ 786.30                   | \$ 786.30                  | \$ 14,157.50              | \$ 12,665.00              |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           | \$ 28,395.10        |
| <b>Sub total Zone 5</b>    | <b>457.8</b>         | <b>\$ 329,125.00</b>            |               |                           | <b>\$ 3,082.59</b>          | <b>\$ 1,162.59</b>         | <b>\$ 51,499.66</b>       | <b>\$ 26,144.97</b>       | <b>\$ 16.46</b>           | <b>\$ 1,524.73</b>        | <b>\$ 918.18</b>          | <b>\$ -</b>                |                            |                          |                           | <b>\$ 84,349.18</b> |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1,905.45</b>      | <b>1,295,183.00</b>             |               | <b>\$ 12,996.22</b>       | <b>\$204,999.21</b>         | <b>\$ 50,911.12</b>        | <b>\$103,200.85</b>       | <b>\$ 76,444.99</b>       | <b>\$ 9,313.49</b>        | <b>\$ 33,508.82</b>       | <b>\$ 31,953.69</b>       | <b>\$ 23,556.49</b>        | <b>\$ -</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>              | <b>\$ -</b>               | <b>\$546,884.88</b> |
|                            | <b>Actual Budget</b> | <b>\$627,300.00</b>             |               |                           |                             |                            | Month total               | \$ 23,556.49              |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | Road Category        |                                 |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | <b>Road Category</b> | <b># Grades</b>                 |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | C                    | 3                               |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | D                    | 2                               |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | E                    | 1                               |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |
|                            | F                    | Occasional                      |               |                           |                             |                            |                           |                           |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                          |                           |                     |





## 10.3.2 SERVICE PROGRESS REPORT - AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering / Technical Services  
**AUTHOR:** Bob Stephen – Acting Director Engineering/Technical Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0042

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### Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update Council with regards Engineering Services works progress up to 31st March 2022.

### Background:

The revised budget of the Engineering and Technical Service Department for capital & maintenance works, Quarry management, fleet management, water works, parks & garden, Walgett weir and engineering administration for 2021/2022 is \$51,217,476  
The breakdown of the budget is as follows.

Breakdown of budgets:

| Items                               | Budget              | Expenditure up to 31st January 2022 | (%)         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Transportation including RMCC works | \$45,007,314        | \$14,990,875                        | 33.3        |
| Water works ( maintenance)          | \$2,638,352         | \$1,031,893                         | 39.1        |
| Water works ( Capital)              | \$1,649,236         | \$517,566                           | 31.4        |
| Sewer works ( Maintenance works)    | \$786,364           | \$405,829                           | 51.6        |
| Sewer works (Capital works)         | \$1,136,210         | \$266,435                           | 23.4        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>\$51,217,476</b> | <b>\$17,212,598</b>                 | <b>33.6</b> |

### Current Position:

The status of work progress is as follows;

| Items                              | Status                                                            |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Flood damage repairs November 2021 | Ongoing                                                           |
| Goangra Bridge                     | Works to commence May 2022                                        |
| Come By Chance                     | Contract awarded to Batterline, waiting on contracts to be signed |
| Lorne Road                         | Contract Awarded and signed                                       |
| Burranbaa Road                     | Contract awarded to Batterline, waiting on contracts to be signed |

### Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

2021/22 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

Walgett Shire Residents and Rate Payers

**Financial Implications:**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, \$17,212,598.00 has been spent.

**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 as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the Engineering Services monthly works progress report for March 2022</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment:**

Nil

### **10.3.3 FLOOD RESTORATION WORKS – UPDATE AS AT 31 MARCH 2022**

**REPORTING SECTION:** Engineering Services  
**AUTHOR:** Bob Stephen – Acting Director Engineering Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0043

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**Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of progress relating to the November 2021 flood restoration works as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**Background:**

In November 2021, Walgett Shire suffered major flood disasters and significantly affected Shire Roads and Regional roads. The people of the Walgett Shire were particularly affected and the Shire's infrastructure sustained severe damage. Council is in process to submit the claims under Natural Disaster Assistance (NDA) programme.

**Current Position:**

All the flood restoration works in progress

**Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:**

Inspection report

**Stakeholders:**

Walgett Shire Council  
Walgett Resident/tourist

**Financial Implications:**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, \$1,332,572.46 actual and \$200,143.03 committed costs have been spent on flood restoration works.

**Total \$1,532,715.40**

**Alternative Solutions/Options:**

Nil

**Conclusion:**

The November 2021 flood works repairs will be ongoing for several months.

| <b>Flood Restoration Works – Update as at 31 March 2022</b>                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council receive and note the flood restoration works report for March 2022.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachments:**

Nil.

## 10.4 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### 10.4.1 DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2022

**REPORTING SECTION:** Planning  
**AUTHOR:** Kimley Talbert, Acting Director Environmental Services  
**FILE NUMBER:** 22/10/0044

---

#### Summary:

This report is to advise the December 2021 and January 2022 development approvals for the information of Council and to ensure compliance with Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and Section 124 of the associated Regulation.

#### Background:

To ensure the validity of a development consent in any legal proceedings, all development consents and complying development certificates are to be notified to the public within 3 months of the date of consent. The only exception is any development that may have Court proceedings commenced before the expiration of 3 months from the date on which the public notice was given.

#### Current Position:

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

For Councillor Information purposes, the following developments were approved during February and March 2022.

#### Development Applications

| Appl. No  | Address                                  | Title                      | Development                                 | Determination       |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| DA2021/66 | 41745 Kamilaroi Highway Walgett NSW 2832 | Lot 436<br>DP 761275       | Installation of a new Manufactured Home     | Delegated Authority |
| DA2021/74 | 28 Warrena Street WALGETT NSW 2832       | Lot A & Lot D<br>DP 392928 | Nursery with 4 Cabins & Food Drink Premises | Application Refused |
| DA2021/79 | 40 Pitt Street Walgett NSW 2832          | Lot 7<br>DP 759036         | Park Shade Sail                             | Delegated Authority |

#### Complying Development

No complying development was approved or refused in February 2022.

A complying development application was approved in March 2022.

Construction Certificates

A total of nine (9) construction certificates were issued during February 2022 covering the installation of metal carports.

