



# WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of Wentworth Shire Council will be held in the **WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SHORT STREET, WENTWORTH**, commencing at **10.00AM**.

**KEN ROSS**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

## ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA

**18 MARCH 2020**

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- 1 OPENING OF MEETING**
- 2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 3 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

## **PUBLIC FORUM - MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

### **Recommendation**

That the recording of the meeting be paused and that the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of conducting a Public Forum.

## **RESUMPTION OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **Recommendation**

That the recording of the meeting be resumed and that the Ordinary Council meeting be reconvened.

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 19 February 2020 be confirmed as circulated.





# **WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

**19 FEBRUARY 2020**

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## 1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 10.01am

## 2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

### PRESENT:

**COUNCILLORS:** Councillor Melisa Hederics (Mayor)  
Councillor Tim Elstone (Deputy Mayor)  
Councillor Steve Heywood  
Councillor Jane MacAllister  
Councillor Don McKinnon  
Councillor Susan Nichols  
Councillor Peter Nunan  
Councillor Bill Wheeldon OAM

**STAFF:** Ken Ross (General Manager)  
Matthew Carlin (Director Health and Planning)  
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)  
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)  
Paula Mastrippolito (Manager Organisational Support)

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Greg Evans is an apology and has requested a leave of absence for this meeting.

### Council Resolution

That Council notes the apology from Cr Evans and grants the Leave of Absence Request.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

## 4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Cr Heywood declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in item 6.4 due to his son and daughter-in-law being involved in businesses listed in the report.

Cr MacAllister declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.17 – no reason given

Cr MacAllister declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in item 12.1 – no reason given

Cr Nichols declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in item 6.3 if anything is raised about the Wentworth Bowling Club as she is a member of the club.

Cr McKinnon declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.14 and 9.15 as his son is employed by council at the landfill site.

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 December 2019 be confirmed as circulated.

### Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 December 2019 be confirmed as circulated, noting the correction to the spelling of Nichols on page 10.

**Moved Cr. Wheeldon, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**CARRIED**

**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 22 January 2020 be confirmed as circulated.

**Council Resolution**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 22 January 2020 be confirmed as circulated.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

## **6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

### **6.1 PROPOSAL TO DUAL NAME THE DARLING RIVER**

File Number: RPT/20/35

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.5 Encourage the self determination of individual townships and community groups

#### **Summary**

At the 18 December 2019 Ordinary Council meeting, Cr MacAllister put forward a notice of motion for the proposal to dual name the Darling River. Council resolved that the item be brought back to council for consideration after further information from the Geographical Names Board regarding community consultation was received. Council has been advised feedback will be received up to 28 February 2020.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council consider the proposal to dual name the Darling River as Baaka.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council reconsiders its decision made at the last meeting and now supports the proposal to dual name the Darling River as Darling-Baaka.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Heywood**

**CARRIED**

**CR WHELDON REQUESTED THAT HIS VOTE AGAINST THE RESOLUTION BE RECORDED.**

**6.2 COUNCILLOR EXPENSES REPORT**

File Number: RPT/20/107

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

At the December 2019 Council meeting Cr Nichols asked:

- whether councillor expenses were legislatively required to be reported to Council every 6 months, and
- requested a report detailing every conference attended by councillors in the last 12 months, where it was held and how much it cost.

This report responds to those two requests.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the councillor expenses report.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the councillor expenses report.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**6.3 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS - SUMMARY REPORT**

File Number: RPT/20/110

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Paula Mastroppolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

This report summarises the details of actions raised from previous Council meetings that remain outstanding. Individual items that require detailed responses are reported separately.

**Officer Recommendation**

That Council notes the current list of outstanding action items.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the current list of outstanding action items.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Heywood**

**CARRIED**



**6.4 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING SUPPLIERS UNDER THE  
PANEL CONTRACT TENDER**

File Number: RPT/20/108

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community  
that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership,  
planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

At the December 2019 Council meeting Cr Nunan requested a list of current panel tenderers (from the previous financial year), detailing how much had been paid to each contractor under each of the three categories: Building Trades, Professional and Consultation Services and hire of construction plant and equipment.

*At 10:19 am Councillor Steve Heywood left the Council Chambers as he had declared a conflict of interest in this item.*

*At 10:19 am Councillor Don McKinnon left the Council Chambers.*

**Recommendation**

That Council note the total expenses paid under the previous Panel Tender Contract.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the total expenses paid under the previous Panel Tender Contract.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

*At 10:20am Councillor Steve Heywood returned to Council Chambers.*

*At 10:20 am Councillor Don McKinnon returned to Council Chambers.*

## **7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

### **7.1 MAYORAL REPORT**

File Number: RPT/20/13

#### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

**Moved Cr. Hederics, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

## 8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

### 8.1 REPORT FROM 2019 MDA CONFERENCE

File Number: RPT/19/1222

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.5 Recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River system

#### Summary

This report provides the opportunity for Councillors to provide updates on the activities of organisations to which they have been appointed as council's delegate.

Councillors MacAllister, Evans and Heywood attended the MDA 75<sup>th</sup> National Conference, held in Toowoomba QLD from 22 – 24 October 2019, and Councillor MacAllister has provided the following information.

#### Recommendation

That the information provided by delegates to the 2019 MDA Conference be noted.

#### Council Resolution

That the information provided by delegates to the 2019 MDA Conference be noted.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

*Cr Nunan requested that his vote against the resolution be recorded.*

**8.2 COUNCILLOR REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

File Number: RPT/20/70

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Paula Mastrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
 Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

This report provides the opportunity for Councillors to provide verbal updates on the activities of organisations to which they have been appointed as council's delegate.

The meetings noted to have occurred during the reporting period are:-

Date	Meeting	Attendees	Location
16 Jan 2020	Wentworth Shire Health Interagency Group	Cr MacAllister	Buronga
20 Jan 2020	Wentworth Regional Tourism	Cr Nichols	Coomealla
28 Jan 2020	Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager	Cr MacAllister	Buronga
29 Jan 2020	Inquiry into Management Murray Darling Basin water Resources	Cr MacAllister Cr Heywood <del>Cr Nichols</del>	Mildura
29 Jan 2020	MDA Region 4	Cr MacAllister Cr Heywood	Buronga
3 Feb 2020	Wentworth Regional Tourism	Cr Nichols	Coomealla
4 Feb 2020	George Gordon Sporting Complex	<del>Cr Elstone</del>	Coomealla
5 Feb 2020	Willow Bend Committee	Cr Heywood Cr Elstone	Wentworth

**Recommendation**

That the information provided by councillors on the activities of external bodies to which they are council's nominated delegate be noted.

**Council Resolution**

That the information provided by councillors on the activities of external bodies to which they are council's nominated delegate be noted.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**8.2.1 BOTTLE BEND RESERVE LAND MANAGER**

Cr Jane MacAllister requested that all records be amended to reflect the change of name from Bottle Bend Reserve Trust to Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager.

**8.3 INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

File Number: RPT/20/75

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

A meeting of the Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee was held on 05 February 2020 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

The Committee has requested that the Reporting Officer seeks resolutions of Council on the following items:-

- Adoption of the December Quarterly Budget Review Statement

**Officer Recommendation**

That Council approves the December Quarterly Budget Review statement noting a favorable operational variance of \$472,000 and a favorable capital variance of \$3,689,000, resulting in a total favorable budget variation of \$4,161,000.

**Council Resolution**

That Council approves the December Quarterly Budget Review statement noting a favorable operational variance of \$472,000 and a favorable capital variance of \$3,689,000, resulting in a total favorable budget variation of \$4,161,000.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon**

**CARRIED**

**8.4 WILLOWBEND CARAVAN PARK COMMITTEE MEETING**

File Number: RPT/20/76

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth is a desirable Shire to visit, live, work and invest

Strategy: 2.1 Grow visitation to the Shire by developing a quality visitor experience and promoting our destination

**Summary**

A meeting of the Willow Bend Caravan Park Advisory Committee was held on 5 February 2020 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

The Committee has requested that the Reporting Officer seeks a resolution of Council on the following items:-

- Family Parks Memberships

**Officer Recommendation**

That Council notes the minutes of the Willow Bend Caravan Park Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 February 2020

That Council approves Willow Bend Caravan Park becoming a member of Family Parks.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the minutes of the Willow Bend Caravan Park Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5 February 2020

That Council approves Willow Bend Caravan Park becoming a member of Family Parks.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**8.5 GEORGE GORDON SPORTING COMPLEX USER GROUP MEETING  
TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2020**

File Number: RPT/20/79

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
Reporting Officer: Barbara George - Administration Officer, Roads and Engineering

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
Strategy: 4.6 Collaborate with others to achieve desired outcomes for the local community

**Summary**

A meeting of the George Gordon Sporting Complex User Group Meeting was held of Tuesday 4 February 2020 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the minutes of the George Gordon Sporting Complex User Group held on Tuesday 4 February 2020.

That Council endorses the naming of the new oval to the Andrew Murdoch Oval following receipt of notification from the Geographical Names Board that the Complex was gazetted as the George Gordon Sporting Complex as at 17 January 2020.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the minutes of the George Gordon Sporting Complex User Group held on Tuesday 4 February 2020.

That Council endorses the naming of the new oval to the Andrew Murdoch Oval following receipt of notification from the Geographical Names Board that the Complex was gazetted as the George Gordon Sporting Complex as at 17 January 2020.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

## 9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 9.1 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/62

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant  
Paula Mastrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

#### **Summary**

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars

Details of OLG Circulars 19-30 to 19-31 and 20-01 to 20-03 are listed.

2. Meetings

As listed

3. Upcoming meetings or events

As listed

4. Other items of note

4.1 Council has been advised that Cr MacAllister has been appointed as Council's representative to the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee.

4.2 Balranald Shire Council Public Inquiry Report released.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager and approves the out of region travel listed in the list of upcoming events.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager and approves the out of region travel listed in the list of upcoming events.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**CARRIED**

### 9.1a APOLOGY FOR LIQUOR ACCORD MEETING 20/02/20

Cr Susan Nichols advised that she would be an apology for the Liquor Accord meeting on 20 February.



**9.2 2020 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT - CALL FOR MOTIONS**

File Number: RPT/20/15

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Delivery Program Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

The 2020 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) is being held in Canberra from 14-17 June 2020. The NGA provides an opportunity for councils to identify and discuss national issues of priority for the sector. Additionally the Far West JO has scheduled a board meeting to coincide with the Assembly.

Councillors are requested to consider the call for motions, which will need to be endorsed by council at the March meeting prior to submission to the NGA.

**Recommendation**

- (a) That Council notes the call for motions for inclusion in the National General Assembly's agenda by 27 March 2020 and that Council considers any motions at its meeting in March.
- (b) That Council nominates delegates to attend the National General Assembly of Local Government 14-17 June 2020 in Canberra, with travel dates being 14-19 June 2020 to accommodate attendance at the Far West JO board meeting.

**Motion**

That Council notes the call for motions for inclusion in the National General Assembly's agenda by 27 March 2020 and that Council considers any motions at its meeting in March.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**Amendment**

That Councillor Nunan's motion be amended and that (a) and (b) be adopted and that the Mayor and the General Manager attend the NGA Conference while they are at the JO meeting.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**Council Resolution**

That the amendment becomes the substantive motion and

- (a) That Council notes the call for motions for inclusion in the National General Assembly's agenda by 27 March 2020 and that Council considers any motions at its meeting in March.
- (b) That Council nominates Mayor Hederics and the General Manager as its delegates to attend the National General Assembly of Local Government 14-19 June 2020 in Canberra, with travel dates being 14-19 June 2020 to accommodate attendance at the Far West JO board meeting.

Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

**9.3 MDA STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP**

File Number: RPT/20/53

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets  
Strategy: 3.5 Recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River system

**Summary**

The Murray Darling Association is holding a Strategic Planning Workshop on 12 – 13 March 2020 at Moama. The workshop is an opportunity for members and community leaders from across the Basin to play a significant role in the direction and future of the MDA; and discuss Basin-scale issues and opportunities. Council's delegates on the MDA executive are Councillors Elstone, Heywood and MacAllister.

**Recommendation**

That Council endorses the attendance of Councillors Elstone, Heywood and MacAllister as its delegates for the MDA Strategic Planning Workshop.

**Council Resolution**

That Council endorses the attendance of Councillors Elstone, Heywood and MacAllister as its delegates for the MDA Strategic Planning Workshop.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**9.4 CHANGE OF MEETING DATE**

File Number:	RPT/20/16
Responsible Officer:	Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division:	Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer:	Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future
Strategy:	4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

Easter 2020 falls on 10 April to 13 April 2020. The Ordinary Council meeting is scheduled for 15 April 2020.

Council has several staff who have already indicated they will be absent prior to Easter and over the Easter four day weekend. This may affect the reports and the agenda for the Ordinary Council meeting.

It is therefore proposed that the Ordinary Council meeting scheduled for 15 April 2020 be held on the 22 April 2020.

**Recommendation**

That the Ordinary Council meeting scheduled for 15 April 2020 be rescheduled to be held at Wentworth Shire Council Chambers at 10am on 22 April 2020.

**Council Resolution**

That the Ordinary Council meeting scheduled for 15 April 2020 be rescheduled to be held at Wentworth Shire Council Chambers at 10am on 22 April 2020.

**Moved Cr. Wheeldon, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**9.5 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - DECEMBER 2019**

File Number: RPT/20/3

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

Rates and Charges collections for the month of December 2019 were \$412,609.90. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 58.68%. For comparison purposes 57.7% of the levy had been collected at the end of December 2018. Council currently has \$28,124,952.91 in cash and investments.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the monthly finance report.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the December 2019 monthly finance report.

**Moved Cr. McKinnon, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**9.6 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - JANUARY 2020**

File Number: RPT/20/71

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

Rates and Charges collections for the month of January 2020 were \$212,694.67. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 60.45%. For comparison purposes 58.07% of the levy had been collected at the end of January 2019. Council currently has \$27,494,561.47 in cash and investments.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the monthly finance report.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the January 2020 monthly finance report.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon**

**CARRIED**

**9.7 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - DECEMBER 2019**

File Number: RPT/20/97

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

As at 31 December 2019 Council had \$26,000,000.00 invested in term deposits. Council received \$32,437.26 from its investments for the month of December 2019.

In December 2019 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 1.70% and it currently has \$8,466,832.09 of internal restrictions and \$16,909,563.60 of external restrictions.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the monthly investment report.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the December 2019 monthly investment report.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.8 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - JANUARY 2019**

File Number: RPT/20/99

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

As at 31 January 2020 Council had \$26,000,000.00 invested in term deposits. Council received \$28,263.02 from its investments for the month of January 2020.

In January 2020 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 1.67% and it currently has \$8,466,832.09 of internal restrictions and \$17,414,762.75 of external restrictions.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the monthly investment report.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the January 2020 monthly investment report.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. McKinnon**

**CARRIED**



**9.9 A40 ACQUISITION RIVERBOAT EFFLUENT STATION (EDS) & A39 ACCESS EASEMENT - ADAM STREET WENTWORTH**

File Number: RPT/20/20

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Hilary Dye - Property and Land Tenure Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets  
Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

**Summary**

A Council resolution is required to proceed with the Acquisition by the compulsory process of Lot 100 DP1253778 previously part of Lot 7344 DP1150178 and part of the bed of the Darling River and easement for access 5 metres wide over Lot 101 DP1253778 previously identified as Lot 7344 DP1150178.

**Recommendation**

1. That Council proceed to acquire the following land and easement by compulsory process under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 by authority contained in the Local Government Act 1993 for the purposes of the Adams Street Riverboat Effluent Disposal Station (EDS).
  - a. Lot 100 Deposited Plan 1253778 previously being part of Lot 7344 Deposited Plan 1150178 which is Crown Land and part of the bed of the Darling River.
  - b. An easement for access 5 metres wide shown as "C" in Deposited Plan 1253778 affecting Lot 101 Deposited Plan 1253778 which was previously identified as Lot 7344 Deposited Plan 1150178.
2. That minerals are to be excluded from this acquisition.
3. That the terms of the easements shall be as shown on Schedule 'D' attached
4. That these acquisitions are not for the purpose of resale.
5. That the necessary applications be made to the Minister for Local Government and the Governor.
6. That the Common Seal of Wentworth Shire Council be affixed to all documentation required to be sealed to give effect to this resolution.
7. That upon acquisition (Gazettal) the land is classified as operational land under Sections 31 & 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Council Resolution**

That Council endorses recommendations 1 through to 7.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.10 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

File Number: RPT/20/36

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Shenay Harris - Coordinator Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

Council has provided an allocation of \$187,000.00 (inclusive of GST) for the 2019/20 financial year for the consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance. In this financial year, \$104,436.00 has been granted to a variety of organisations through the annual fees and charges "Exemptions from the Application" process. The total value of requests granted so far for this financial year totals \$29,626.00.