Activity Approvals

Six activity approvals were carried out during March 2022 covering caravan park additional ten (10) cabins including water and sewerage works, the installation of a Manufactured home, approvals covering two (2) Mobile Food Vans along with new septic tanks and plumbing & sanitary drainage system works.

AA2022/37 Dual Occupancy Manufactured Home-On hold awaiting Practising Structural Engineers Certification for the building.

For Councillor Information purposes, the following developments have been lodged and are currently waiting a determination. **Please note, this is only current as at 1 February 2022.**

Development Applications

| Appl. No  | Address                                       | Title                         | Development                                  | Status                               |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| DA2021/46 | 110 George Sands Way, WALGETT.                | Lot 43<br>DP 752271           | Torrens title subdivision at Namoi Reserve.  | On hold                              |
| DA2021/54 | Kamilaroi Highway, WALGETT.                   | Lot 2 & lot 34<br>DP 752697   | Torrens title subdivision at Gingie Reserve. | On hold                              |
| DA022/13  | 28 Morilla Street<br>LIGHTNING RIDGE NSW 2834 | Lot 4 Section 15<br>DP 758612 | Shop change of use cake shop takeaway        | On hold awaiting further information |

Planning Certificates

In January, February and March 2022 – forty (40) 10.7 Planning Certificates were issued.

**Other Environmental Services Activities:**January, February & March 2022 Animal Impounding Records

January- impounded 85 animals with 3 dogs returned to owners, 9 cats and 39 dogs re-homed with 37 feral cats.

February- impounded 60 animals with 3 dogs returned to owners, 13 cats and 16 dogs re-homed with 29 feral cats.

March- impounded 36 animals, 1 dog returned to owner, 6 cats and 12 dogs re-homed with 17 feral cats.

**New Contractor:**

Council has recently entered into a contract with a Planning Contractor, Mr Greg Dyson, whom has entered into an agreement to work remotely to conduct environment planning assessment & approvals along with the issuing of section 10.7 Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 Planning Certificates, the person is based in Sydney.

**Relevant reference document/policies:**

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 & Regulations.

**Governance issues:**

Nil

**Environmental issues:**

Nil

**Stakeholders:**

- Walgett Shire Council
- Developer
- Residents of Walgett Shire Council

**Financial implications:**

Nil

**Alternative solutions:**

Nil

| Development Approvals February and March 2022                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>That Council note the information contained within this report.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p> |

**Attachment:**

Nil.

## **15. CLOSE OF MEETING**

**Time: .....**





**ATTACHMENT DOCUMENT**

**FOR**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Michael Urquhart  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## **AGENDA**

1. Monthly Investment Report from Imperium Markets – March 2022



# Monthly Investment Report

## March 2022



IMPERIUM MARKETS

Imperium Markets Pty Ltd ABN: 87 616 579 527  
Authorised Representative of Libertas Financial Planning Pty Ltd AFSL 429 718  
Phone: +61 2 9053 2987  
Email: [michael.chandra@imperium.markets](mailto:michael.chandra@imperium.markets)  
Level 9 Suite 02, 3 Spring Street, Sydney NSW 2000

### **Impact of COVID-19 to Council's Portfolio**

COVID-19 has adversely impacted financial markets, which in turn, has also affected Council's investment portfolio. We provide a quick summary in this section.

The RBA cut rates to record lows on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 to 0.10%, consistent with most global central banks resetting their official rates back to emergency levels. As global markets start to recover, inflationary pressures have emerged. This has resulted in longer-term bond yields to rise significantly in recent months as central banks remove their easing policy measures (i.e. quantitative easing), whilst also flagging substantial increases to official interest rates. **Markets are now bracing an environment where central banks will move from their excessively loose policy measures to a potentially aggressive tightening cycle.**

Domestically, Governor Lowe has conceded that interest rate rises starting later in 2022 was deemed "*a plausible scenario*", but he remains cautious on moving too quickly as that might impede a lower unemployment rate and higher wages growth.

The largest impact to Council's investment portfolio is with regards to its largest exposure being assets held in bank term deposits, which accounts for around ~79% of Council's total investment. **The biggest risk that Council faces over the medium-longer term in this environment is not the potential loss of capital (given all the banks are well capitalised and regulated by APRA), but the rapid loss of interest income as interest rates have plummeted.**

Council's term deposit portfolio was yielding 1.41% p.a. at month-end, with a weighted average duration of around 358 days or ~12 months. This relatively short average duration will only provide some income protection against the low interest rate environment over the immediate future.

With markets factoring in official rate hikes over the next 12 months, this has seen a significant shift in longer-term deposit rates. 'New' investments above 2% p.a. now appears likely if Council can place its surplus funds for terms of +2 years.

## Council's Portfolio & Compliance

### Asset Allocation

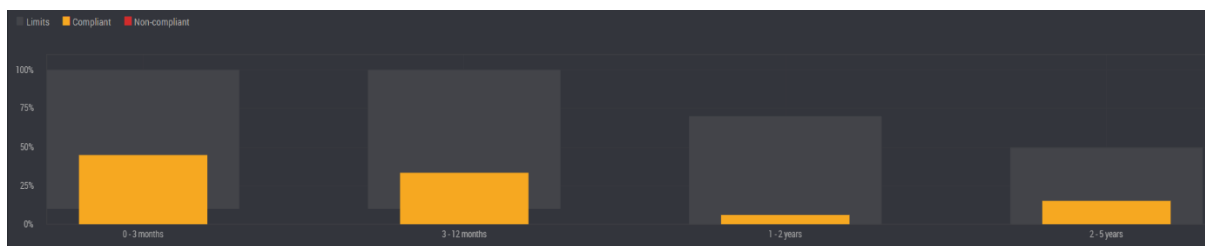
The majority of the portfolio is directed to fixed rate term deposits (79.31%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in various cash accounts with CBA and Macquarie (20.69%).



Senior FRNs are now becoming more attractive as spreads widened significantly over March – new issuances should now be considered again on a case by case scenario. In the interim, fixed deposits and secondary market fixed bonds for 2-3 years appear quite appealing following the spike in longer-term rates in recent months.

### Term to Maturity

The portfolio is sufficiently liquid with around 79% of the total investment portfolio maturing within 12 months, which is well above the minimum 10% limit required across 0-3 month and 3-12 month terms.