The total value of requests for this February 2020 funding application period totals \$19,295.60 which if granted in full, would leave a balance in the Donations, Contributions and Grants fund of \$33,642.40.

*At 11:08 am Councillor Jane MacAllister left the Council Chambers after speaking to the Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager application.*

*At 11:10 am Councillor Jane MacAllister returned to Council Chambers.*

**Recommendation**

That Council having considered the current requests for financial assistance, makes appropriate recommendations on the level of funding to be provided to each of these applications, from the Donations, Contributions and Grants program.

**Council Resolution**

That Council grants the requests as listed from the Donations, Contributions and Grants program, noting that the granting of funding for the Mildura to Portsea Camp is conditional on the funding going to support the attendance of children from the Wentworth Shire.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.11 BREAST SCREEN NSW REQUEST FOR FEE WAIVER**

File Number: RPT/20/98

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Annette Fraser - Coordinator Customer Service

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.6 Collaborate with others to achieve desired outcomes for the local community

**Summary**

Breast Screen NSW – Western Local Health District are a not for profit organisation bringing an important service to our region with one goal - to improve Breast Cancer Survival Rates.

Breast Screen NSW wish to conduct free Breast Screening at Fotherby Park Wentworth from 7 – 20 April 2020 and are seeking exemption from hire fees.

**Recommendation**

That Council grants a fee waiver of \$1,736.00 to Breast Screen NSW for the conduct of free breast screening from 7 – 20 April 2020.

**Council Resolution**

That Council grants a fee waiver of \$1,736.00 to Breast Screen NSW for the conduct of free breast screening from 7 – 20 April 2020.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.12 REQUEST FOR EXPANDED USE OF MIDWAY CENTRE BASKETBALL STADIUM**

File Number: RPT/20/104

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Annette Fraser - Coordinator Customer Service

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
Strategy: 4.6 Collaborate with others to achieve desired outcomes for the local community

**Summary**

The Alcheringa Saints Basketball Club is the major user of the Midway Centre Stadium. The current regular use agreement permits 18 hours of use per week over 6 days. The club is requesting that this be increased by 3.5 hours per week by expanding use to 7 days per week.

**Recommendation**

That Council amends the Regular Use Agreement for the Alcheringa Basketball Club to include an additional 3.5 hours per week, being each Friday night between 4.30pm – 8.00pm at no additional cost.

**Council Resolution**

That Council amends the Regular Use Agreement for the Alcheringa Basketball Club to include an additional 3.5 hours per week, being each Friday night between 4.30pm – 8.00pm at no additional cost.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**9.13      WILLOW BEND CARAVAN PARK REDEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS PLAN**

File Number:                      RPT/20/96

Responsible Officer:            Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division:        Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer:              Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective:                        4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy:                         4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary****Recommendation**

That Council adopts the Willow Bend Caravan Park Redevelopment and Business Plan, and that funds be allocated in the 2020/2021 Operational Plan to commence stage 1 of the redevelopment.

**Council Resolution**

That Council adopts the Willow Bend Caravan Park Redevelopment and Business Plan, and that funds be allocated in the 2020/2021 Operational Plan to commence stage 1 of the redevelopment.

**Moved Cr. Heywood, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**9.14 ADDITIONAL REVENUE SOURCE - BURONGA LANDFILL**

File Number: RPT/20/30

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

*At 11:15 am Councillor Don McKinnon left the Council Chambers as he had previously declared a Conflict of Interest in the following two items.*

**Summary**

The strategic review of the landfill identified sourcing additional revenue/waste streams as an avenue to help improve the financial sustainability of the landfill.

A trial between Council and Waste Management Services (the Contractor) to accept waste from South Australia at the Buronga Landfill was established late last year, whereby the contractor was offered an interim rate, that was consistent with the council approved discounted rate offered to other selected contractors.

The Contractor is seeking to continue utilizing the Buronga Landfill and approval is being sought to add this contractor to the list of approved contractors receiving a discounted rate for access to the Buronga Landfill.

**Recommendation**

That Council approves the addition of Waste Management Services to the list of approved contractors receiving a discounted rate for access to the Buronga Landfill.

**Council Resolution**

That Council approves the addition of Waste Management Services to the list of approved contractors receiving a discounted rate for access to the Buronga Landfill.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.15 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COUNCIL'S WASTE FACILITIES**

File Number: RPT/20/109

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

At the Council meeting dated 19 December 2019 Council was presented with the independent review of the operations of Council's waste management facilities. The report provided an overview and advice to inform options for the future management of Council's waste management services.

Following discussions Council resolved the following:

That Council authorises the General Manager to investigate options for alternative management of Council's waste services.

In preparing this report Council officers have examined the following two options.

- Option 1 – Council continues to operate waste management services with the engagement of suitably qualified staff and the use of third-party consultants.
- Option 2 – Council prepare a specification to enable a competitive tender process to outsource site operations to a contractor experienced in landfill operations

Having considered the merits of both options it is the recommendation that Council resolves to outsource the management of its waste facilities to an appropriately qualified contractor.

**Recommendation**

- a) That Council resolves to continue to operate the waste facilities throughout the Shire in the interim period until such time a professional reputable waste management contractor has been procured to manage Council facilities through an open tender process, and
- b) That Council implements the short-term operational recommendations within the independent review of the operations of Council's waste management facilities, and
- c) That Council prepares specification and tender documentation for the open tender process for the operation and management of Council's waste facilities, and
- d) That Council, at the conclusion of the tender period, consider the tender panel assessment report and if deemed acceptable to Council award the tender for the operation of Council's waste facilities.

**Council Resolution**

- a) That Council resolves to continue to operate the waste facilities throughout the Shire in the interim period until such time a professional reputable waste management contractor has been procured to manage Council facilities through an open tender process, and
- b) That Council implements the short-term operational recommendations within the independent review of the operations of Council's waste management facilities, and
- c) That Council prepares specification and tender documentation for the open tender

process for the operation and management of Council's waste facilities, and

d) That Council, at the conclusion of the tender period, consider the tender panel assessment report and if deemed acceptable to Council award the tender for the operation of Council's waste facilities.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Heywood**

**CARRIED**

*At 11:31 am Councillor Don Mckinnon returned to council chambers.*



**9.16 MAJOR WORKS UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2019 AND JANUARY 2020**

File Number: RPT/20/52

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Allan Eastmond - Manager Works

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

**Summary**

This report provides a summary of the major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Division which have been completed during the months of December 2019 and January 2020 and the planned works for February 2020.

**Recommendation**

That Council notes the major works undertaken for December 2019 and January 2020 and the proposed works for February 2020.

**Council Resolution**

That Council notes the major works undertaken for December 2019 and January 2020 and the proposed works for February 2020.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. MacAllister**

**CARRIED**

**9.17 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF DECEMBER 2019**

File Number: RPT/20/5

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Nicky Meredith - Coordinator Health and Planning

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire  
Strategy: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and expand

*At 11:40 am Councillor Jane MacAllister left the Council Chambers as she had previously declared a conflict of interest in this item.*

**Summary**

For the month of December 2019, a total of 18 Development Applications and two S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the General Manager.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$6,865,687. This brings the year to date total to 156 Development Applications approved and 24 S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$29,623,498.

**Recommendation**

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of December 2019.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

**Council Resolution**

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of December 2019.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

***In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.***

***For the Motion :*** ***Clr.s Elstone, Hederics, Heywood, McKinnon, Nichols, Nunan and Wheeldon.***

***Against the Motion:*** ***Nil.***

*At 11.42 am Councillor Jane MacAllister returned to Council Chambers.*

**9.18 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF JANUARY 2020**

File Number: RPT/20/105

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning  
Responsible Division: Health and Planning  
Reporting Officer: Nicky Meredith - Coordinator Health and Planning

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire  
Strategy: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and expand

**Summary**

For the month of January 2020, a total of five Development Applications and one S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$200,739. This brings the year to date total to five Development Applications approved and one S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$200,739.

**Recommendation**

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of January 2020.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

**Council Resolution**

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of January 2020.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

***In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.***

***For the Motion :*** ***Clr.s Elstone, Hederics, Heywood, MacAllister, McKinnon, Nichols, Nunan and Wheeldon.***

***Against the Motion:*** ***Nil.***

## 10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

### 10.1 WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OF CENTRAL MURRAY REGION TRANSPORT FORUM

File Number: RPT/20/78

#### **Motion**

That council withdraw membership from the Central Murray Region Transport forum, effective immediately.

#### **Council Resolution**

That council withdraws from membership from the Central Murray Region Transport forum, effective immediately.

**Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon**

**CARRIED**

### 10.2 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

#### 10.2.1 GRAPE JUICING PLANT

Cr Steve Heywood requested a report on the grape juicing plant.

The General Manager advised that the applicants have obtained a Construction Certificate, and have completed the intersection works and at this point in time appear to be complying with the consent conditions.

#### 10.2.2 MILDURA FARMSTAY

Cr Steve Heywood asked what is going to be done to make the owners comply with the consent conditions that they agreed to.

The General Manager advised that he met with the applicants and their representatives and the applicants were advised that they were to cease trading until compliance is achieved. This will be followed by the Director Health and Planning and the Compliance Officer.

*At 11:50 am Councillor Jane MacAllister left the Council Chambers*

*At 11:52 am Councillor Jane MacAllister returned to Council Chambers.*

#### 10.2.3 MAINTENANCE OF TREES

Cr Susan Nichols asked whether Mr Keenan had received a reply to his letter and what would be done about the maintenance of the three trees.

The General Manager advised that the letter has been processed as a customer request and that the Parks and Gardens team will action accordingly.

#### 10.2.4 APPEARANCE OF GARDENS AND THE FACADE OF THE ADELAIDE STREET OFFICE

Cr Susan Nichols asked why the appearance of the gardens and the façade of the Adelaide Street office had not been addressed.

The General Manager advised that quotations had been sourced to undertake a general tidy up of the front façade of the Office.

#### **10.2.5 COUNCIL AGENDAS**

Cr Susan Nichols asked why the Council agenda did not include an acknowledgement to the Indigenous Owners and why the agenda still contains the wording of Prayer or Acknowledgement.

The General Manager advised that while the draft Code of Conduct suggested a Prayer and Acknowledgement, Council adopted the wording of Prayer or Acknowledgement.

#### **10.2.6 ELECTRICITY COSTS**

Cr Susan Nichols requested the electricity costs for the past 12 months for the Midway Centre, the new Civic Centre, the current Office building, including the Library, the VIC and the Wentworth and Alcheringa sporting complexes. She asked what grants we have sought for Solar Energy and would drought funding extend to provide solar energy to these buildings.

#### **10.2.7 NEWLY SEALED ROAD IN CURLWAA**

Cr Susan Nichols asked whether council had sealed the little road in Curlwaa and how many properties did this service.

The Director Roads and Engineering advised that he would confirm the details but believed that the road in question had been on a list for upgrade for a number of years, and services numerous properties.

*At 11:57am Councillor Jane MacAllister asked to be excused from the meeting and left the Council Chambers.*

#### **10.2.8 ROAD SAFETY - SANDWYCH AND ADAMS STREET INTERSECTION**

Cr Bill Wheeldon asked why there was no stop sign on the highway at this intersection.

The Director Roads and Engineering advised that this had been raised at the previous Local Traffic meeting and the advice from Roads and Maritime Services was that the current signage arrangement is correct and that the highway traffic has right of way.

The DRE advised that it can be put on the agenda for a joint planning meeting with RMS to be held next month.

#### **10.2.9 CONTINUATION OF LOBBYING FOR EMBARGOS ON WATER EXTRACTION IN THE UPPER REACHES OF THE NAMOI / DARLING RIVER**

Cr Tim Elstone advised that he believed that council should continue to lobby for the embargos to prevent surface water from being extracted from the river to allow flows down the Darling River.

#### **10.2.10 STATE OF THE THREE TREES TO BE ADDRESSED**

Cr Don McKinnon re-emphasized that need to address the state of the trees, as per

the letter received from Mr Keenan.

**10.2.11 DARETON TOWN PLAN**

Cr Peter Nunan asked about the progress of the Dareton Town Plan, and has previously requested that fast growing trees be planted from Pump Station Road to Fletchers Lake Road. .

The General Manager advised that there was a plan done for the purpose of applying for funding through the Stronger Country Communities fund and he also advised that in part this was to be addressed through the development of strategic town plans for each of the townships.

## 11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

### Council Resolution

That Council adjourns into Closed Session and members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the Closed Session, and that access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution.

This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:-

#### **12.1 Plant Replacement - Approval of Tenders for Replacement of Plant 520 - Tipping Truck and Trailer - VR1920/520. (RPT/20/1)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

#### **12.2 Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade - Supply of VIC Roads Class 3 Road Base Material - PT1920/03. (RPT/20/84)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

#### **12.3 Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade - Stabilisation Works - PT1920/04. (RPT/20/92)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

**Council Resolution**

That Council adjourns into a closed session, that the recording of the meeting be paused, that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the closed session, and that access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the closed session be with-held unless declassified by separate resolution.

**Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED**

*Council moved into the closed session at 12:05pm*

*Council reconvened into open session at 12:08pm*



## 12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

### 12.1 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL OF TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 520 - TIPPING TRUCK AND TRAILER - VR1920/520

File Number: RPT/20/1

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
Reporting Officer: Allan Eastmond - Manager Works

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

#### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

The Mayor advised that during the closed session council resolved to accept the tender from Mildura Truck Center for the supply of one DAF FATCF85 Hercules Engineering Hardox Truck and Dog Trailer for the sum of \$347,488.90 inc GST, and accept the trade price of \$63,800.00 inc GST for the Council owned UD GW 470 Tipping Truck, plant item 520 and Dog Trailer, plant item 483 with a changeover price of \$283,688.90 inc GST.

**12.2 WENTWORTH AERODROME UPGRADE - SUPPLY OF VIC ROADS CLASS 3 ROAD BASE MATERIAL - PT1920/03**

File Number: RPT/20/84

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

**REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

The Mayor advised that during the closed session council resolved to accept the tender from Waters Excavation Pty Ltd to carry out the supply and delivery of road base material for Contract PT1920/03 in the amount of \$1,120,240 inc GST, and authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the council seal.

**12.3 WENTWORTH AERODROME UPGRADE - STABILISATION WORKS - PT1920/04**

File Number: RPT/20/92

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

**REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

The Mayor advised that during the closed session council resolved to accept the tender from Stabilco to carry out the supply and delivery for Contract PT1920/04 in the amount of \$187,028.60 inc GST, and authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the council seal.

### **13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

The meeting was declared closed at 12.09pm

### **NEXT MEETING**

18 March 2020

.....  
**CHAIR**

## 6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 6.1 WILLANDRA LAKES REGION WORLD HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

File Number: RPT/20/119

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Paula Matrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to update councillors on the appointment of Cr MacAllister to the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee, as reported in item 4.1 of the General Manager's Report 19 February 2020.

#### **Officer Recommendation**

That Council notes the appointment of Cr MacAllister to the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee.

#### **Additional Information**

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 21 February 2018 Council nominated Councillor MacAllister as its representative on the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee.

On 28 September 2018 LGNSW advised, via email to the General Manager, that additional nominees were being sought for the committee.

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 3 October 2018 council nominated Cr Susan Nichols as its nomination for an additional representative to the committee.

On 10 December 2018 an email was received from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service advising that those who had submitted an EOI would be advised in the near future if they had been appointed.

On 3 January 2019 Cr MacAllister advised the GMEA that she had received a letter advising of unsuccessful outcome. Cr Nichols confirmed that she had also been advised of an unsuccessful outcome.