Where ongoing liquidity requirements permit Council to invest in attractive 2-5 year investments, we recommend this be allocated to medium-term fixed term deposits or secondary market fixed bonds (refer to respective sections below).

| Compliant | Horizon       | Invested (\$)       | Invested (%)   | Min. Limit (%) | Max. Limit (%) | Available (\$) |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| ✓         | 0 - 3 months  | \$14,782,473        | 45.09          | 0.00           | 10             | 100.00         |
| ✓         | 3 - 12 months | \$11,000,000        | 33.56          | 0.00           | 10             | 100.00         |
| ✓         | 1 - 2 years   | \$2,000,000         | 6.10           | 0.00           | 0              | 70.00          |
| ✓         | 2 - 5 years   | \$5,000,000         | 15.25          | 0.00           | 0              | 50.00          |
| ✓         | 5 - 10 years  | \$0                 | 0.00           | 0.00           | 0              | 25.00          |
|           |               | <b>\$32,782,474</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |                |                |                |

### Counterparty

As at the end of March 2022, Council did not have an overweight position to any single ADI. Overall, the portfolio is well diversified across the entire credit spectrum.

| Compliant | Issuer        | Rating  | Invested (\$)       | Invested (%) | Max. Limit (%) | Available (\$) |
|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| ✓         | CBA           | AA-     | \$247,213           | 0.75%        | 50%            | \$16,144,024   |
| ✓         | NAB           | AA-     | \$1,000,000         | 3.05%        | 50%            | \$15,391,237   |
| ✓         | Westpac       | AA-     | \$1,000,000         | 3.05%        | 50%            | \$15,391,237   |
| ✓         | Macquarie     | A+      | \$6,535,261         | 19.94%       | 40%            | \$6,577,729    |
| ✓         | BOQ           | BBB+    | \$5,000,000         | 15.25%       | 30%            | \$4,834,742    |
| ✓         | AMP Bank      | BBB     | \$9,000,000         | 27.45%       | 30%            | \$834,742      |
| ✓         | Newcastle PBS | BBB     | \$1,000,000         | 3.05%        | 30%            | \$8,834,742    |
| ✓         | MyState Bank  | BBB     | \$2,000,000         | 6.10%        | 30%            | \$7,834,742    |
| ✓         | JUDO          | BBB-    | \$5,000,000         | 15.25%       | 25%            | \$3,195,618    |
| ✓         | Coastline CU  | Unrated | \$1,000,000         | 3.05%        | 5%             | \$639,124      |
| ✓         | Volt Bank     | Unrated | \$1,000,000         | 3.05%        | 5%             | \$639,124      |
|           |               |         | <b>\$32,782,474</b> | <b>100%</b>  |                |                |

Effective 01/03/2022, ME Bank formally relinquished its banking (ADI) licence with APRA, following its acquisition by BoQ in mid-2021. All ME Bank assets are now part of its parent company, BoQ.

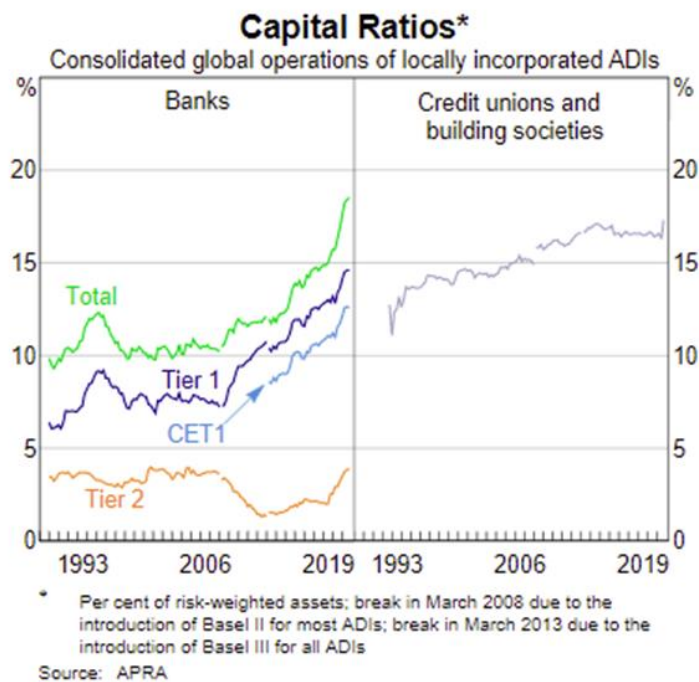
We remain supportive of the regional and unrated ADI sector (and have been even throughout the GFC period). They continue to remain solid, incorporate strong balance sheets, while exhibiting high levels of capital – typically, much higher compared to the higher rated ADIs. Some unrated ADIs have up to 25-40% more capital than the domestic major banks, and well above the Basel III requirements.

***RBA Governor Lowe has commented that they have not seen any signs of stress in the financial system and that unlike during the GFC, the banks (all ADIs) now have cash, are well capitalised and are acting as “shock absorbers” in the current crisis.***

Overall, the lower rated ADIs (BBB and unrated) are generally now in a better financial position than they have been historically (see the Capital Ratio figure below). We believe that deposit investments with the lower rated ADIs should be continued going forward, particularly when they offer ‘above market’ specials. Not only would it diversify the investment portfolio and reduce credit risk, it would also improve the portfolio’s overall returns.

In the current environment of high regulation and scrutiny, all domestic (and international) ADIs continue to carry high levels of capital. There is minimal (if any) probability of any ADI defaulting on their deposits going forward – this was stress tested during the GFC. **APRA’s mandate is to “protect depositors” and provide “financial stability”.**





### Credit Quality

The portfolio remains well diversified from a credit ratings perspective with the portfolio spread across the entire credit spectrum.

From a ratings perspective, the “BBB” rated banks now generally dominate the number of ADIs issuing deposits within the investment grade space. There has been further signs of appetite developing in the wholesale deposit market as additional lower rated (“BBB” and unrated) ADIs have come to market to raise ‘new’ money. Over the coming year, we may start to see a more ‘normalised’ environment where the lower rated banks start to offer higher rates compared to the higher rated banks as the competition for deposits grow.