On 7 May 2019 the GMEA received an email advising that they were preparing the final package to fill the vacant positions and asking if Cr Susan Nichols and Cr Jane MacAllister nominations were still current. Balranald Shire were also requested to confirm their nominations. A confirmation email was sent on the same day advising that both nominations were still current.

On 14 January 2020 Cr Nichols received correspondence from NSW National Parks and Wildlife advising that the Minister for Energy and Environment had determined the successful applicant and that she was unsuccessful.

On 17 January 2020 Cr MacAllister provided a copy of a letter she received advising of her successful application.

#### **Attachments**

1. Letter Cr Jane MacAllister successful - Willandra Lakes World Heritage Advisory Committee [↓](#)

2. Cr Nichols - Notification of unsuccessful outcome [↓](#)



**The Honourable Matt Kean MP**  
Minister for Energy and Environment

Ref: DOC19/667343

Councillor Jane MacAllister  
[REDACTED]

By email: [crmacallister@wentworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:crmacallister@wentworth.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Cr MacAllister

I am pleased to inform you of your appointment as member of the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee until 1 November 2021.

The committee is established under the draft terms of reference with a purpose to advise on matters relating to the protection, conservation, presentation and management of the Willandra Lakes Region, including strategic policies in relation to Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention.

I look forward to your valuable contribution.

Please return the attached pecuniary interests declaration to Dr Dan Rosendahl, Executive Officer, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service at PO Box 318 Buronga NSW 2739. I have also enclosed a copy of the committee's terms of reference and code of conduct for your reference.

If you have any questions about your appointment, Dr Rosendahl can be contacted on 0417 204 237 or at [dan.rosendahl@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dan.rosendahl@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Kean'.

**Matt Kean MP**  
Minister for Energy and Environment

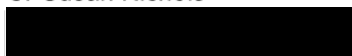
Enclosure

5.11.19



DOC19/588194-5

Cr Susan Nichols



[council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Cr Nichols,

**Application for Local Government NSW member, Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee**

Thank you for your application for appointment of Local Government NSW member of Willandra Lakes Region, World Heritage Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee).

Following careful consideration of all applicants, the Minister for Energy and Environment has determined the successful applicant to Local Government NSW member position of the Advisory Committee. In this instance, I regret to advise you that your application has been unsuccessful.

Your interest in this important role as Local Government NSW member is appreciated and I hope that, should this opportunity occur in the future, you will consider making an application.

If you have any questions about the Advisory Committee please contact, Olwen Beazley, Manager Historic and World Heritage, NPWS, phone 9585 6639 or email [olwen.beazley@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olwen.beazley@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Fraser".

**LENORE FRASER**  
**Acting Director,**  
**Partnership, Planning and Heritage Branch**  
**National Parks and Wildlife Service**

10 January 2020

PO Box A290 Sydney South NSW 1235  
Level 15, 59-61 Goulburn Street Sydney NSW 2000  
Tel: (02) 9995 5000 Fax: (02) 9995 5399  
ABN 20 770 707 468  
[www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)



## 6.2 ELECTRICITY COSTS

File Number: RPT/20/163

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### Summary

This report responds to an action raised at the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 February 2020, item number 10.2.6.

Councillor Susan Nichols requested electricity costs for the past 12 months for the Midway Centre, new Civic Centre, current Office building, the Library, Visitor Information Centre (VIC) and Wentworth and Alcheringa (Carramar Drive) sporting complexes. Councillor Nichols also asked what grants we have sought for Solar Energy and if drought funding extended to provide solar energy to these buildings.

### Recommendation

That Council notes the electricity costs for the past 12 months and the availability of grant funding for solar energy.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to Councillor Nichols request for electricity costs for the past 12 months for the Midway Centre, new Civic Centre, current Office building, including the Library, the VIC and Wentworth and Alcheringa (Carramar Drive) sporting complexes. It also provides information in relation to Councillor Nichols request regarding grants sought for Solar Energy and if drought funding could extend to provide solar energy to these buildings.

#### Background

Historically Council has not applied for any funding to install solar energy to Council's facilities. An application was submitted through crime prevention funding for solar lighting and closed-circuit television (CCTV) in Buronga, but this application was unsuccessful.

#### Matters under consideration

#### **Electricity costs**

The following table includes the costs of electricity for the period from 1 March 2019 to 29 February 2020 for Council's top 24 electricity usage locations. During this period the total cost of electricity to Council for all locations was just over \$500,000.

This data includes all of the locations requested by Councillor Nichols, highlighted in bold, excluding the Wentworth Sporting Complex. This location has not been included as Council does not pay the electricity costs for the Wentworth Sporting Complex.

<b>Electricity Meter Location</b>	<b>KWH</b>	<b>Amount exc GST</b>
Pump Station, Lot 1/Ski Reserve Road Wentworth	155,004	\$51,529.02
Pump Station, Sturt Highway Gol Gol NSW	186,920	\$44,909.94
Water Treatment Plant, Sturt Highway Gol Gol	197,525	\$41,198.75
<b>Civic Centre, 61 Darling Street Wentworth</b>	<b>136,704</b>	<b>\$29,362.50</b>
Pump Station, Town Water Adelaide Street Gol Gol NSW	140,438	\$27,185.44
<b>Council Offices, Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW</b>	<b>83,427</b>	<b>\$26,565.72</b>
Pump Station, Sturt Highway Buronga NSW	122,125	\$24,374.18
Pump Station, Kookaburra Drive Dareton NSW	95,088	\$20,876.69
Willow Bend Caravan Park, Darling Street Wentworth	75,427	\$20,409.30
Wentworth Depot, Short Street Wentworth	68,024	\$17,139.65
<b>Midway Centre, 124 Sturt Highway Buronga</b>	<b>66,169</b>	<b>\$15,808.85</b>
Sewer Pump Station, Buronga	53,265	\$15,570.77
Wentworth Showgrounds, Armstrong Avenue Wentworth	50,256	\$15,004.62
<b>Library &amp; Council Chambers, Short Street Wentworth</b>	<b>45,116</b>	<b>\$11,350.99</b>
Water Treatment Plant, City Highway Buronga	44,876	\$11,234.20
Wentworth Swimming Pool, Beverly Street Wentworth	37,818	\$10,088.31
Dareton Swimming Pool, Matong Street Dareton	37,769	\$9,700.34
Water Treatment Plant, Beverly Street Wentworth	38,565	\$9,162.83
<b>Carramar Drive Sporting Complex, Carramar Drive, Gol Gol</b>	<b>23,173</b>	<b>\$6,209.67</b>
McLeod Oval, Beverly Street Wentworth	11,466	\$5,567.65
Sewer Pump Station, Carramar Drive Gol Gol	11,381	\$5,393.88
Sewer Pump Station, West Road Buronga	13,836	\$4,994.55
Pump Station, Water Supply Pooncarie	11,471	\$4,485.59
<b>Visitor Information Centre, Darling Street Wentworth</b>	<b>16,760</b>	<b>\$4,417.82</b>

### **Funding**

Council has contacted the Drought Community Extension Fund to clarify if solar energy is eligible for funding under the scheme. Council was advised that sporting facilities and public buildings are eligible, but Council operational buildings are not unless there are shared services in these facilities open to the public. As a result, the new Civic Centre, Midway Centre and sporting complexes would be eligible for funding for installation of solar energy.

### **Conclusion**

The supply of this information is in response to a question raised by Councillor Nichols at the February council meeting.

### **Attachments**

Nil

### 6.3 OUTSTANDING ITEM - SUMMARY REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/164

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Paula Matrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

#### Summary

This report summarises the details of actions raised from previous Council meetings that remain outstanding. Individual items that require detailed responses are reported separately.

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the current list of outstanding action items.

#### Additional Information

Nil

#### Attachments

1. Outstanding actions report [↓](#)

<b>Outstanding</b> <b>Outstanding Action Items Report</b>			<b>Division:</b> Ordinary Council <b>Committee:</b> <b>Officer:</b>		<b>Date From:</b> <b>Date To:</b> <b>Printed:</b> Thursday, 12 March 2020 8:49:43 AM
Meeting	Item	Title	Item	Action Record (latest first)	
Ordinary Council 18/09/2019	10.3	Gol Gol Cemetery	Cr MacAllister requested that the sprinklers on the Wood Street side of the Gol Gol cemetery be adjusted so that they provide sufficient water to the area.	12 Feb 2020 - 9:47 AM ACTION COMPLETE	
Ordinary Council 16/10/2019	10.2.2	Dead trees in the Junction Links development	Cr Nichols asked whether the dead trees at the Junction Links development site were a fire hazard, and whether the developer had applied for a fire permit. Cr Nichols also asked whether residents in the same area are having to clean up their own laneways.	10 Mar 2020 - 11:11 AM The site has been cleared. ACTION COMPLETE	
Ordinary Council 18/12/2019	9.9	Councillor Professional Development Training	<b><u>Council Resolution</u></b> That Council notes the requirements for professional development training and that the General Manager investigates what courses can be held in Wentworth for inhouse training by our council and other councils via the JO . <b>Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. McKinnon</b> <b><u>CARRIED</u></b>	10 Mar 2020 - 11:13 AM A list of PD activities provided by LGNSW was included in a report to the December 2019 Council meeting. In the lead up to the Sept 2020 elections the General Manager will focus on implementing Councillor Induction and Professional Development activities in line with the 2018 Guidelines release by the Office of Local Government. ACTION COMPLETE	
Ordinary Council 18/12/2019	9.11	Supply of bariatric chairs	<b><u>Council Resolution</u></b> That Council approves a budget variation of \$8,480.00 in the current operational plan to enable the purchase of a quantity of bariatric chairs. <b>Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. MacAllister</b> <b><u>CARRIED</u></b>	10 Mar 2020 - 8:58 AM 24 chairs have been ordered within the \$8480 budget and will be delivered to each site by the supplier. ACTION COMPLETE	
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	6.1	Proposal to dual name the Darling River	<b><u>Council Resolution</u></b> That Council reconsiders its decision made at the last meeting and now supports the proposal to dual name the Darling River as Darling-Baaka.	26 Feb 2020 - 9:26 AM Geographical Names Board advised of Council resolution ACTION COMPLETE	

<p><b>Outstanding</b></p> <p>Division: Ordinary Council</p> <p>Committee: Officer:</p> <p><b>Outstanding Action Items Report</b></p> <p>Date From: Date To: Printed: Thursday, 12 March 2020 8:49:43 AM</p>			
			<b>Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Heywood</b>
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	8.2.1	Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager	<p><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p> <p>Cr Jane MacAllister requested that all records be amended to reflect the change of name from Bottle Bend Reserve Trust to Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager.</p>
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	9.2	2020 National General Assembly of Local Government - Call for Motions	<p><b><u>Council Resolution</u></b></p> <p>That the amendment becomes the substantive motion and</p> <p>(a) That Council notes the call for motions for inclusion in the National General Assembly's agenda by 27 March 2020 and that Council considers any motions at its meeting in March.</p> <p>(b) That Council nominates Mayor Hederics and the General Manager as its delegates to attend the National General Assembly of Local Government 14-19 June 2020 in Canberra, with travel dates being 14-19 June 2020 to accommodate attendance at the Far West JO board meeting.</p> <p><b>Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. MacAllister</b></p> <p><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p>
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	9.3	MDA Strategic Planning Workshop	<p><b><u>Council Resolution</u></b></p> <p>That Council endorses the attendance of Councillors Elstone, Heywood and MacAllister as its delegates for the MDA Strategic Planning Workshop.</p> <p><b>Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone</b></p> <p><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p>
			<p>24 Feb 2020 - 8:48 AM</p> <p>Officers advised - ACTION COMPLETE</p> <p>10 Mar 2020 - 11:19 AM</p> <p>The bookings have been made. In the absence of any motions being submitted for consideration at the March meeting the action is considered complete. ACTION COMPLETE.</p> <p>24 Feb 2020 - 3:59 PM</p> <p>Cr MacAllister, Cr Heywood &amp; Cr Elstone Registered &amp; accommodation booked. ACTION COMPLETE</p>

<div> <div> <a href="#">Outstanding</a> </div> <div> <div>Division: Committee: Officer:</div> <div>Ordinary Council</div> </div> </div> <div> <div>Date From: Date To:</div> <div>Printed: Thursday, 12 March 2020 8:49:43 AM</div> </div>			
Outstanding Action Items Report			
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	9.15	Alternative Options for the Management of Council's Waste Facilities	<div> <div><b>Council Resolution</b></div> <div> <p>a) That Council resolves to continue to operate the waste facilities throughout the Shire in the interim period until such time a professional reputable waste management contractor has been procured to manage Council facilities through an open tender process, and</p> <p>b) That Council implements the short-term operational recommendations within the independent review of the operations of Council's waste management facilities, and</p> <p>c) That Council prepares specification and tender documentation for the open tender process for the operation and management of Council's waste facilities, and</p> <p>d) That Council, at the conclusion of the tender period, consider the tender panel assessment report and if deemed acceptable to Council award the tender for the operation of Council's waste facilities.</p> <p><b>Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Heywood</b></p> <p><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p> </div> </div>
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	10.1	Withdrawal of Membership of Central Murray Region Transport Forum	<div> <div><b>Council Resolution</b></div> <div> <p>That council withdraws from membership from the Central Murray Region Transport forum, effective immediately.</p> <p><b>Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon</b></p> <p><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p> </div> </div>
Ordinary Council 19/02/2020	10.2.3	Maintenance of trees	<div> <p>Cr Susan Nichols asked whether Mr Keenan had received a reply to his letter and what would be done about the maintenance of the three trees.</p> <p>10 Mar 2020 - 9:14 AM Customer received a letter of reply on 24/02/20 detailing actions that had been taken. ACTION COMPLETE</p> </div>









Outstanding

Division:  
Committee: Ordinary Council  
Officer:

Date From:  
Date To:

Printed: Thursday, 12 March 2020 8:49:43 AM

**Outstanding Action Items Report**

InfoCouncil

Page 6 of 6

## 7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### 7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/127

#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by the Mayor for the period 8 February 2020 – 8 March 2020.

#### Recommendation

That Council notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

#### **Report**

The following table lists the meetings attended by the Mayor for the period 8 February 2020 – 8 March 2020.

Date	Meeting	Location
11 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
14 Feb 2020	FWJO Tourism Meeting	Buronga
18 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Buronga
19 Feb 2020	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
19 Feb 2020	Citizenship Ceremony	Wentworth
20 Feb 2020	Hon. Sussan Ley MP	Buronga
24 Feb 2020	Meeting Darling/Barwon River Councils (teleconference)	Wentworth
25 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Buronga
2 Mar 2020	Hall inspections	Curlwaa, Pomona, Annabranche & Pooncarie
3 Mar 2020	Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group	Buronga
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Melinda Pavey	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Robert Stokes	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Adam Marshall	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	NSW Joint Organisations Chairs Forum	Sydney
6 Mar 2020	Country Mayors Meeting	Sydney

#### **Notable points from individual meetings**

Hon. Sussan Ley MP

- Support for funding for the Pooncarie Menindee Road
- Looking for solutions for the Wentworth doctor shortage

Minister Melinda Pavey

- Pooncarie Weir ownership remains unresolved

- Water Carting within the Shire to be continued at the same subsidised rate.
- Safe and Secure Water fund to support the installation of bores and infrastructure at Pooncarie
- In full support of flush and flow for the Darling River.
- Water Sharing Plans consultation and draft finalisation in July 2020

Minister Robert Stokes

- Western Regional Planning Panel new member announced
- Councils Rural Land Study to be considered by the new Panel in line with the work undertaken in conjunction with the previous Panel.
- Work closely with the Western Region office to progress Local Strategic Planning Statement and Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan

Minister Adam Marshall

- Support for the business case for unsealed section of Pooncarie Menindee Road.

**Attachments**

Nil

## 8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

### 8.1 COUNCILLOR REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/20/165

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Paula Matrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

#### Summary

This report provides the opportunity for Councillors to provide verbal updates on the activities of organisations to which they have been appointed as council's delegate.

The notable meetings that have occurred during the reporting period where councillors are encouraged to provide a verbal report are:

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
26 Feb 2020	Wentworth Shire GP Plan Meeting	Cr MacAllister & GM	Dareton
12-13 Mar 2020	MDA Strategic Planning Meeting	Cr MacAllister, Cr Heywood & Cr Elstone	Moama

#### Recommendation

That the information provided by councillors on the activities of external bodies to which they are council's nominated delegate be noted.