All aggregate ratings categories are within the Policy limits:

| Compliant | Credit Rating | Invested (\$)       | Invested (%) | Max. Limit (%) | Available (\$) |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| ✓         | AA Category   | \$2,247,213         | 7%           | 100%           | \$30,535,261   |
| ✓         | A Category    | \$6,535,261         | 20%          | 80%            | \$19,690,718   |
| ✓         | BBB Category  | \$22,000,000        | 67%          | 70%            | \$947,731      |
| ✓         | Unrated ADIs  | \$2,000,000         | 6%           | 10%            | \$1,278,247    |
|           |               | <b>\$32,782,474</b> | <b>100%</b>  |                |                |



## Performance

Council's performance for the month ending 31 March 2022 is summarised as follows:

| Performance (Actual)                 | 1 month | 3 months | 6 months | FYTD  | 1 year |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|--------|
| Official Cash Rate                   | 0.01%   | 0.02%    | 0.05%    | 0.08% | 0.10%  |
| AusBond Bank Bill Index              | 0.00%   | 0.01%    | 0.02%    | 0.03% | 0.04%  |
| Council's T/D Portfolio <sup>^</sup> | 0.12%   | 0.35%    | 0.72%    | 1.12% | 1.53%  |
| Outperformance                       | 0.11%   | 0.33%    | 0.70%    | 1.09% | 1.49%  |

<sup>^</sup>Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings. Overall returns would be lower if cash was included.

| Performance (Annualised)             | 1 month | 3 months | 6 months | FYTD  | 1 year |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|-------|--------|
| Official Cash Rate                   | 0.10%   | 0.10%    | 0.10%    | 0.10% | 0.10%  |
| AusBond Bank Bill Index              | 0.04%   | 0.05%    | 0.04%    | 0.04% | 0.04%  |
| Council's T/D Portfolio <sup>^</sup> | 1.39%   | 1.42%    | 1.44%    | 1.49% | 1.53%  |
| Outperformance                       | 1.35%   | 1.36%    | 1.40%    | 1.46% | 1.49%  |

<sup>^</sup>Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings. Overall returns would be lower if cash was included.

For the month of March, the total portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.12% (actual) or +1.39% p.a. (annualised), easily outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.00% (actual) or +0.04% p.a. (annualised). Over the past 12 months, the return of +1.53% p.a. was significantly above benchmark – this is considered very strong given current economic circumstances.

The outperformance continues to be driven by a combination of those deposits invested beyond 12 months. However, the higher yielding deposits are fast maturing, and those deposits will inevitably be reinvested at lower prevailing rates unless a longer duration is undertaken.

Investors using the Imperium Markets platform have reduced the invisible costs associated with brokerage, and thereby lift client portfolio returns as investors are able to deal in deposits directly with the ADIs and execute at the best price possible.

**We are pleased that Council remains amongst the best performing in the state of NSW where deposits are concerned, earning on average, over \$180,000 in additional interest income compared to its peers (as per the February 2022 rankings).** We have been pro-active in our advice about protecting interest income and addressing reinvestment risk for many years and encouraged to maintain a long duration position. This is now reflected by the high performance of the investment portfolio.

### Council's Term Deposit Portfolio & Recommendation

As at the end of March 2022, Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 1.41% p.a. (up 6bp from the previous month), with an average duration of around 358 days (~12 months).

We recommend Council extends this average duration. In the low interest rate environment, the biggest collective risk that the local government sector has faced over the post-GFC era has been the dramatic fall in interest rates - from 7¼% to the historical low levels of 0.10%.

As the past decade has highlighted (post-GFC era), we have seen too many portfolios' roll a high proportion of their deposits between 3-6 months, resulting in their deposits being reinvested at lower prevailing rates. That is, depositors have overpaid for liquidity and generally not insured themselves against the low interest rate environment by diversify their funding across various tenors (out to 5 years) but rather placed all their 'eggs in one basket' and kept all their deposits short. **Reinvestment risk has collectively been the biggest detriment to depositors' interest income over the post-GFC period.**

At the time of writing, we see value in:

| ADI          | LT Credit Rating | Term    | T/D Rate   |
|--------------|------------------|---------|------------|
| ICBC, Sydney | A                | 5 years | 3.72% p.a. |
| ICBC, Sydney | A                | 4 years | 3.57% p.a. |
| ICBC, Sydney | A                | 3 years | 3.34% p.a. |
| BoQ/ME Bank  | BBB+             | 3 years | 3.10% p.a. |
| NAB          | AA-              | 3 years | 3.00% p.a. |
| ICBC, Sydney | A                | 2 years | 2.88% p.a. |
| BoQ/ME Bank  | BBB+             | 2 years | 2.60% p.a. |
| NAB          | AA-              | 2 years | 2.55% p.a. |
| Westpac      | AA-              | 2 years | 2.46% p.a. |

The above deposits are suitable for investors looking to provide some income protection and mitigate reinvestment/rollover risk for the next few years.



For terms under 12 months, we believe the strongest value is currently being offered by the following ADIs (dependent on daily funding requirements):

| ADI              | LT Credit Rating | Term         | T/D Rate    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| ING Bank         | A                | 12 months    | 1.68% p.a.  |
| ICBC             | A                | 12 months    | 1.65% p.a.  |
| Suncorp          | AA-              | 12 months    | 1.63% p.a.  |
| NAB              | AA-              | 12 months    | 1.60% p.a.  |
| AMP Bank         | BBB              | 11-12 months | 1.60% p.a.^ |
| BoQ / ME Bank    | BBB+             | 12 months    | 1.55% p.a.  |
| Bendigo-Adelaide | BBB+             | 12 months    | 1.55% p.a.  |