#### **Additional Information**

Nil

#### Attachments

Nil

## 8.2 WENTWORTH SPORTING COMPLEX USER GROUP MEETING TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2020

File Number: RPT/20/117

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
 Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
 Reporting Officer: Barbara George - Administration Officer, Roads and Engineering

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.5 Encourage the self determination of individual townships and community groups

### **Summary**

A meeting of the Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group was held on Tuesday 18 February 2020 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the minutes of the Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group meeting held on Tuesday 18 February 2020.

### **Additional Information**

A meeting of the Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group was held on Tuesday 18 February 2020 at the Wentworth Sporting Complex.

- Project Engineer – Taygun Saritoprak provided the Group with an update of projects which became possible as a result of the Stronger Country Communities Grant. New Playground, Tennis Courts and lighting, and internal upgrade including replacement of all internal cisterns have been completed.

The Bowling Green project has commenced and is on track to be completed by 7 April 2020. The other bowling green remains usable whilst works are being undertaken.

- The Group expressed a desire to replace the carpets in the Complex, Upgrade the sound system and look into installing solar to the Complex. Council's Engagement Officer will undertake to investigate the availability of grants.
- Many maintenance issues were raised, and will be addressed via Council's Customer Request system.

### **Attachments**

1. Minutes of the Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group Meeting held Tuesday 18 February 2020 [📎](#)

<p>Wentworth Shire Council 26- 28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 <a href="mailto:council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au">council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</a></p>	<p><b>USER GROUP MEETING MINUTES</b></p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------

<p><b>Our Ref:</b></p> <p><b>Subject:</b> Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group Meeting</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Wentworth Sporting Complex.</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> Tuesday 18 February 2020</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 5:00pm</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------	----------------------------

### 1. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was opened at 1710 by Geoff Gunn who welcomed all in attendance.

### 2. PRESENT

**Councillors:**

CR S Nichols  
CR S Heywood

**User Group Members:**

Troy Witte – Tennis Club  
Cathryn Dawes – Tennis Club  
Cheryl Vines – Tennis Club  
Robert Verstappen – Tennis Club  
Audrey McPherson – Tennis & Bowling Clubs  
Max Follett – Tennis & Bowling Clubs  
John Martin – Tennis & Bowling Clubs

**Council Staff:**

Geoff Gunn – Director Roads and Engineering  
Barb George – Administration Officer, WSC.

**Visitors:**

Taygun Saritoprak – Project Engineer, WSC.

### 3. APOLOGIES

CR Tim Elstone  
Anne Dawes  
Roger Smith

The Contact List was tabled – updated as requested.

Minutes of the previous meeting accepted: 1<sup>st</sup>: Troy Witte. 2<sup>nd</sup>: CR Nichols

#### 4. MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Stronger Country Communities Grant Update:

- Taygun Saritoprak – Project Engineer updated the Group on progress of projects which became possible as a result of the Grant namely:
  - Playground, Tennis Courts and lighting, and Internal upgrade, including replacement of internal cisterns, have been completed.
  - Bowling Green – this project has commenced with Oasis Unmatched being awarded the Tender.  
The project is on track to be completed by 7 April 2020, and during works, the other bowling green is able to be used, with no interruption to usage.  
A request was made that the watering system to the usable green not be interrupted. There is a tournament on 4 & 5 April at which time the green needs to be at its best. It is also necessary to ensure good access to the green.  
Taygun to liaise with Oasis Unmatched.
- The following is a list of items were not successful as part of the above grant:
  - Landscaping
  - Kitchen Repair/upgrade
  - Changeroom upgrade
  - Upgrade Storage
  - Upgrade of water, power, gas.
  - Upgrade of disabled access.

#### 5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Concern raised regarding the presence of soft fall and grass inside new playground. The grass is difficult to access for cutting, and the soft fall is kicked around by children using the area.
- The Group was advised that there will be an upgrade to Tennis Courts 9 & 10 – the Club are financing this with assistance from Council regarding procurement.
- Question was raised that there was a lock on the new playground – the group were assured by Geoff that the playground would not be locked.
- New carpet is required in the Pavilion - the availability of a suitable grant is to be investigated.
- The sound system throughout the Complex is not appropriate. Once again, the availability of a suitable grant to be investigated.
- CR Nichols asked that the installation of Solar to the Complex be investigated. Grant to sought.
- The Group was advised that the next Tractor Rally is to be held in June 2021.

#### 6. MAINTENANCE

Members of the User Group were advised that items of maintenance may be forwarded to Barb via email at any time. The following are items of maintenance which require action:

- The skylights in the kitchen require repair – dust is coming in.
- The lock on the disabled toilet door is faulty.
- Two of the lights on courts 3 & 4 require adjustment.
- May sprinklers around the complex do not appear to be functioning appropriately. Some members of the User Group have undertaken to clean out several sprinklers, but there are many that still do not function appropriately.

- Outside hydrants -? Functioning. (Internal extinguishers are part of a maintenance program).
- On the road at back of Complex – there are many pot holes.
- Request to remove grass area and replace with gravel – also at back of Complex.
- The large gum trees at the rear of Complex are dropping limbs which require removal/clean-up.

**ACTIONS FROM MEETING:**

Action	Responsibility/Outcome
Placement of Softfall and grass in new playground	Council to advise if the Softfall is a requirement, and investigate placement of grass. CR/20/425
Skylight in kitchen requires sealing – allowing dust to get in.	Council. CR/20/426
Repair the lock on the disabled toilet door.	Council. CR/20/427
2 lights on the new Tennis Courts 3 & 4 require adjustment.	Council. CR/20/428
Many sprinklers around the Complex not functioning.	Council/Users. CR/20/429
Repair potholes and investigate replacing grass with gravel at back of complex	Council. CR/20/430
Seek suitable grant to replace carpet throughout the Complex, along with replacement of the sound system and installation of solar to the Complex.	Council Engagement Officer. CR/20/431
Taygun to liaise with Oasis Unmatched to ensure good access to usable bowling green particularly during Tournament 4 & 5 April.	Council Project Officer. CR/20/432
Ensure that the watering system to the usable bowling green is not compromised during works.	Council Project Officer. Cr/20/433
Remove/clean-up limbs that have fallen from large trees at rear of the Complex	Council. CR/20/434
Outside fire hydrants -? functioning.	Council. CR/20/435

**7. MEETING CLOSURE:** The meeting closed at 1810.

**8. NEXT MEETING - TBA**



## 9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 9.1 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/128

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

#### **Summary**

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars
  - Details of OLG Circulars 20-04 and 20-06 are listed
2. Meetings  
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events  
As listed
4. Other items of note

#### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager and approves the out of region travel listed in the list of upcoming events.

#### **Detailed Report**

1. OLG Circulars
  - **20-06 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Development Updates**
    - The NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan is the whole-of-government plan for an influenza pandemic in NSW. This plan is a sub plan to the NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN). Under the EMPLAN, NSW Health is the combat agency for pandemic illnesses.
    - The NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan details the coordination arrangements, responsibilities and mechanisms for all levels of government and compliments the federal government's Australian Health Sector Emergency Response Plan for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).
    - The Senior Officers Group of the NSW Government has been established to coordinate management of the NSW Government response to a pandemic. This group consists of Cluster Secretaries, the State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCON), Chief Health Officer and State Emergency Recovery Coordinator and others as required.

- The SEOCON has hosted a number of teleconferences with members of the State Emergency Management Committee since 28 January 2020 to facilitate emergency management planning and information sharing.
  - The SEOCON has opened the State Emergency Operations Centre with liaison officers from key stakeholders and they are supporting the planning for potential impacts and consequences of COVID-19.
  - NSW Health has existing policies and plans for the management of a pandemic which have been well tested.
  - NSW Health will be advising local councils on measures that need to be implemented within the workplace. Current information and advice for the community and business is available here: [www.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus).
  - Information is also available on the national health website: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources#find-the-facts>.
- 20-05 Release of councillor superannuation discussion paper (attached)
    - Under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993, councils across Australia are not required to make superannuation contributions in relation to the fees they pay to mayors and councillors. This is because mayors and councillors are elected to a civic office in a council and are not employees of the council.
    - The release of the discussion paper has been prompted by concerns raised by mayors and councillors that the ineligibility of councillors to receive superannuation payments is inequitable and is a deterrent to more women and younger people standing as candidates at council elections.
    - Submissions should be made before Friday 8 May 2020
  - 20-04 Land use planning changes to assist communities recover from NSW bushfires (attached)
    - Changes to planning rules have been made to ensure more people impacted by the bushfires are able to clean up and make safe their property and allow bush fire affected people to establish temporary accommodation, without the need for council approval.

## 2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period 8 February 2020 – 8 March 2020

Date	Meeting	Location
11 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
14 Feb 2020	FWJO Tourism Meeting	Buronga
18 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Buronga
19 Feb 2020	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
19 Feb 2020	Citizenship Ceremony	Wentworth
20 Feb 2020	Hon. Sussan Ley MP Meeting	Buronga
24 Feb 2020	Meeting Darling/Barwon River Councils (Teleconference)	Wentworth

25 Feb 2020	Mayoral Meeting	Buronga
26 Feb 2020	Wentworth Shire GP Meeting	Dareton
2 Mar 2020	Hall inspections	Curlwaa, Pomona, Anna Branch & Pooncarie
4 Mar 2020	Prepare for Council Elections Workshop	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Melinda Pavey	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Robert Stokes	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	Meeting Minister Adam Marshall	Sydney
5 Mar 2020	NSW Joint Organisations Chairs Forum	Sydney
6 Mar 2020	Country Mayors Meeting	Sydney

### 3. Events

Following is a list of upcoming events, conferences or committee meetings, including out of region meetings where the Shire has been requested to attend in an official capacity.

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
24 Mar 2020	Mayoral Meetings	Cr Hederics, Cr Elstone & GM	Wentworth
25 Mar 2020	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	GM & DRE	Mildura
30 Mar 2020	Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager Meeting	Cr MacAllister	Buronga
31 Mar 2020	Mayoral Meetings	Cr Hederics, Cr Elstone & GM	Wentworth
1 Apr 2020	Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc Launch "Official Visitors Guide"	All Councillors & GM	Wentworth
7 Apr 2020	Mayoral Meetings	Cr Hederics, Cr Elstone & GM	Wentworth
14 Apr 2020	Mayoral Meetings	Cr Hederics, Cr Elstone & GM	Wentworth
16 Apr 2020	Wentworth Shire Health Interagency Group	Cr MacAllister & GM	Dareton
17 Apr 2020	FWJO Tourism Meeting	Cr Hederics & GM	Buronga
21-22 Apr 2020	Willandra Lakes World Heritage Advisory Committee	Cr MacAllister	Buronga
22 Apr 2020	Ordinary Council Meeting	All Councillors & GM	Wentworth
22-23 Apr 2020	Menindee Lakes Water Savings Project Advisory Group	Cr MacAllister	Menindee
24 Apr 2020	FWJO GM Meeting	GM	Balranald

4. Other items of note

Nil

**Attachments**

1. OLG Circular 20-04 [↓](#)
2. OLG Circular 20-05 [↓](#)
3. OLG Circular 20-06 [↓](#)



Office of  
Local Government

## Circular to Councils

<b>Circular Details</b>	20-04 / 21 February 2020 / A692152
<b>Previous Circular</b>	<i>If applicable</i>
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / Council Land Use Planning staff
<b>Contact</b>	Bushfire Response Advice Line on 13 77 88 or <a href="mailto:codes@planning.nsw.gov.au">codes@planning.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Information

### Land use planning changes to assist communities recover from NSW bushfires

#### What's new or changing

- Due to the recent bushfires and the number of homes and properties damaged and destroyed the NSW Government has introduced several changes to planning rules to make it easier for people to recover and rebuild.

#### What this will mean for your council

- The NSW Government is committed to managing timely rebuilding processes for councils and their communities.
- Changes to planning rules have been made to ensure more people impacted by the bushfires are able to clean up and make safe their property and allow bush fire affected people to establish temporary accommodation, without the need for council approval.
- From 4 February 2020, the applicable government planning fees – BASIX Certificate and the Planning Reform Fund fees – will be waived on all development applications related to homes damaged or destroyed in the recent bushfires.
- From 5 February 2020, councils have the flexibility to modify conditions applying to a primitive camping ground, provided the council is satisfied it is necessary for the purposes of accommodating people who have lost their homes in the bushfires.
- Council staff should ensure they are aware of the regulatory changes and ensure relevant guidance is updated as necessary.

#### Key points

- Amendments to the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Exempt and Complying Development Codes\) 2008 \(Codes SEPP\)](#) allow a range of low impact works to be carried out as exempt development. These works need to meet the relevant development standards in order to be carried out without council approval, including:
  - Temporary repairs and non-structural permanent repairs to damage caused by a declared state of emergency in relation to the bushfires can be carried out as exempt development. The repairs need to be carried out within two years of the state of emergency being declared
  - People will be able to temporarily put a shipping container on private land affected by the fires for storage purposes, where a state of

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emergency, in relation to the bushfires, has been declared, for up to two years

- People impacted by bushfires will be able to demolish buildings that have been substantially damaged by bushfire. People will also be able to partially demolish buildings to make them safe.
- These changes commenced on 31 January 2020.
- Amendments to the *Local Government (Manufactured Homes Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005* assist in the provision of emergency accommodation for persons affected by bushfires. These changes include:
  - People who are unable to return to their homes as a result of a bushfire will be able to stay in a moveable dwelling, such as a caravan, in a caravan park or camping ground for an extended period of up to two years without the need for council approval
  - People whose homes have been badly damaged in a bushfire can install a moveable dwelling, such as a caravan, on land without council approval for up to two years. If a person wishes to stay in the moveable dwelling beyond two years, council approval will be needed.
- These changes commenced on the 5 February 2020.
- Affected property owners can contact the Department to arrange for a BASIX Certificate to be issued free of charge. Councils can refer applicants to the dedicated BASIX bushfire recovery hotline. The contact number is 1300 054 464.
- The NSW Government has been working in partnership with bushfire-affected councils on the new planning provisions.
- The NSW Government is continuing to work with councils and state agencies on what else is needed to support the recovery and rebuilding effort.

#### Where to go for further information

- Further information on the changes is available at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Bushfires-recovery>

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**Local Government, Policy and Planning**

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## Circular to Councils

<b>Circular Details</b>	Circular No / Date / Doc ID
<b>Previous Circular</b>	N/A
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / Council 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>	Council to Implement

### Release of councillor superannuation discussion paper

#### What's new or changing

- The Office of Local Government has issued a discussion paper to seek the views of councils and their local communities on whether councillors should receive superannuation payments.
- Under the Commonwealth *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993*, councils across Australia are not required to make superannuation contributions in relation to the fees they pay to mayors and councillors. This is because mayors and councillors are elected to a civic office in a council and are not employees of the council.
- The release of the discussion paper has been prompted by concerns raised by mayors and councillors that the ineligibility of councillors to receive superannuation payments is inequitable and is a deterrent to more women and younger people standing as candidates at council elections.
- The discussion paper is available on the Office of Local Government's (OLG) website at [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au).

#### What this will mean for your council

- The Office of Local Government is seeking the views of councils, councillors and council staff on this issue.
- Councils are also encouraged to inform their local communities about the discussion paper and to encourage members of the community to make submissions.
- Submissions may be made to [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au), labelled 'Councillor Superannuation Consultation' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before COB Friday 8 May 2020.

#### Key points

- The discussion paper seeks the views of councils and others on the following four options:
  - maintaining the status quo – mayors and councillors can continue to voluntarily contribute a *portion* of their fees to a complying superannuation fund of their choice
  - mandate the current voluntary situation – amend the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to make it compulsory for councils to pay a *portion* of the mayors' and councillors' fees equivalent to the superannuation guarantee amount into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and councillors

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- amend the Act to allow councils to voluntarily pay an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and councillors *in addition to* the mayor's and councillors' fees – this means that the payment of councillor superannuation in addition to their fee would be at each council's discretion, allowing the council to take into account the council's resources and the local community's views, or
- amend the Act to make it compulsory for councils to pay an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and councillors *in addition to* the mayor's and councillors' fees.

**Where to go for further information**

- For further information please contact the Council Governance team 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>	20-06 / 10 March 2020 / A694616
<b>Previous Circular</b>	NIL
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff / Specific business areas
<b>Contact</b>	Mr Chris Allen, Director Sector Performance and Intervention / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Information / Response to OLG / Council to Implement

### Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Development Updates

#### What's new or changing

- The NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan is the whole-of-government plan for an influenza pandemic in NSW. This plan is a sub plan to the NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN). Under the EMPLAN, NSW Health is the combat agency for pandemic illnesses.
- The NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan details the coordination arrangements, responsibilities and mechanisms for all levels of government and compliments the federal government's *Australian Health Sector Emergency Response Plan for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)*.
- The Senior Officers Group of the NSW Government has been established to coordinate management of the NSW Government response to a pandemic. This group consists of Cluster Secretaries, the State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCN), Chief Health Officer and State Emergency Recovery Coordinator and others as required.
- The SEOCN has hosted a number of teleconferences with members of the State Emergency Management Committee since 28 January 2020 to facilitate emergency management planning and information sharing.
- The SEOCN has opened the State Emergency Operations Centre with liaison officers from key stakeholders and they are supporting the planning for potential impacts and consequences of COVID-19.
- NSW Health has existing policies and plans for the management of a pandemic which have been well tested.
- NSW Health will be advising local councils on measures that need to be implemented within the workplace. Current information and advice for the community and business is available here: [www.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus).
- Information is also available on the national health website: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources#find-the-facts>.

#### What this will mean for your council

- Councils should review their business continuity plans as a matter of urgency to ensure appropriate planning is undertaken to address any potential disruption to their operations and the provision of services to the community.
- NSW Health will issue instructions for all agencies and will liaise directly with councils on their role.
- Councils should take a precautionary approach in line with the principles of prevention and preparation as outlined in the State Emergency Management Plan regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, working collaboratively with NSW Health to implement strategies to minimise COVID-19's transmission.

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- All councils are advised to monitor the NSW Health website for updates: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) will continue close contact directly with affected councils for daily updates on any COVID-19 related developments within their Local Government Areas (LGA) in order to compile a daily report to SEOC. Councils can call OLG on 02 4428 4100, or OLG will contact affected councils as required.

*Reports from affected councils will need to include the following information:*

1. Any staff members affected by COVID-19
  2. Actions implemented by Council to date to contain COVID-19
  3. Issues/requests for action by Council that have been identified/received.
- Councils should continue to closely monitor issues reported or identified within their LGA, and actively engage with NSW Health Liaison Officers within their relevant Local Emergency Management Committees.
  - Management of council operated facilities, such as council offices, childcare centres, swimming pools and public amenities must be maintained in accordance with most current NSW Health guidance and recommended processes.
  - Councils should also review their delegations as a matter of urgency to ensure that decisions can be made quickly in response to any developments outside of the normal council meeting cycle.
  - Councils can be assured that OLG has also undertaken its own contingency planning to identify possible regulatory changes that may be required to support council decision making should the need arise. Councils will be advised of any changes if and when they are required.
  - Councils have been requesting advice regarding the conduct of public events. Please note the following advice issued by the Commonwealth Department of Health, from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) dated 8 March 2020: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-coronavirus-covid-19-statement-on-8-march-2020>.
  - Due to the ongoing developments of the COVID-19 outbreak and its implications for overseas travel:
    - All currently booked and approved international travel should be revaluated in line with the most up to date travel advice available at [www.smarttraveller.gov.au](http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au)
    - International travel should be restricted to essential travel only
    - Any change to planned travel should be done in accordance with standing procedures for individual councils.

### Key points

- Management of local COVID-19 issues should be undertaken at Council level and elevated where appropriate to Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC), when operational.
- The LEMC can further elevate operational or strategic issues to Regional or State Level as required.
- There is no vaccine nor antiviral medication available at this stage.
- The most important message from [NSW Health](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au) is persistent, strict hand and respiratory hygiene, appropriate post exposure quarantine, provision of a nonjudgmental attitude toward those who are symptomatic and to ensure a proportionate and consistent response.
- COVID-19 is spread from an infected person to other people close to that person through contaminated droplets spread by coughing or sneezing, or by contact with contaminated hands, surfaces or objects. Signs and symptoms include respiratory symptoms and fever, cough and shortness of breath and/or diarrhoea.

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**Where to go for further information**

- For up to date information on the COVID-19 situation please visit: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources#find-the-facts>.
- For any inquiries in relation to COVID-19, please ring the following health information line: 1800 020 080.
- For local operational issues in relation to COVID-19, please contact your LEMC.
- Contact details for local NSW Health Public Health Units are available here: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/Pages/phus.aspx>.
- State level strategic or operational inquiries in relation to COVID-19 and Local Government can be directed to OLG for further investigation via the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).
- For any concerns relating to 'what to do if stations and/or work areas have potentially been exposed to COVID-19', please contact NSW Health Public Health staff who will provide immediate post exposure advice.
- NSW Health has compiled a number of Frequently Asked Questions which can be found here: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/coronavirus-faqs.aspx#1-4>.



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## 9.2 2020 LGNSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

File Number: RPT/20/122

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets  
 Strategy: 3.5 Recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River system

### **Summary**

The annual Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Water Management Conference will be held from 15-17 July 2020 in Narrabri. A broad range of information from a local government perspective on water management, issues associated with water supply and sewerage services provided by water utilities are presented at the conference.

### **Recommendation**

That Council nominates delegates to attend the 2020 LGNSW Water Management Conference to be held in Narrabri from 15-17 July 2020.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The LGNSW Water Management Conference attracts a cross section of delegates from NSW and interstate. These include councillors and general managers, water managers and professionals, policy makers from government agencies and key industry stakeholders.

Delegates will have the opportunity to find out about the latest water policy initiatives and trends, receive updates on emergent technical issues, benchmark, network and further their professional development and team building capabilities

#### **Matters under consideration**

Council is being requested to consider whether to send delegates to the 2020 LGNSW Water Management Conference.

With much of NSW in the grip of severe drought, many councils are facing significant and unprecedented challenges in providing their communities with an ongoing supply of safe water. This year's Conference focusses on these challenges from a variety of perspectives, including government policy, innovation, collaboration and community.

In 2019 Council resolved to send three councillors and the Director of Roads and Engineering to the conference.

Prior to making a decision regarding this matter, council is requested to consider the risk implications of sending a delegation to this conference, given the recent pandemic declaration.

#### **Conclusion**

With the entire council area in drought, council supplying drinking water to residents around Pooncarie area and with the uncertainty of how long it will be or how long a replenished Darling River will last, council is required to decide if this conference would be of benefit to Wentworth Shire Council.

**Attachments**

Nil

### 9.3 2020 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

File Number: RPT/20/125

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets  
 Strategy: 3.3 Prepare for natural disasters, biosecurity risks and climate change

#### **Summary**

The 2020 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference is being held from 19 May to 22 May 2020 at the Empire Theatre, Toowoomba QLD.

The theme of the conference is *"A Flood Resilient Australia: Transforming vision into action"*

#### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the report and determines whether to nominate a delegate to attend the 2020 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference being held from 19 May to 22 May 2020 at Toowoomba.

#### **Detailed Report**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to determine whether to send a delegate to the 2020 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference.

##### **Background**

Floodplain Management Australia (FMA) is committed to promoting wise floodplain development and helping reduce the risks of flooding to life and property.

FMA, formerly the Floodplain Management Association, was established in 1961 as a network of New South Wales flood mitigation authorities, and has grown into an association of over 140 local government councils, catchment authorities, government agencies, businesses, and professionals involved in all aspects of urban and rural floodplain risk management.

The FMA Conference has been held annually for over 50 years and is the most respected flood risk management event held in Australia.

The theme of the conference is *"A Flood Resilient Australia: Transforming vision into action"*, which will focus on bringing together various partners and sharing of great research and ideas to set a clear and compelling vision, mission and priorities for the flood community of Australia.

The conference is for anyone interested in making our communities more flood safe. It will bring together over 350 flood practitioners and community members with interests in floodplain risk management. Attendees will include Commonwealth, State and Local Government representatives, research organisations and education providers as well as consultants, engineers, land-use planners, emergency responders and community volunteer organisations.

The conference will include outstanding Australian and international speakers, plenary and concurrent presentations, field trips based on 2011 Grantham Flood & 2012 Toowoomba Never Floods Exhibition as well as networking events. Optional conference workshops on topical issues are being held on each day.

*Matters under consideration*

Councillor Bill Wheeldon OAM is Council's nominated representative on the Floodplain Management Committee and has previously attended the FMA National Conference as council's representative.

*Financial Implications*

Attendance at this conference has the following financial implications for Council:

- Three Day Registration (early bird closing by 20 March 2020) - \$1,050
- Return Flights Estimates – \$1,500
- Transfers Estimates - \$250
- Meals and Accommodation Estimates - \$1,500

*Risk Implications*

Prior to making a decision regarding this matter, council is requested to consider the risk implications of sending a delegation to this conference, given the recent pandemic declaration.

*Conclusion*

A council decision is required to enable a council delegate to attend the 2020 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference from 19 May to 22 May 2020 at Toowoomba.

**Attachments**

1. 2020 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference Program [↓](#)





## Conference Program

(correct at 18 February, subject to change)

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

9.30am – 5.00pm **Workshop TBC**  
Facilitated by

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

8.00am	<b>Pre-conference Workshop Registration</b> <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>	
<b>Session 1</b> 9.00am – 10.30am	<b>Full Day Workshop</b>	<b>Full Day Workshop</b>
<b>Location</b>		
<b>Facilitator</b>		
9.00am – 10.30am	Human Behaviour In Floods	Making Informed Decisions on Flood Risk Management Works
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea</b>	
<b>Session 2</b> 11.00am – 12.30pm	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>
<b>Location</b>		
11.00am – 12.30pm	Human Behaviour In Floods	Making Informed Decisions on Flood Risk Management Works
12.30pm – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>Session 3</b> 1.30pm – 3.00pm	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>
<b>Location</b>		
1.30pm – 3.00pm	Human Behaviour In Floods	Making Informed Decisions on Flood Risk Management Works
3.00pm – 3.30pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	
<b>Session 4</b> 3.30pm – 5.00pm	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>	<b>Full Day Workshop (continued)</b>
<b>Location</b>		
3.30pm – 5.00pm	Human Behaviour In Floods	Making Informed Decisions on Flood Risk Management Works
5.00pm – 7.00pm	<b>Conference Registration</b> <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>	
5.00pm – 7.00pm	<b>Welcome Reception</b> <i>Trade Display, Armitage Centre, Empire Theatre</i>	



Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2020				
7.30am	Conference Registration <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>			
8.30am – 10.10am	Session 1 - Plenary <i>Empire Theatre</i>			
8.30am	Welcome to Country			
8.40am	Welcome from Toowoomba Regional Council			
8.50am	Welcome from Floodplain Management Australia			
9.10am	Welcome from Minister (TBC)			
9.20am	Platinum Sponsor Insurance Council of Australia Address			
9.25am	Keynote Address			
10.10am – 10.40am	Morning Tea & Poster Presentations			
Session 2 10.40am – 12.40pm	2A: Flood Policy, Guidance, Best Practice (QRA)	2B: Modelling	2C: Flood Prediction and Warning	2D: Infrastructure Projects and Asset Management
<b>Location</b>				
<b>Chair</b>				
10.40am – 11.10am	Brisbane River Cumulative Impact Assessment <b>Katrina Smith</b> , Queensland Reconstruction Authority	ARR2019 Quirks and How to Deal with Them <b>Chris Ryan</b> , Catchment Simulation Solutions	AI Flash Flood Alert System <b>Timothy Kallady</b> Piccard AI	Sustainable Floodplains Through Sustainable Infrastructure Development <b>Jean-Michel Benier</b> Melbourne Water Corporation
11.10am – 11.40am	Delivering on the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan <b>Graeme Milligan</b> , Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Don't Get in a Bog with Your RoG <b>Ben Tate</b> , Water Technology	Forecasting Rainfall Losses Using Artificial Neural Networks and Machine Learning <b>Galen Lewis</b> , MHL	Raising Warragamba Dam: A Contingent Valuation Study of Flood Mitigation Versus Conservation <b>Joel Dalberger</b> , International Water Centre & McGregor Coxall
11.40am – 12.10pm	Locally-led Implementation of the Burnett Catchment Flood Resilience Strategy <b>Dwayne Honor</b> , Bundaberg Regional Council	Toowoomba's Evolution in Flood Modelling and Floodplain Management <b>Zita Dore</b> , BMT	Supercell Thunderstorm Radar Signatures As an Indicator of Flash Flood Potential <b>Warick Honour</b> Advisian	Are My Levees High Enough? Assessment of Freeboard Along the Eastern Seaboard <b>Julian Skipworth</b> , Water Modelling Solutions
12.10pm – 12.40pm	Resilient Queensland: Perspectives of Community and Flood Resilience from Bauple to Boulia <b>Steve Dredge</b> , Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Storm Tide Inundation Modelling for Flood Database <b>Cara van Megchelen</b> Cardno	Towards Zero Lives Lost Using Ensemble Flood Forecasts <b>Justin Robinson</b> , Bureau of Meteorology	Hunter Valley Flood Mitigation Scheme – Wallalong Levee, Aberdeen Levee and Wallis Creek Floodgates – Upgrade Works <b>Ben Patterson</b> , Royal HaskoningDHV
12.40pm – 1.30pm	Lunch & Poster Presentations			
1.00pm	Long Field Trip Departs			

Session 3 1.30pm – 3.00pm	3A: Application of Australian Rainfall and Runoff (ARR)	3B: Emergency Preparedness and Management, Recovery	3C: Flood Stories and Case Studies	3D: 10 Minute
Location				
Chair				
1.30pm – 2.00pm	What Have We Learnt About Temporal Patterns and the New ARR <b>Monique Retallick</b> WMAwater	Compounding Flood Disasters <b>Andrew Gissing</b> Risk Frontiers	Not Just a Drain – Mixed- Use Opportunities in Newcastle’s Flashiest Catchment <b>Caleb Dykman</b> Royal HaskoningDHV	<b>1.30pm – 1.45pm</b> The Hard Facts of Twelve Years of Lessons Learnt for Community Engagement in Melbourne <b>Ray Jasper,</b> Victoria State Emergency Service
				<b>1.45pm – 2.00pm</b> Flood is Coming: Who Do We Listen To? <b>Astrid Vachette,</b> National Centre for Flood Research
2.00pm – 2.30pm	Wollongong Flood Risk Planning: Impacts of Blockage, Rainfall and ARR Updates <b>Isabelle Ghatti,</b> Wollongong City Council	Time Out – Flood Emergency Response for a Major Sports Venue <b>Steven Molino,</b> Molino Stewart	Before, During and After Hurricane Harvey: Performance of an ALERT2 Flood Warning System During a Category 4 Hurricane <b>Ryan Guerrero,</b> Campbell Scientific Incorporated	<b>2.00pm – 2.15pm</b> Using Sydney Flood Data for Strategic Purposes <b>Isabelle Testoni,</b> DPIE
				<b>2.15pm – 2.30pm</b> Australian Floods in the 21st Century: A Database of the First Decades <b>Sarah Odgers,</b> National Centre for Flood Research
2.10pm FT 1: Gowrie Creek Flood Mitigation Works Tour depart (includes afternoon tea)				
2.30pm – 3.00pm	Back to Basics – Testing the Validity of Wollongong Local Guidance for ARR2019 <b>Heath Sommerville</b> Rhelm	Automated Post-event Analysis for the Parramatta Flash Flood Forecast System <b>Luke Kidd,</b> Royal HaskoningDHV	Purchase or Move? Lessons Learnt from Historic Property-based Floodplain Management Schemes <b>Alana Mosely</b>	<b>2.30pm – 2.45pm</b> Innovative 3D Data Collection to Inform Farm Dam Failure Response Planning <b>Tania Wilson,</b> South Australian State Emergency Service
				<b>2.45pm – 3.00pm</b> Flooding Impacts of Regional Farm Dams on Lowes Creek Maryland Precinct Development <b>Maria Pinto,</b> Camden Council
3.10pm	FT2: Grantham 2011 Flood Tour & FT3: 2012 Toowoomba Never Floods Exhibition at Cobb+Co Museum depart (includes afternoon tea)			
5.30pm	Close of Day One			
7.00pm	Casual Dinner The Annex Sponsored by WMAwater			

Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2020				
7.30am	<b>Councillors Choice Breakfast Session</b> Opportunity for Councillors to raise and discuss issues of importance to Local Government			
8.30am	<b>Conference Registration</b> <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>			
<b>Session 4</b> 9.00am – 10.30am	<b>4A: Flood Policy, Guidance, Best Practice</b>	<b>4B: Social and Cultural Aspects</b>	<b>4C: Flood Prediction and Warning</b>	<b>4D: Workshop</b>
<b>Location</b>				
<b>Chair</b>				
9.00am – 9.30am	Defining Flood Risk in the Brisbane River Catchment – Australia's Greatest Risk <b>Philip Haines, BMT</b>	Towards a Model of Community Resilience for Flood Events in Australia <b>Willow Forsyth, University of Newcastle</b>	Innovations in Automated Alerting for Fast Responding Rivers <b>Alex Clifton, Bureau of Meteorology</b>	
9.30am – 10.00am	Strategic Management of Flood Risk for Communities <b>Duncan Mcluckie, DPIE</b>	Both Flood and Community Engagement Specialists Working Together for Flood-informed Communities <b>Stephen Yeo, Infrastructure NSW</b>	Development of a Best Practice Flood Warning System <b>Allan Herring, Brisbane City Council</b>	
10.00am – 10.30am	Distinguishing Between the Need for Flood Impact or Flood Risk Assessment <b>Chris Thomas, Advisian</b>	Flood Words: How Can We Communicate Them More Effectively to the Public? <b>Neil Dufty, Molino Stewart</b>	Building a State-of-the-art 3Di Flood Hazard Model for the City of Yangon, Myanmar <b>Cornelis Digemanse, Royal HaskoningDHV</b>	
10.30am – 11.00am	<b>Morning Tea &amp; Poster Presentations</b>			
11.00am – 12.45pm	<b>Session 5 – Plenary</b> <i>Empire Theatre</i>			
11.00am	<b>Welcome to Day Two</b>			
11.05am	<b>State and Territory Presentations</b>			
11.55am	<b>Keynote Speaker</b>			
12.20pm	<b>Keynote Speaker</b>			
12.35pm	<b>Sponsor Address</b>			
12.45pm – 1.45pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Poster Presentations</b>			
<b>Session 6</b> 1.45pm – 3.15pm	<b>6A: Monetization of Floods</b>	<b>6B: Flood Stories and Case Studies</b>	<b>6C: Land Use Planning</b>	<b>6D: 10 Minute</b>
<b>Location</b>				
<b>Chair</b>				
1.45pm – 2.15pm	New Flood Stage-damage Curves for South East Queensland <b>Sharmil Markar, WRM</b>	A Tale of Two Cities <b>Carrie Dearnley, BMT</b>	Defining the Flood Planning Area for Overland Flow - Alternative Approaches <b>Valerie Tulk, Northern Beaches Council</b>	<b>1.45pm – 2.00pm</b> TC Debbie Flood Studies - Lessons Learnt <b>Robyn Birkett, Mackay Regional Council</b>

				<b>2.00pm – 2.15pm</b> Ross River Dam, February 2019 – Successful Mitigation of Five Larger Peak Flows <b>Teegan Burke,</b> BMT
2.15pm – 2.45pm	Flood Damage Mechanisms in Contemporary Housing <b>Andrew Dyer,</b> IAG	Presentation TBA	Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas of East Gippsland <b>Michael Cawood,</b> Hydrology & Risk Consulting	<b>2.15pm – 2.30pm</b> Integrating Environmental Criteria in Statutory Floodplain Management Plans to Protect Floodplain Ecology <b>Simon Hunter,</b> Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  <b>2.30pm – 2.45pm</b> In-situ Soil Moisture Monitoring in South Australia to Improve Flash Flood Forecasts <b>Dinesh Ratnayake,</b> University of South Australia (UniSA)
2.45pm – 3.15pm	Improving Flood Management Economic Decision Making with ‘fit for Purpose’ Tools <b>Ngcebo Gwebu,</b> Jacobs	Townsville’s 2019 Monsoonal Flood Event – Not Just a Ross River Flood <b>Wesley Bailey,</b> AECOM	<b>2.45pm – 3.00pm</b> The Flood Resilient Homes Program – Empowering Residents To Live Through Floods <b>Jacqueline Brien,</b> Brisbane City Council  <b>3.00pm – 3.15pm</b> The Assessment of Flood Vulnerability Using Socio-economic Indices <b>Alireza Sadeghi Pouya</b> Townsville City Council	<b>2.45pm – 3.00pm</b> Flood Considerations for Road Managers <b>Danny Rose,</b> Tweed Shire Council  <b>3.00pm – 3.15pm</b> Flood Mitigation on Large Scale Infrastructure – Challenges and a Way Forward <b>Ben Mason,</b> Jacobs
<b>3.15pm – 3.45pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea &amp; Poster Presentations</b>			
<b>Session 7</b> 3.45pm – 5.30pm	<b>7A: FMA Annual General Meeting</b>		<b>7B: Workshop</b> <i>Facilitated by:</i>	
<b>Location</b>				
3.45pm – 5.30pm	<b>ALL FMA MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND</b>		Workshop TBC	
<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Close of Day Two</b>			
<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Conference Dinner &amp; Floodplain Management Australia Excellence Awards</b> <i>Venue TBC</i> <i>Sponsored by Royal HaskoningDHV</i>			

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020				
8.30am	Conference Registration <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>			
9.00am – 10.20am	Session 8 – Plenary <i>Empire Theatre</i>			
9.00am	Welcome to Day Three			
9.05am	Silver Sponsor Address			
9.10am	Presentation by Winner of FMA-NRMA Insurance Flood Risk Management Project of the Year Award			
9.25am	Silver Sponsor Address			
9.30am	Keynote Address			
10.10am	2021 FMA National Conference Presentation			
10.20am – 10.50am	Morning Tea & Poster Presentations			
Session 9 10.50am – 12.50pm	9A: Monetization of Floods	9B: Flood Prediction and Warning	9C: Land Use Planning	9D: - Emergency Preparedness and Management, Recovery
<b>Location</b>				
<b>Chair</b>				
10.50am – 11.20am	Prioritising Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction – the Applicability of Queensland and National Frameworks <b>Jimmy Scott,</b> Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Real-time Flood Forecasting and Dam Operations for the Ross River <b>Phillip Jordan,</b> HARC	A Framework for Resilient Development on Floodplains <b>Mike Edwards,</b> Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Vic)	Developing an Integrated Flood, Coastal and Storm Tide Forecasting System in Noosa <b>Daniel Rodger,</b> JBP
11.20am – 11.50am	“Coast and Benefit”: Economic Analysis of Multi-Hazard Coastal Protection Measures <b>Filippo Dall’Osso,</b> Molino Stewart	Overview of Sunshine Coast Council’s Rainfall, Wind and Water Level Gauging <b>Jeff Morrin,</b> Sunshine Coast Council	Matching Land Use Tolerability and Flood Risk in the Brisbane River Floodplain <b>Shannon Haines and Luke Ciancio,</b> Ethos Urban	Saving Lives from Floods <b>Shayne Baker,</b> Royal Life Saving Society Australia
11.50am – 12.20pm	How Much is It Worth? Economic Values for Floodplain Management <b>Rhys Thomson,</b> Rhelm	Parametric Rainfall Approach to Flood Forecasting: Lessons from the Townsville Monsoon <b>Wesley Bailey,</b> AECOM	Dilemmas of a Land-use Planner in Hawkesbury’s Extreme Flood Plains <b>Sunehla Bala,</b> Hawkesbury City Council	The Only Way Is Up – Flood Evacuation in Parramatta CBD <b>Josh Nadiroglu</b> BG&E
12.20pm – 12.50pm	Nationwide Flood Forecasting and Analysis – An Insurance Perspective <b>Cameron Druery,</b> Advisian	Flooded Road Warning Systems in Flash Flood Catchments <b>Leanne Salter,</b> Moreton Bay Regional Council	A Risk-based Approach to Contemplating the F- word (freeboard) <b>Portia Rigby,</b> Moreton Bay Regional Council	<b>12.20pm – 12.35pm</b> Calibrating Operational Flood Forecasting Models: when is 'Good Enough' Good Enough? <b>Alex Cornish,</b> Bureau of Meteorology  <b>12.35pm – 12.50pm</b> Lessons from SA’s Largest Expansion of Flood Warning Services in 20 Years <b>Belinda Skilton,</b> Department for Environment and Water

12.50pm – 1.40pm		Lunch & Poster Presentations			
Session 10 1.40pm – 3.10pm		10A: Flood Policy, Guidance, Best Practice, Monetization of Floods	10B: Modelling	10C: Infrastructure Projects and Asset Management	10D: 10 Minute
Location					
Chair					
1.40pm – 2.10pm	National Guidelines for Flood Barriers <b>Belinda Barker,</b> AWMA	Testing of New HEC-RAS 5.1 Rain-On-Grid Solution <b>Mark Forest,</b> HDR	Structural Revolution: Utilising Implant Structures for Resilient Flood Protection Infrastructure <b>Jasper Creighton</b> J Steel Australasia	1.40pm – 1.55pm The Influence of Floodplain Characteristics on Property Annual Average Damage Estimates <b>Hayden Guse,</b> WRM Water & Environment	
				1.55pm – 2.10pm Tsunami Guide for Queensland <b>Brenton Phillips,</b> Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	
2.10pm – 2.40pm	Non-Worsening Criteria: When Best Practice Isn't Resilient <b>Laurence Allan,</b> Allan & Dennis	Flood Study of the Lower Derwent Catchment and Cascade of Hydropower Dams <b>Bill Cohen,</b> Entura	A Flood Resilient Bruce Highway for North Queensland: Haughton River Floodplain Upgrade <b>Tina O'Connell,</b> HDR	2.10pm – 2.25pm Tips and Traps when Using ARR2019 <b>Anthony Ladson,</b> Moroka	
				2.25pm – 2.40pm Tasmanian Statewide Strategic Flood Mapping: Challenges and Uncertainties <b>Audrey Lau,</b> Tasmania SES	
2.40pm – 3.10pm	Working Together for the Best Possible Flood Warnings in Queensland <b>Graeme Milligan,</b> Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Application of Australia Rainfall and Runoff 2019 Guidelines for Overland Flow Modelling and Mapping <b>Janaka Gunawardena,</b> Logan City Council	Terrestrial LiDAR – Lessons Learnt Both Practical and Technical <b>Luke Ferguson</b> Mackay Regional Council	2.40pm – 2.55pm Planning to Action: Enabling Communities to Manage Flood Risk <b>Rebecca Dick,</b> DELWP	
				2.55pm – 3.10pm A Flood Resilient Victoria: Using Technology to Provide Multiple Benefits <b>Kedar Kumthekar</b> Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	
3.10pm – 3.40pm		Conference Wrap-up with Afternoon Tea <i>Lobby, Empire Theatre</i>			

#### 9.4 SUNRAYSIA SAFARI RALLY 2020 REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

File Number: RPT/20/123

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

CSP Goal: 2.0 Wentworth is a desirable Shire to visit, live, work and invest  
 Delivery Program Objective: 2.1 Grow visitation to the Shire by developing a quality visitor experience and promoting our destination  
 Delivery Program Strategy: 2.1.1 Provide Visitor Information Services

#### **Summary**

Council is in receipt of a request to provide financial and in-kind sponsorship of the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally. It is proposed to hold the Rally within the Wentworth Shire region from Wednesday 9 September 2020 to Saturday 12 September 2020 inclusive, subject to venue availability.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council considers the application for sponsorship from Rally Management Australia for the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally from the 2019-2020 Wentworth Shire Tourism and Promotions Budget and determines the level of sponsorship.

#### **Detailed Report**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a request for financial and in-kind support of the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally.

##### **Background**

Council is in receipt of a request from Rally Management Australia for sponsorship for the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally, a copy of which is attached for reference.

It is proposed to hold the rally from Wednesday 9 September 2020 to Saturday 12 September 2020 inclusive, subject to venue availability.

The aim is to stage the 2020 event entirely within the Wentworth Shire region.

Council last year opted to provide a \$15,000.00 contribution plus in-kind support, with the value of the in-kind support being \$5,900.00

##### **Matters under consideration**

The 2020 Sponsorship proposal includes a request for financial support of \$15,000.00 (ex GST) and in-kind support being exclusive use of the Wentworth Showgrounds, including cleaning, rubbish removal, use of toilets and related materials, for the period Sunday 6 September to Sunday 13 September inclusive, for the purposes of housing the Event Headquarters and Overnight Stop location.

The cost of additional staff time to prepare and service the Showgrounds for events such as these will be accounted for as part of the in-kind support and may have an impact on service delivery in other areas across the Shire.

Should council resolve to provide sponsorship for the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally it is proposed to fund it from the 2019-2020 Wentworth Shire Tourism and Promotions Budget.



Based on 2019-2020 charges, the following costs for in-kind support would need to be considered:

- Access charges for the Showgrounds are \$147 per area/per day
- Rubbish bin hire (including one empty per day) - \$22 per bin
- Powered site camping fees (for two people) – \$30 per site
- Powered site camping fees (for children) - \$6 per child
- Powered site camping fees (additional adult) - \$9 per adult
- Additional site preparation, e.g. erection of bunting; cost to be determined.

#### Options

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address this matter are to:

- a) Provide financial support only to the value of \$15,000.00 (ex GST)
- b) Provide financial support of \$15,000.00 (ex GST) plus in-kind support
- c) Provide only in-kind support of use of the Wentworth Showgrounds for a period of eight (8) days
- d) Not provide any financial or in-kind support to the 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally

#### Conclusion

The 2020 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally is proposed to be held within the Wentworth Shire region from Wednesday 9 September 2020 to Saturday 12 September 2020 inclusive, subject to venue availability. A request has been made for financial and in-kind support of the 2020 event.

#### Attachments

1. Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally [↓](#)





To: Ken Ross,  
General Manager  
Wentworth Shire Council

25/11/19

Dear Ken,

I want to take the opportunity to sincerely thank you and your entire staff, as well as the Wentworth Shire Councilors, for your support of the 2019 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally. The event would simply not be possible without the assistance we receive from the local community, and this year we have once again been overwhelmed with the level of enthusiasm from the property owners and the various groups that have really embraced the rally as their own.

Whilst our entry numbers remained the same as in previous years, the level of exposure the event is receiving continues to grow. In addition to the documentary being screened nationally through the Seven Network (including two “encore” broadcasts), it is also being shown in New Zealand in early December, and on several cable sports networks in Europe. Our digital, social and print media coverage was also much larger, attracting three new motorsport photographers to the rally, who contribute content for a variety of magazines and websites.

We estimate that our overall economic contribution to the region this year was once again around the \$600,000 mark, being a combination of accommodation, food, fuel, general spending, and of course the funds the rally itself through local suppliers for merchandise, printing etc. And that doesn't include our personal contribution this year of purchasing our property in Dareton! Anne and I believe so much in the Sunraysia Safari, and the entire region, that we decided to buy a property which will make the task of organizing future events much easier, and give us a real connection with the locals. We really enjoy being a small part of the local community, and hope to spend more and more time up in the area. Apparently in 25 years we'll even be able to call ourselves locals!



On that note, planning for the 2020 Sunraysia Safari is already well underway. We're hoping to run the event at the same time as we did this year, being September 9-12, subject of course to the availability of the Wentworth Showgrounds. We'd like to request that the Wentworth Shire maintains the same level of support as in 2019, being a \$15,000 financial contribution (to assist with the cost of the production of the TV documentary), and in kind support, being the use of the Wentworth Showgrounds, and provision of cleaning, rubbish removal and other ancillary functions at the showgrounds as necessary. I submit this request now for the council's consideration.

We're beginning to see the fruits of our hard work in the first three years of the Sunraysia Safari, and we expect 2020 to be our biggest event yet. Our work in international promotions of the event have resulted in interest from Japanese competitors (who I met with last week to discuss details of their intention to bring 2 vehicles), and we are also working with Motorcycling Australia on being placed on the International Moto calendar, and opening the event to be part of the FIM Oceania series. This would allow more international Moto competitors to come to the rally which would be a massive boost, and provide even more coverage worldwide. We also meet the criteria to be given FIA International status for the Auto division, however the attached costs of going through this process are prohibitive for us at this stage, and the potential benefits are not as evident as in the Moto division at the moment. It's certainly something we'll work towards in future.