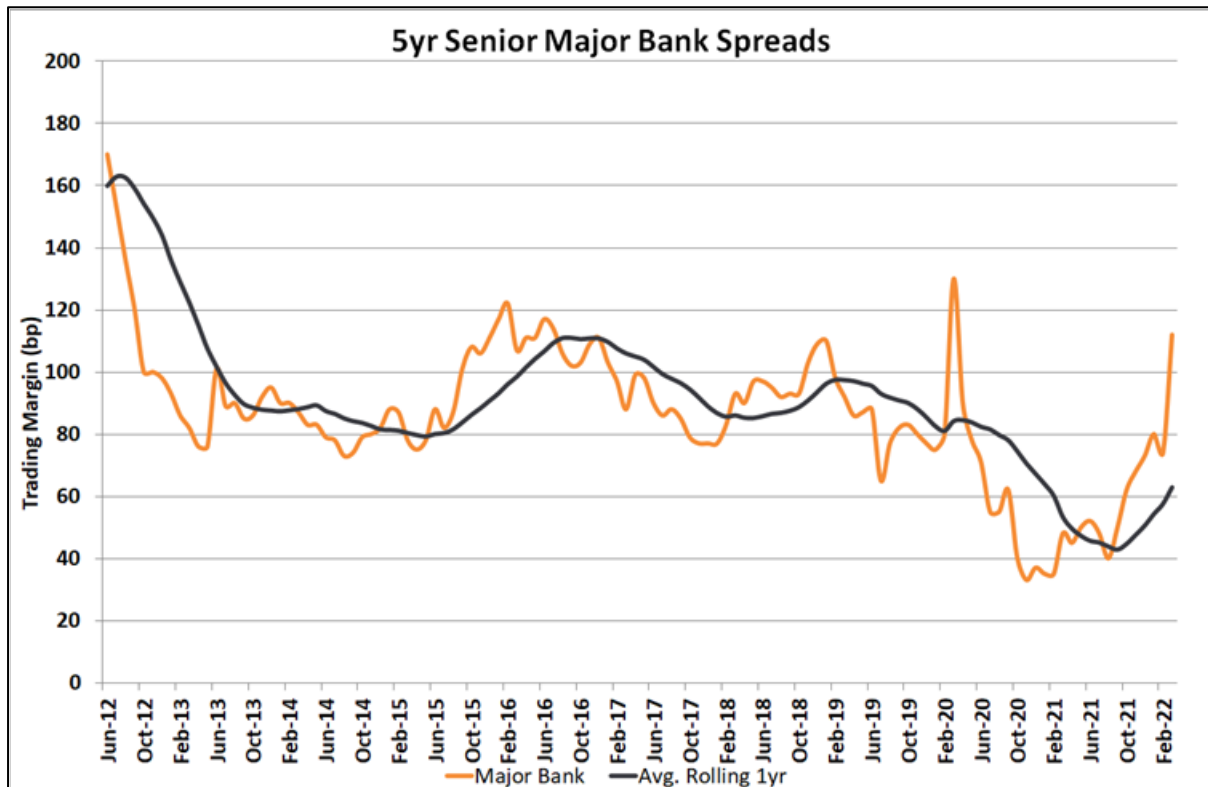
<sup>^</sup> AMP T/Ds – contact us to receive an additional 0.20% p.a. rebated commission on top of the rate shown above

*Amongst the investment grade sector, the majority of short-dated term deposits (maturing less than 12 months) are yielding under 1.60% p.a. Despite the uplift in outright rates recently, we believe there is still slightly better value in longer-dated terms.*

*There is an upward pick-up in yield for investors that can take advantage of 2-3 year fixed T/Ds whilst official rates are stuck at very low levels at least for the next 6-12 months. For those investors that do not require high levels of liquidity and can stagger their investments longer-term, they will be rewarded over coming years if they roll for an average term of 18 months - 2 years (this is where we current value), yielding, on average, up to double the return compared to those investors that purely invest in short-dated deposits.*

### Senior FRNs & Recommendations

Over March, amongst the senior major bank FRNs, physical credit securities widened significantly, by up to 37bp at the long-end of the curve. After the major banks (CBA, NAB and WBC) issued new 3 and/or 5 year securities in recent months, a new 5 year senior major bank security would now be issued around the +112bp level, the first time it has broken three figure mark since early 2019 (outside the brief spike in March 2020 due to the original COVID outbreak):



Source: IBS Capital

Amongst the “A” and “BBB” rated sector, the securities widened by up to 35bp at the long-end of the curve. There was ongoing activity in the primary market, highlighted by new issuances from:

- Bendigo-Adelaide Bank (BBB+): 3 year senior FRN / fixed bond at +98bp
- Westpac (AA-): 3 year senior FRN / fixed bond at +69bp

Credit securities are looking much more attractive given the widening of spreads in recent months. FRNs will continue to play a role in investor’s portfolios mainly on the basis of their liquidity and the ability to roll down the curve and gross up returns over ensuing years (in a relatively stable credit environment).

| Senior FRNs (ADIs) | 31/03/2022 | 28/02/2022 |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| "AA" rated – 5yrs  | +112bp     | +75bp      |
| "AA" rated – 3yrs  | +84bp      | +49bp      |
| "A" rated – 5yrs   | +120bp     | +88bp      |
| "A" rated – 3yrs   | +95bp      | +60bp      |
| "BBB" rated – 3yrs | +105bp     | +70bp      |

Source: IBS Capital

We now generally recommend switches ('benchmark' issues only) into new primary issues, out of the following senior FRNs that are maturing:

- **On or before mid-2024 for the "AA" rated ADIs (domestic major banks);**
- On or before early-mid 2023 for the "A" rated ADIs; and
- Within 12 months for the "BBB" rated ADIs (consider case by case).

Investors holding onto the above senior FRNs ('benchmark' issues only) in their last few years are now generally holding sub-optimal investments and are not maximising returns by foregoing realised capital gains. In the current low interest rate environment, any boost in overall returns should be locked in when it is advantageous to do so, particularly as switch opportunities become available.



### Senior Fixed Bonds – ADIs (Secondary Market)

As global inflationary pressures have emerged, this has seen a significant lift in longer-term bond yields (valuations fell) as markets have strongly factored in a tightening of global central bank policy measures (i.e. withdrawal of Quantitative Easing and lifting official interest rates).

This has resulted in some opportunities in the secondary market. We currently see value in the following fixed bond lines, with the majority now being marked at a significant discount to par (please note supply in the secondary market may be limited on any day):

| ISIN         | Issuer    | Rating | Capital Structure | Maturity Date | ~Remain. Term (yrs) | Fixed Coupon | Indicative Yield |
|--------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| AU3CB0265403 | Suncorp   | AA-    | Senior            | 30/07/2024    | 2.33                | 1.85%        | 3.06%            |
| AU3CB0265593 | Macquarie | A+     | Senior            | 07/08/2024    | 2.36                | 1.75%        | 3.16%            |
| AU3CB0265718 | ING       | AAA    | Covered           | 20/08/2024    | 2.39                | 1.45%        | 3.17%            |
| AU3CB0266179 | ANZ       | AA-    | Senior            | 29/08/2024    | 2.42                | 1.55%        | 3.27%            |
| AU3CB0266377 | Bendigo   | BBB+   | Senior            | 06/09/2024    | 2.44                | 1.70%        | 3.25%            |
| AU3CB0268027 | BoQ       | BBB+   | Senior            | 30/10/2024    | 2.59                | 2.00%        | 3.35%            |
| AU3CB0269710 | ANZ       | AA-    | Senior            | 16/01/2025    | 2.80                | 1.65%        | 3.35%            |
| AU3CB0269892 | NAB       | AA-    | Senior            | 21/01/2025    | 2.81                | 1.65%        | 3.48%            |
| AU3CB0270387 | Macquarie | A+     | Senior            | 12/02/2025    | 2.87                | 1.70%        | 3.47%            |
| AU3CB0287415 | Westpac   | AA-    | Senior            | 17/03/2025    | 2.96                | 2.70%        | 3.15%            |
| AU3CB0280030 | BoQ       | BBB+   | Senior            | 06/05/2026    | 4.10                | 1.40%        | 4.03%            |
| AU3CB0282358 | ING       | AAA    | Covered           | 19/08/2026    | 4.39                | 1.10%        | 3.54%            |

# Economic Commentary

## International Market

Equity markets proved resilient over March, despite the ongoing rout in global bond markets as investors incorporate the hawkish pivot by central banks. Helping equity markets this month was ongoing talks by Russia of de-escalating its war with Ukraine.

In the US, the S&P 500 Index gained +3.58%, while the NASDAQ added +3.41%. Europe's main indices were much more stable, with gains from UK's FTSE (+0.77%) and France's CAC (+0.02%), while Germany's DAX fell -0.32%.

The US Fed increased official rates by 25bp in a widely anticipated first move. The accompanying statement and dot plot remained hawkish, with a hike per meeting in the median dots for calendar 2022 (i.e. another 7½ hikes priced by the market this year). The Fed's inflation forecasts were revised higher to end 2022 at +4.3%, while slowing to +2.7% by the end 2023.

US Fed chair Jay Powell commented that *"nothing"* would prevent the Fed from raising rates by 50bp in May, with a willingness to *"hike by more than 25bp each time if needed"*.

US CPI headline and core printed in line with expectations at +0.8% m/m (+7.9% y/y) and +0.5% m/m (+6.4% y/y) respectively. The headline print was a 40-year high reflecting higher gasoline, food and shelter costs.

US payrolls came in much stronger than expected at 678k against 423k expected. The unemployment rate also fell more than expected to 3.8% from 4.0% (consensus 3.9%).

The EU, US, UK and Canadian governments agreed to the exclusion of at least some Russian banks from the Swift global payments system and sanction the Russian central bank.

In Europe, core inflation again surprised to the upside, coming in at +2.7% y/y, above the ECB's +2% target. Headline inflation hit a new high of +5.8% y/y and, given recent moves in oil and gas prices, is likely to rise further in the coming months.

The Bank of England hiked rates by 25bp to 0.75%, although their commentary was slightly more dovish, with a softening rates outlook to further hikes described as *"might"* be needed in coming months, down from the *"is likely"* characterisation previously.

UK February CPI came in higher than expectations at +0.8% m/m (+0.6% expected) and +6.2% y/y, even before the new round of fuel and energy price pressures in the pipeline in coming months. The core measure was also up +0.8% m/m for +5.2% y/y.

The MSCI World ex-Aus Index rose +2.35% for the month:

| Index                    | 1m     | 3m     | 1yr     | 3yr     | 5yr     | 10yr    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| S&P 500 Index            | +3.58% | -4.95% | +14.03% | +16.92% | +13.91% | +12.39% |
| MSCI World ex-AUS        | +2.35% | -5.76% | +8.57%  | +13.26% | +10.66% | +9.01%  |
| S&P ASX 200 Accum. Index | +6.89% | +2.24% | +14.97% | +10.59% | +9.22%  | +10.15% |

Source: S&P, MSCI

## Domestic Market

In its meeting in March, the RBA still sees it as too early to conclude that inflation is sustainably within the target range. It repeats that there are uncertainties about how persistent the pick-up in inflation will be given ongoing supply problems and adds recent energy market developments into the mix for consideration.

Governor Lowe said *"it is plausible that the cash rate will be increased later this year"*. Inflation risks have *"clearly moved to the upside"* relative to the February statement given the war in Ukraine and sanctions against Russia, but Governor Lowe still thinks higher wages growth is needed to sustain inflation at 2-3% with a risk that moving rates too early would impede the opportunity to secure an even lower unemployment rate.

February's labour market data was very strong with unemployment falling 0.2% to 4.0%, its equal lowest in the history of the monthly survey that dates back to 1978. Employment was strong, up +77k (consensus +37k), which meant the unemployment rate fell even with the participation rate increasing 0.2% to 66.4%.

Retail sales for February were again much stronger than expected at +1.8% m/m (consensus +0.9%).

Credit growth was +0.6% m/m in January, slowing from last month's +0.8% rise and a touch below consensus for a +0.7% gain.

The trade surplus surprised to the upside, rising \$4.1bn to \$12.9bn in January, well above the consensus for \$9bn.

The budget continues to improve more quickly than the government expected due both to higher revenues (income and company taxes) and lower spending (particularly on welfare). The forecast for the 2022-23 deficit has been revised down to \$78.0bn, from an expected deficit of \$98.9bn forecast in December.

The Australian dollar rose +4.18%, finishing the month at US74.82 cents (from US71.82 cents the previous month).