Thanks once again for your support Ken, and that of the entire Wentworth Shire Council and staff, and I look forward to an even bigger and more successful 2020 Sunraysia Safari Rally.

Kind Regards,

**TROY BENNETT**  
**EVENT DIRECTOR**

## 9.5 2020 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

File Number: RPT/20/158

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Paula Matrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
 Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### **Summary**

The 2020 NSW Local Government Elections will be held on Saturday 12 September 2020.

The first NSW Electoral Commission Bulletin has been published and provides information about accessing important election information and the key election dates.

The Office of Local Government website also has valuable information including a guide for candidates in NSW Local Government Elections.

### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the information regarding the 2020 NSW Local Government Elections.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the 2020 NSW Local Government Elections.

#### **Background**

NSW Local Government Elections are held every four years. The 2020 Election is to be held on Saturday 12 September 2020.

#### **Report Detail**

The first NSW Electoral Commission Bulletin has been published, and provides valuable information about accessing important election information and the key election dates.

Key dates to note are: -

- Wednesday 1 July 2020 – Capped expenditure period commences
- Monday 6 July 2020 – Nominations online management system open
- Monday 3 August 2020 – Lodgment of nominations commence
- Wednesday 12 August 2020 at 12 noon - Close of nominations of candidates

The new Induction and Professional Development Guidelines which have been issued under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* come into full effect with this election.

The guidelines include information regarding pre-election candidate information sessions and in the coming weeks the General Manager will provide further information regarding these sessions.

Candidate Information packs will be distributed to Council's Customer Service Centres and Libraries.

Conclusion

Further reports and information about the 2020 NSW Local Government Elections will be made available via the council agenda, website and print media.

Attachments

1. NSW Electoral Commission - Bulletin no 1 [↓](#)



## 2020 NSW Local Government elections Bulletin

Bulletin no.1

Issued 17 February 2020

### 1. Accessing important information

Information about the 2020 NSW Local Government elections will be available on the NSW Electoral Commission website: <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/LGE20>

The website will be progressively updated over the coming months and throughout the election period to provide information about funding registration, campaign finance and disclosure rules.

You can also contact the NSW Electoral Commission with any enquiries.

Phone: 1300 022 011

Email: [fdc@elections.nsw.gov.au](mailto:fdc@elections.nsw.gov.au) for funding registration, campaign finance and disclosure enquiries

Email: [candidates@elections.nsw.gov.au](mailto:candidates@elections.nsw.gov.au) for nomination and electoral material enquiries.

### 2. Election Calendar

The following dates apply to the 2020 NSW Local Government elections.

Pre-election activities	Date
Candidate, group and third-party campaigner funding registrations	Registrations opened the day after the last general election for the council area
Capped expenditure period commences	Wednesday, 1 July 2020
Political donation disclosures due for the period 1 January to 30 June 2020 (applicable to parties, current elected members and associated entities as well as all candidates, groups and third-party campaigners registered prior to 1 July 2020)	Tuesday, 28 July 2020
Major political donor disclosures due for the 2019/20 financial year (applicable to all donors who made a political donation of \$1,000 or more in the financial year)	Tuesday, 28 July 2020
Lodgement of postal vote applications commences	Monday, 3 August 2020

Nominations period	
Nominations online management system available on the website to commence completing nomination forms	Monday, 6 July 2020
Lodgement of nominations commences	Monday, 3 August 2020
Roll closes for confirming candidates and nominators and also authorised roll printing	6pm Monday, 3 August 2020
Close of nominations of candidates	12 noon Wednesday, 12 August 2020
Close of funding registration of candidates and groups	12 noon Wednesday, 12 August 2020
Ballot paper draw(s) conducted at the office of the returning officer for each area	10am Thursday, 13 August 2020
Close of funding registration for third-party campaigners	Friday, 4 September 2020
Registration of electoral material period	
Registration of electoral material (how-to-vote cards) for distribution on election day commences	Wednesday, 12 August 2020
Close of registration of electoral material (how-to-vote cards)	5pm Friday, 4 September 2020
Registered electoral material appears on the website	8am to 6pm Saturday, 12 September 2020
Pre-poll period	
Pre-poll voting period commences	Monday, 31 August 2020 Note: days and times of operation will vary for each location
Close of postal vote applications	5pm Monday, 7 September 2020
Declared institution visits	During the week of Monday, 7 September 2020 to Friday, 11 September 2020
Close of pre-poll voting period	Friday, 11 September 2020
Election day	
Election day	<b>Saturday, 12 September 2020</b> Polling places open from 8am to 6pm
End of capped expenditure period	Saturday, 12 September 2020

Post election activities	
Close of receipt of returned postal vote certificate envelopes	6pm Monday, 14 September 2020
All elections declared	By Friday, 25 September 2020
Electoral expenditure disclosures due for the 2019/20 financial year (applicable to parties and associated entities, all candidates, groups and third-party campaigners registered prior to 1 July 2020 and all who were elected members in the financial year)	Tuesday, 22 September 2020
Political donation disclosures due for the period 1 July to 31 December 2020 (applicable to all parties, associated entities, candidates, groups, third-party campaigners, new elected members and elected members who were not re-elected)	Thursday, 28 January 2021
Political donation disclosures due for the period 1 January to 30 June 2021 (applicable to all parties, associated entities, candidates, groups, third-party campaigners, new elected members and elected members who were not re-elected)	Wednesday, 28 July 2021
Major political donor disclosures due for the 2020/21 financial year (applicable to all donors who made a political donation of \$1,000 or more in the financial year)	Wednesday, 28 July 2021
Electoral expenditure disclosures due for the 2020/21 financial year (applicable to all parties, associated entities, candidates, groups, third-party campaigners, new elected members and elected members who were not re-elected)	Wednesday, 22 September 2021

### 3. Administration of 2020 Local Government elections

All councils in NSW have indicated they will enter into a contract with the NSW Electoral Commissioner to conduct their elections in September 2020, with the exception of the following four councils:

- Fairfield City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Central Darling Shire Council (currently under administration)
- Balranald Shire Council (currently under administration).

Fairfield City and Penrith City councils have engaged an electoral services provider to administer their 2020 elections. Information in this Bulletin about funding registration, campaign finance and disclosure rules administered by the NSW Electoral Commission still applies, however you will need to contact those councils about the administration of nominations, electoral material, postal votes etc. for those elections.



#### 4. New electoral funding laws apply

The *Electoral Funding Act 2018* will apply to the 2020 Local Government elections. Important recent changes to electoral funding laws include:

- It is unlawful for a person to make or accept political donations in the form of cash over \$100. Political donations over \$100 must be made electronically or by cheque. This rule came into effect on 1 January 2020. Information is available on the NSW Electoral Commission website about this and other types of [unlawful political donations](#), such as a donation by a Member of Parliament who is endorsed by a political party to an independent candidate for a Local Government election.
- Electoral expenditure incurred for a local government election is now capped. The capped expenditure period for the 2020 NSW Local Government elections starts 1 July and ends on Election Day, Saturday 12 September 2020. The caps are based on the number of enrolled electors in an area or ward and apply to parties, candidates, groups and third-party campaigners. This [fact sheet](#) provides detailed information on the caps on electoral expenditure. The caps for each area and ward will be published on the NSW Electoral Commission website.
- Candidates and groups no longer have an official agent to manage and disclose political donations and electoral expenditure. Candidates (including candidates in a group) are responsible for managing and disclosing their political donations and electoral expenditure. The lead candidate of a group is responsible for the management and disclosure of political donations made to the group and any electoral expenditure incurred by the group that is separate to expenditure incurred by individual group members.
- A corporation or other entity that operates solely for the benefit of one or more registered parties or elected members is an associated entity, must be registered with the NSW Electoral Commission and must comply with electoral funding laws.
- In addition to corporations, the meaning of property developer now includes individuals who have certain business activities related to the development of land. Close associates of property developers now include a spouse of, or any person in a joint venture or partnership with, an individual who is a property developer. Property developers, like tobacco business entities, and liquor or gambling industry business entities, are prohibited donors and penalties apply for making and receiving unlawful political donations. Further information is available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).
- Political donations must be disclosed every six months. Electoral expenditure is still required to be disclosed annually. This [fact sheet](#) shows the timing for the lodgement of disclosures for the 2019/20 financial year.

#### 5. Candidate, group and third-party campaigners must register to start campaigning

##### Candidates and groups

Applying to be registered in compliance with electoral funding laws is a separate process to nominating for the election.

All candidates and groups must register for the election before accepting political donations or making payments for electoral expenditure.

Current councillors seeking re-election, however, do not need to be registered before accepting political donations or making payments for electoral expenditure.



Registrations are now open and will close at the same time as the close of nominations (12 noon on Wednesday, 12 August). All nominated candidates and groups that did not apply to be registered will be registered by the NSW Electoral Commission from the close of nominations, enabling all candidates and groups to accept political donations and make payments for electoral expenditure from that time.

To apply to be registered, a candidate or group of candidates must complete and lodge the applicable form:

- Application to register as a group of Local Government candidates (EF.732)
- Application to register as Local Government candidate (EF.729).

The forms are available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

### Third-party Campaigners

Any person or entity that wants to incur more than \$2,000 in electoral expenditure for an election in an area or ward between 1 July and Election Day must be registered as a third-party campaigner. Third-party campaigner registrations are now open and close on Friday, 4 September 2020.

A third-party campaigner must appoint an official agent. The official agent is responsible for managing and disclosing the political donations and electoral expenditure of the campaigner. More information can be found on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

To apply to be registered and to notify us of the appointment of an official agent complete and lodge the following form:

[Application to register as a third-party campaigner and appoint an official agent \(EF.735\)](#)

### Public registers

The details of registered candidates, groups, third-party campaigners and official agents are included in publicly available registers that are published on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

If your registered details change you must notify us within 30 days by completing and lodging the following form:

[Notice of change in registered particulars \(EF.740\)](#)

## 6. Determining who is responsible for compliance with electoral funding laws

The *Electoral Funding Act 2018* determines who is responsible for complying with electoral funding laws, including fulfilling the following requirements:

- making disclosures of political donations and electoral expenditure
- accepting political donations and making payments for electoral expenditure
- operating a campaign account.

In most cases, the person responsible for complying with electoral funding laws at local government elections is as follows:

- for a political party – the party agent
- for a councillor or mayor – the councillor or mayor
- for a candidate including a candidate who is a member of a group – the candidate
- for a group of candidates – the lead candidate of the group
- for a third-party campaigner – the official agent

The only exception is where the NSW Electoral Commission has been notified, using the approved form, that a party agent of a registered party has agreed to be responsible for the political donations and electoral expenditure of a councillor, mayor or candidate who is a member of the party, or for a group whose members are members of the party.

Further information is available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

## 7. Campaign accounts

All electoral expenditure incurred by a party for a local government election campaign must be paid from the party's local government campaign account.

Candidates and groups must open a campaign account before accepting \$1,000 or more in political donations or incurring \$1,000 in electoral expenditure. All political donations made to or for the benefit of a candidate or group, which are used to incur electoral expenditure, must be paid into the campaign account and electoral expenditure must be paid from the campaign account.

If a candidate or group has a campaign account open from the previous election, the account must be cleared before being used for the 2020 election. The balance left in the account from the previous election must be dispersed in accordance with the rules outlined on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

Third-party campaigners must open a campaign account before paying for more than \$2,000 in electoral expenditure during the capped expenditure period (1 July 2020 to Election Day).

Further information about operating a campaign account is available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).



**John Schmidt**

Electoral Commissioner

## 9.6 WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT

File Number: RPT/20/152

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Michele Bos - Strategic Development Officer

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire

Strategy: 1.2 Encourage and support population growth and resident attraction

### **Summary**

Wentworth Shire Council endorsed the draft Local Strategic Planning Statement at its Ordinary Meeting held 20 November 2019, to allow for public exhibition to be conducted from 23 November 2019 to 10 January 2020.

Twenty-five (25) submissions were received during the exhibition period and these have been considered as part of finalising the document.

This report seeks Council's adoption of the final, revised, Local Strategic Planning Statement.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adopts the Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement to allow for the document to be published on the NSW planning portal in accordance with Section 3.9 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with the opportunity to review the final Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) and to formally adopt the document to allow for the LSPS to be published on the NSW planning portal as required by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

#### **Background**

Under Division 3.1 Strategic Planning of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act) 1979, Council is required to prepare an LSPS which is to be reviewed every seven (7) years.

The requirement for Council to prepare the LSPS was introduced as part of the 2018 updates to EP&A Act.

In accordance with the NSW Government's staged approach to the commencement of new provisions contained within the EP&A Act, the LSPS is to be completed by July 2020.

#### **Matters under consideration**

Council's Health and Planning team, together with the Chief Planner's office and the Western Region office worked collaboratively to prepare a draft LSPS.

Council conducted public exhibition of the draft LSPS from 23 November 2019 to 10 January 2020.

Consultation included the following:

- Regular advertisements in the Sunraysia Daily
- Letter/email of advice to community groups and organisations

- Letter/email advice to adjoining local government organisations
- Posts on social media
- Wentworth Shire Council website
- Copies made available for viewing at all Council offices and libraries
- Drop-in sessions in Buronga/Gol Gol, Dareton, Wentworth and Pooncarie

During the exhibition period, twenty-five (25) submissions were received.

A summary of the content of the submissions received has been tabled, together with a response to each of the topics submitted.

Refer to Attachment 1 – Local Strategic Planning Statement Submissions Table.

As indicated in the submissions table, minor amendments have been made to the draft LSPS in response to the submissions received. Particularly where it was deemed necessary to make those changes to the document to either include or reinforce topics or issues, as raised by the community.

An internal, comprehensive review of the draft LSPS has also been conducted. The primary aim of this review was to remove content that was repeated throughout the document and to improve the format to allow for ease of reading by all interested parties.

Although the document has changed significantly in appearance, the actual content remains the same to that which was exhibited in its draft format.

Refer to Attachment 2 – Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement.

### Options

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address this matter are to:

- Adopt the LSPS to finalise the project and allow for the document to published on the NSW planning portal
- OR
- Refuse to adopt the LSPS, subject to specific reasons

### Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The adoption of the LSPS provides Council with the opportunity to finalise this project and to ensure that the LSPS is completed and published on the NSW planning portal by July 2020, as required by Section 3.9 of the EP&A Act.

The adoption of the LSPS will also allow relevant Council officers to commence enactment on actions as recommended by the document and investigate budget opportunities for projects in the 2020/21 financial year.

### Conclusion

It is concluded that the most appropriate course of action is to adopt the Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement to allow for the publication of the document on the NSW planning portal and to finalise the project.