## Credit Market

The global credit indices traded in a relatively narrow range over March despite the ongoing volatility in equity markets. The indices are back to their levels experienced in mid-2020:

| Index                      | March 2022 | February 2022 |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------|
| CDX North American 5yr CDS | 67bp       | 66bp          |
| iTraxx Europe 5yr CDS      | 73bp       | 68bp          |
| iTraxx Australia 5yr CDS   | 86bp       | 88bp          |

Source: Markit

# Fixed Interest Review

## Benchmark Index Returns

| Index                                          | March 2022 | February 2022 |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (0+YR)       | +0.00%     | +0.01%        |
| Bloomberg AusBond Composite Bond Index (0+YR)  | -3.75%     | -1.21%        |
| Bloomberg AusBond Credit FRN Index (0+YR)      | -0.29%     | -0.01%        |
| Bloomberg AusBond Credit Index (0+YR)          | -3.05%     | -1.07%        |
| Bloomberg AusBond Treasury Index (0+YR)        | -4.03%     | -1.31%        |
| Bloomberg AusBond Inflation Gov't Index (0+YR) | -4.27%     | -1.18%        |

Source: Bloomberg

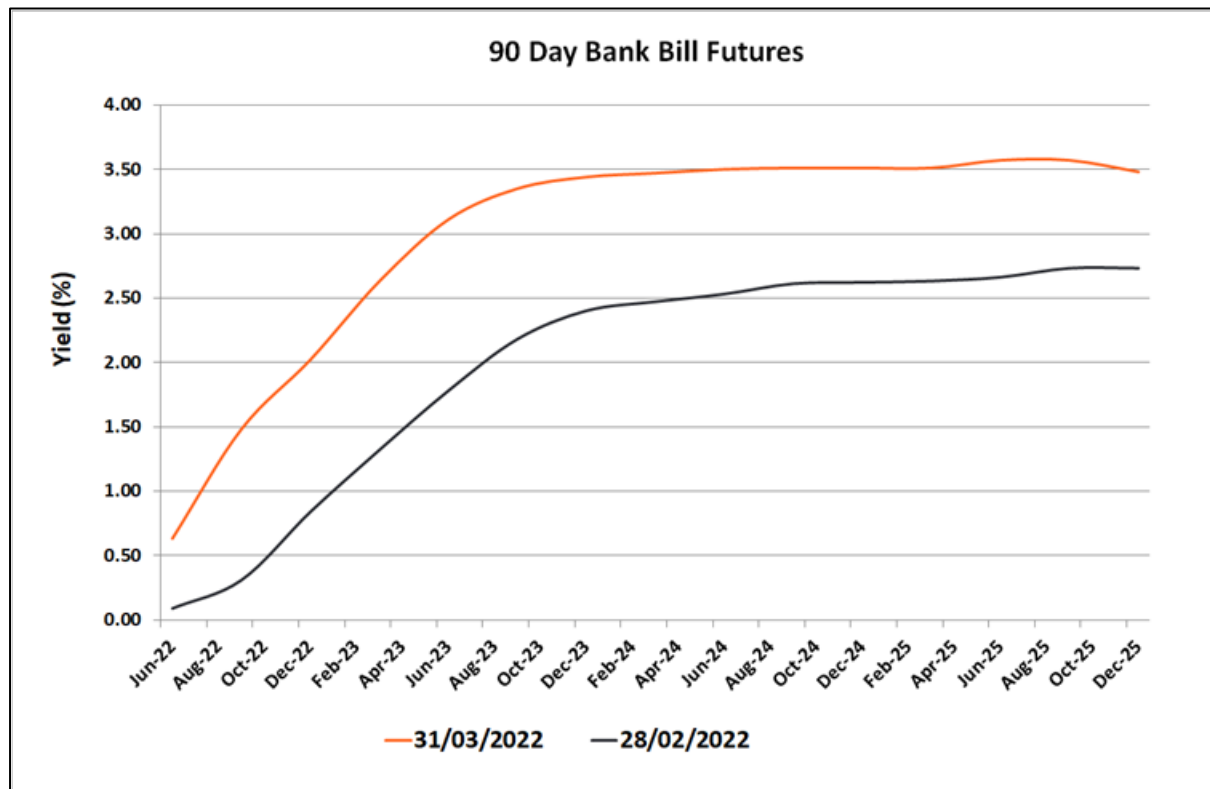
## Other Key Rates

| Index                            | March 2022  | February 2022 |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| RBA Official Cash Rate           | 0.10%       | 0.10%         |
| 90 Day (3 month) BBSW Rate       | 0.23%       | 0.08%         |
| 3yr Australian Government Bonds  | 2.31%       | 1.50%         |
| 10yr Australian Government Bonds | 2.84%       | 2.13%         |
| US Fed Funds Rate                | 0.25%-0.50% | 0.00%-0.25%   |
| 10yr US Treasury Bonds           | 2.32%       | 1.83%         |

Source: RBA, AFMA, US Department of Treasury

### 90 Day Bill Futures

Over March, bill futures rose across the board as the market prepares itself for a higher interest rate environment. A sharp rise remains in 2022-2023 as markets anticipate aggressive rate cuts over the next 6-18 months as inflationary pressures continue to mount:



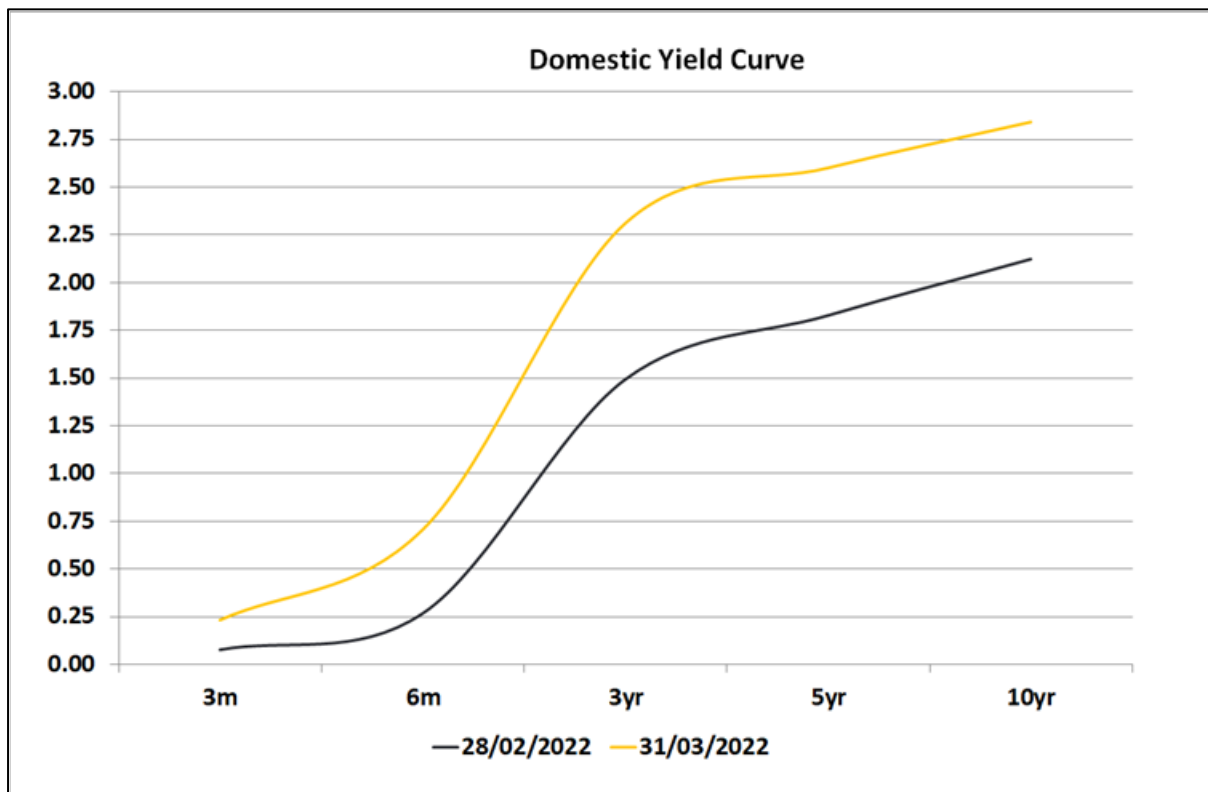
Source: ASX

## Fixed Interest Outlook

After the US Fed hiked rates in March, the market is factoring in an additional 7½ rate rises this calendar year to stem the surge in inflation.

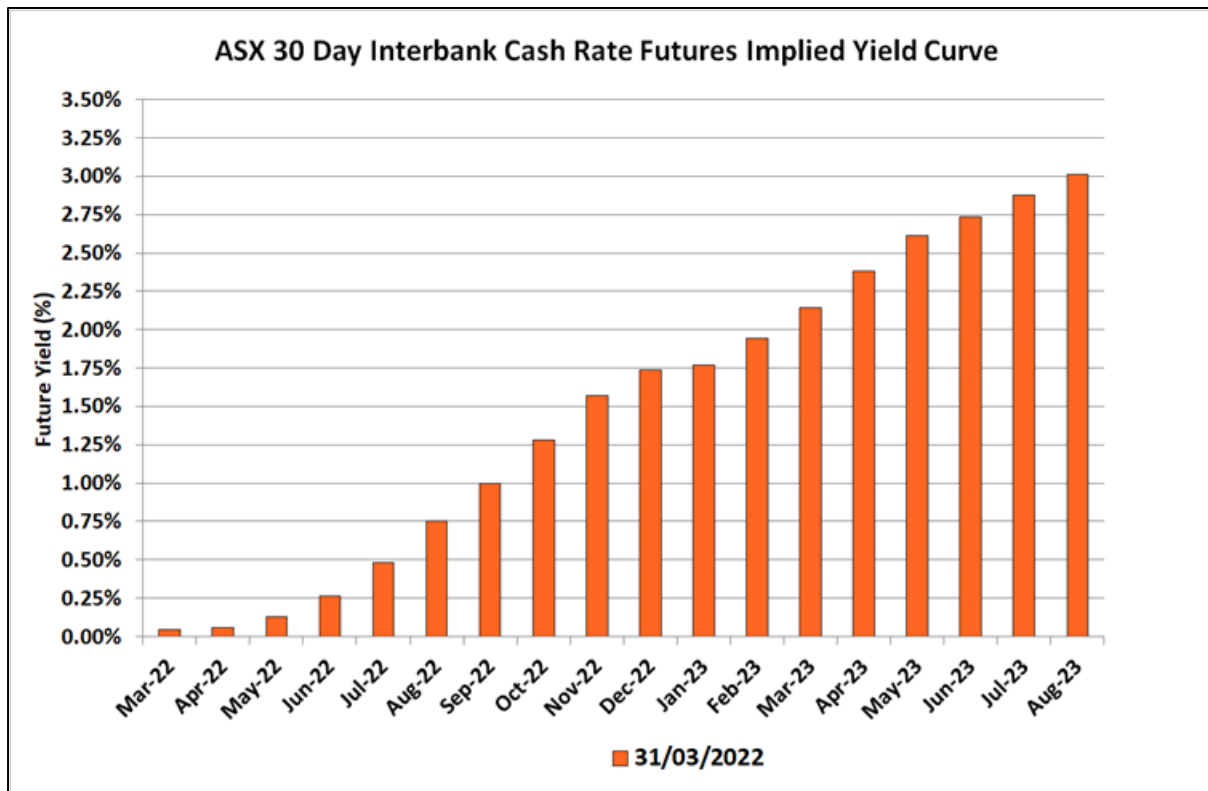
Domestically, Governor Lowe said *“it is plausible that the cash rate will be increased later this year”* as inflation risks have *“clearly moved to the upside”*. However Governor Lowe still thinks higher wages growth is needed to sustain inflation at 2-3% with a risk that moving rates too early would impede the opportunity to secure an even lower unemployment rate. The strong labour market may push the RBA’s decision to lift rates from emergency settings earlier than they previously anticipated.

The domestic bond market continues to suggest a prolonged low period of interest rates on a historical basis (longer-term still below 3% environment). Over the month, yields rose around 80bp at the long-end of the curve:



Source: AFMA, ASX, RBA

Markets have brought forward RBA rate hike pricing following moves offshore with a full rate hike now priced by June 2022 and up to seven hikes priced by December 2022, against the RBA’s ‘plausible’ scenario of not seeing conditions for a hike at least until late 2022 or early 2023:



Source: ASX

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