### Attachments

1. LSPS - Submissions Table [↗](#)
2. Wentworth Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 Final for Adoption by Council 18 March 2020 [↗](#)

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

Doc Number	Submission Topic	WSC Comment and Outcome
1 DOC/20/474	Two freehold lots in Little Manly Road in Curlwaa should be rezoned to either R5 or E4 to allow for subdivision and rural living development. The lots have river frontage and are isolated from the Curlwaa irrigation area so the development would not have a negative impact on any existing irrigation use	Planning Priority 6 recommends that rural living strategies be developed for Pomona and Curlwaa. These strategies will identify the demand for rural living in these two localities, the current zones applied and their compatibility for rural living development, suitable locations for new development and the impact on any surrounding agricultural uses. The two lots identified in the submission would be included in the Curlwaa strategy.
2 DOC/20/458	<p>The document is silent on basic health and wellbeing elements. The current GP services are not adequate for Wentworth. Propose that a new priority and suggested actions be included 'Manage Health &amp; Wellbeing Service levels for Improved Liveability'.</p> <p>The document does not include a priority for Arts &amp; Culture and should reflect the comments and feedback in the 2017-2027 Community Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Propose a new priority and suggested action be included 'Sustain and Grow Arts, Culture and Heritage'.</p> <p>The Vision statement from the WSC Community Strategic Plan has not been included in Page 14 Vision.</p> <p>The reference to the Wentworth Post Office should be Old Post Office building.</p>	<p>This very important topic and issue remains a concern for the Wentworth township and surrounding community. The LSPS is a shire wide strategic land use document that aims to ensure that we have land appropriately zoned to allow for the use of land by health practitioners and professionals to provide health services for our community. Our current RU5 Village zone permits this use. The Community Strategic Plan 2017-2023 and the Sustainable Wentworth Strategy 2016 also address this issue and are the most appropriate documents to activate actions to attract health professionals to provide these vital services.</p> <p>A similar response as per above is provided for the topic relating to Arts &amp; Culture. Council will ensure that these types of activities are permissible on land in suitable locations for the benefit of all people. However, the drive to promote and attract arts and cultural activities should come from the Community Strategic Plan 2017-2023, Economic &amp; Tourism plans/strategies and place based plans.</p> <p>The detailed vision statement contained in the LSPS has been reviewed and now encompasses with greater detail the aspects of the vision statement in the Community Strategic Plan. The detail now included is only where that vision can be achieved through recommendations of the LSPS.</p> <p>The reference to the Wentworth Post Office is taken directly from the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 Schedule 5 Environmental heritage list. For clarity purposes, the word 'former' has been inserted, as</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	Figure 1 on page 3 does not contain any reference to the creator/artist.	it is noted that the Post Office now operates from a premises in Adams Street.  This omission has been rectified.
3 DOC/20/434	The NSW Planning, Industry & Environment – Crown Lands division has requested a copy of the finalised document when adopted by Council.	Council will distribute a copy of the adopted LSPS to all relevant stakeholders and the document will be available for the public to view on the Council website.
4 DOC/20/452	The current controls of the rural zone prohibit the benefit from value added manufacturing on rural land. Retail sales, events, tours and visitor accommodation are all prohibited. There is evidence of a demand for tourism in rural locations that would benefit property owners and financially support their current agricultural activities and there would also be the benefit of employment growth.	Planning Priority 1 and 2 of the LSPS aim to ensure that value added manufacturing and tourism activities will be permissible where it is demonstrated that these uses are compatible with the agricultural use of the land and its surrounds.  A thorough review of these priorities has been undertaken to ensure the document can deliver on justification for amending the current land use provisions in the RU1 Primary Production zone in the WLEP 2011.
5 DOC/20/773	There has been no consultation for the proposed rezoning of the area north east of Gol from RU1 Primary Production to E4 Environmental Living. This will create issues for the management of the Gol Creek.  Who decided that this area had ecological, scientific and aesthetic values?	WLEP 2011 has two zones that can be applied for rural residential development purposes, these being R5 Large Lot Residential and E4 Environmental Living. Due to the strong demand for rural living development, it is necessary to find new, suitable locations to allow for the growth of the R5 and E4 zones.  The draft LSPS suggested possible locations for rezoning. However this does not determine that these sites are suitable. Detailed research and investigation of the proposed sites for rezoning will need to be undertaken. It is this process that will determine the values of the sites and when Council is required to consult with any potentially affected landowners.  Map 5 – Buronga Gol Townships has been amended by changing the notation of the two proposed development areas to ensure there is no confusion or concern for landholders in these areas.
6 DOC/20/313	The small number of actions under Planning Priority 2 Grow Tourism lack detail, definitive timelines and measurement on progress reporting.	The suggested timeframes for action are provided in the Action Plan of the LSPS. The process for monitoring and reporting on the actions of the LSPS



## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>Mungo NP is within the Balranald Shire.</p> <p>Action 1 under Planning Priority 2 should be amended to upgrade Top Hut Road to Mungo and not the sealing of Arumpo Road. This would benefit Wentworth Shire more directly particularly if there was the potential for a trip deviation to include Pooncarrie.</p> <p>An obvious omission for potential growth in tourism is that the back road to Renmark, Renmark Road and Rufus River Road, should be sealed. The sealing of these roads would achieve greater benefit to Wentworth and the Shire than sealing Arumpo Road to Mungo.</p> <p>A Strategic Tourism plan is essential for Wentworth Shire, one which embraces the tourism industry and its stakeholders to identify directions, visions and values.</p> <p>Preparation of the Wentworth Riverfront Development Strategy is long overdue as this has been a neglected asset. Consultation with local residents is required.</p>	<p>will be conducted in line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework as explained in the Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting section of the LSPs.</p> <p>The Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area covers an area of 2,400 square kilometres and includes the majority of Mungo National Park and a large area of crown land leasehold grazing country. Both the Willandra Lakes Region and Mungo National Park traverse the shire boundary between Wentworth and Balranald.</p> <p>There have been several suggestions that support the submission to upgrade or seal Top Hut Road to Mungo. The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p> <p>There have been several suggestions provided that support the submission to seal Renmark Road. The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p> <p>Planning Priority 2 will ensure that Wentworth Shire Council prepares a tourism strategy within the next 2 years as shown in the action plan.</p> <p>Planning Priority 2 will ensure that Wentworth Shire Council prepares a Wentworth Riverfront Development Strategy within the next 2 years as shown in the action plan. Extensive consultation will be undertaken during this project.</p>	<p>This very important topic and issue remains a concern for the Wentworth township and surrounding community. The LSPs is a shire wide strategic land use document that aims to ensure that we have land appropriately zoned to allow for the use of land by practitioners and professionals to provide these vital health services to our community. Our current RU5</p>
7 DOC/19/25973	There is no priority for medical and health.		

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>Village zone permits for this use. The Community Strategic Plan 2017-2023 and the Sustainable Wentworth Strategy 2016 also address this issue and are the most appropriate documents to activate actions to attract health professionals to provide these services.</p> <p>This is noted and included under the strategic directions of Planning Priority 4.</p> <p>This is now included under the strategic directions of Planning Priority 4.</p> <p>There have been previous suggestions and submissions received that support the submission to seal Renmark Road. The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p> <p>Council has no powers to change or dictate how the Darling and Murray Rivers are managed. However, it has been consistently lobbying with Ministers at state level for great efficiency and consistency in water management of the river systems, particularly those that have a direct impact on our Shire and its communities.</p> <p>The example provided is that Council has not enthusiastically supported the development of a new bridge to Junction Island, despite it's substantial importance to tourism in Wentworth. This submission would be best addressed through the recommended tourism strategy or a plan of management for the Junction Island reserve.</p> <p>It is recognised that there is significant benefit to the community as a result of strong volunteer numbers and enthusiasm. This issue would be best dealt with within a community development framework as it is not directly associated with strategic land use planning.</p>
<p>A second bridge across the Murray.</p> <p>Northern rail link.</p> <p>Western connectivity with South Australia on the northern side of the Murray. The submission also includes Rufus River Road. This project could deliver economic and cultural benefits as the roads would provide improved access to Lake Victoria, Locks 7 and 8 and areas that have been recorded to have cultural heritage and history, and the South Australian reserves of Chowilla, Dangali, Canopus, Hyperna.</p> <p>Council needs to develop a public position/plan on water for both the Darling and Murray Rivers.</p> <p>The document is lacking in vision, where the focus really should be.</p> <p>Council needs to be more pro-active in encouraging community effort and volunteerism.</p>	



## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>Council should establish dog runs in convenient places to encourage passing tourists to stop in town.</p> <p>The northern rail link has fallen off the agenda, needs to be further explored. This could link Mildura freight and passenger service through Wentworth to the Transcontinental rail line through Pooncarie.</p> <p>For safety purposes, the existing rifle range should be closed and the land added to the Wentworth Showgrounds complex.</p>	<p>This submission may be more adequately addressed as a standalone policy or an item contained within a tourism strategy.</p> <p>Future rail services has been included in Planning Priority 4 to ensure the conversation, consideration and lobbying for such is recommenced.</p> <p>This may be more adequately addressed through discussions with committee members of the Rifle Range club and the Showgrounds.</p>
8 DOC/19/26048	<p>To support tourism and existing businesses in Wentworth and Dareton, the Renmark Road should be sealed, it would also encourage more travellers to experience the gateway to the outback first hand.</p> <p>We have a very large national park on our western shire boundary in South Australia, which is a lot closer to Wentworth than Mungo.</p> <p>Tourism development need not be located in or near towns.</p> <p>River setback distance of 50 metres is not supported.</p> <p>We do not have a policy about 1 in 20, 1 in 40, 1 in 60 or 1 in 100 year floods.</p>	<p>There have been several suggestions provided that support the submission to seal Renmark Road. The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p> <p>The first strategic direction under Planning Priority 2 supports the development of tourism activities in rural areas.</p> <p>The LSPS does not prescribe or make recommendations pertaining to riverfront setback distances.</p> <p>Through the engagement of consultants, Council is currently preparing a revised Floodplain Study and Floodplain Management Study and Plan. These documents will prescribe amendments to the WLEP 2011 and Development Control Plan.</p>
9 DOC/20/93	<p>It would be beneficial to seal the road Mungo National Park due to its continual degradation by heavy trucks, making it safer and more attractive for tourists.</p> <p>We would support the creation of a community Medical Centre to provide these much needed services to the community.</p>	<p>The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p> <p>Council will continue to lobby for health services for the community. The Sustainable Wentworth Strategy is the mechanism for Council to act on facilitating the provisions of these services by enabling a future health care precinct in Adelaide and Short Streets.</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>There is a real need for a Long Day Care Centre in Wentworth to support families and encourage parents to seek employment on the NSW side of the river.</p> <p>The weather and conditions in this areas is perfect to encourage renewable energy development.</p> <p>Times, climate and people are changing and it would be beneficial if Council considered reducing the lot size controls to allow for the development of homes or being able to have small lots with houses for either hobby farming or rural living.</p> <p>Investigate the opportunity to transform swimming pools in to splash parks. This would minimise costs to Council through reduced maintenance and water usage, also reduced insurance premiums due to reduced risk factors. Might encourage all members of family to use them instead of just the children.</p> <p>An Interpretive Centre may increase tourism to our townships. The centre would showcase indigenous art, culture and foods. It could also include a general café. One option is for something like this to establish in the Artback building.</p> <p>It would seem complimentary to seal the Renmark Road to the South Australian border, liaise with SA authorities to complete the sealing to Renmark which would entice local road trains to travel that route through our townships and encourage more tourists to travel through.</p>	<p>Council will continue to encourage and support the Wentworth Pre-School committee to develop a Long Day Care facility on their site.</p> <p>Council will continue to encourage renewable energy development within our Shire.</p> <p>Planning Priority 6 provides the mechanism for Council to investigate future development opportunities for rural lifestyle development which is very popular within our Shire.</p> <p>The consideration for splash parks could be explored as part of the preparation of a Shire wide tourism strategy which is an action identified under Planning Priority 2. These facilities are becoming more popular and may encourage more families to visit our townships.</p> <p>The consideration for an Interpretive Centre could be explored as part of the preparation of a Shire wide tourism strategy which is an action identified under Planning Priority 2.</p> <p>There have been several suggestions provided that support the submission to seal Renmark Road. The strategic directions and actions under Priority 2 and Priority 4 have been amended to provide for the opportunity for unsealed roads that lead to significant locations to be upgraded and/or sealed.</p>
10 DOC/20/48	<p>Support for all of the submissions as part of DOC/20/93.</p> <p>Painting the two water towers would be a tourism drawcard as similar sites have been a success in the Victorian Silo Trail.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Silo Trail has now extended well beyond the Victorian border and is certainly a drawcard to rural and regional areas for short and long term visitors. This suggestion and indeed other suitable structures could be considered either as part of a Shire wide tourism strategy or as a standalone project funded by a State community grant scheme.</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	Public toilets. This matter has been raised several times in previous years. The condition of our public toilets are antiquated, boring, always look dirty and do not invite visitors to actually linger in the parks where they are located. If they were interesting, easily cleaned and inviting it would be another tourist attraction, but ours are letting us down dismally.	Renovations on our public conveniences has commenced through funding provided under the Stronger Communities Grant scheme. The works will be completed by October 2020.
11 DOC/19/26120	Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture support the planning priorities and the associated actions of Planning Priority 1, 2, 3 and 6 and offer their assistance in providing agricultural land use insights to the reviews and strategies proposed under these priorities.	Noted.
12 DOC/20/175 DOC/19/24005	<p>Regional Context is a good summary of Wentworth's opportunities.</p> <p>Page 12 talks about Wentworth's tourism opportunities and how 'trends are evolving toward genuine authentic experiences' however later the document states tourism should be in urban areas – which conflicts.</p> <p>Priority 1 Agriculture: Wentworth has an abundance of land with a shortage of affordable water...abundance of land is not mentioned in LSPS.</p> <p>LSPS assumes there is an adopted Agricultural Land Strategy, of which there is not.</p> <p>Strategic Directions (a), (c) and (d) Page 19 seek to prohibit all non-irrigation uses on land that is suitable for irrigation. This is preposterous as there is such a large amount of land in Wentworth, the current water price and restrictions on further horticulture development.</p> <p>Draft LSPS should be amended to state it will reserve a certain amount of land for horticulture and will not restrict other cleared land in the Shire. There is not enough water to irrigate all cleared land so why</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>In order to remove repetition of content between sections of the LSPS, the section referred to in this submission has been removed from the LSPS. Planning Priority 2 strategic directions encourage tourism development both in rural and urban areas of the Shire.</p> <p>The land area has been added to the local context section. Details on availability and affordability of water would need to be discussed and determined with relevant state agencies.</p> <p>The reference to the Agricultural Land Strategy has been removed as the document has not been endorsed or adopted by Council.</p> <p>The three strategic directions referred to in this submission do not seek to prohibit all uses other than irrigation, but to facilitate growth and/or expansion of the horticultural industry. During the past few years there has been significant investment in large scale horticultural development in the Shire. The direction seeks to ensure that horticultural land and the use is enabled to either establish or continue without being impacted by constraints of sensitive land use.</p> <p>Planning Priority 1 and 2 support the development of tourism in rural areas. Any application for tourism development adjacent to a horticultural</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>restrict it being used for alternate uses such as tourism. Page 19 Strategic Directions (a), (c) and (d).</p> <p>Page 53 (b)(iii) should be deleted.</p> <p><b>Priority 2 Tourism</b> Recommendation 2C is concerning as it restricts tourism to town areas where there is minimal 'genuine and authentic experiences' particularly as Page 21 states that the Shire can further its reputation as the gateway to the outback by encouraging modern tourism facilities in localities that take advantage of the river, rural landscape or nature based settings.</p> <p>Page 20 (e) provides some flexibility however the addition of 'subject to not compromising the primary productive use of land for agriculture' is a concern. A solar farm is permissible in the RU1 zone however it does not comply with that additional requirement.</p> <p>Tourism would be encouraged by a new bridge over the Murray River near Monak and the sealing of the Renmark Road and Arumpo Road.</p> <p>The draft LSPS should be amended to encourage tourism development that create a 'genuine and authentic experience' in the RU1 zone. The RU1 land use table should be amended to allow Caravan Parks and Visitor Accommodation in the RU1 zone. Amend 2c to exclude 'within the settlement boundaries' to 'within Wentworth Shire'.</p> <p><b>Priority 6 Sustainable Settlements</b> Shows settlement boundaries without any supporting evidence. Boundaries were to be considered by Rural Study and Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan.</p>	<p>property would be assessed on a site by site basis, including the impacts on both the horticultural use and tourism use.</p> <p>Only the reference to 'agricultural' land has been deleted from the priority referring to protecting and managing environmental assets from incompatible development. This ensures there is a mechanism for protecting land that has environmental value.</p> <p>The strategic directions under Planning Priority 1 and 2 have been amended to ensure there is no confusion or contradiction to the facilitation of tourism uses on both rural and urban land.</p> <p>The strategic directions under Planning Priority 1 and 2 have been amended to ensure there is no confusion or contradiction to the facilitation of tourism uses on both rural and urban land.</p> <p>These suggestions have now been addressed under Planning Priority 4.</p> <p>The strategic directions under Planning Priority 1 and 2 have been amended to ensure there is no confusion or contradiction to the facilitation of tourism uses on both rural and urban land.</p> <p>The settlement boundaries were determined by the draft Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan that is currently being developed and the existing development in each of the townships.</p>
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## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>An LSPS should have population projections. The LSPS should be amended to include population growth similar to the forecast for Mildura of 1.3% to 1.9% per annum and Page 56 should include population growth.</p> <p>Priority 9 River Frontages</p> <p>It is excessive to prioritise public river areas to ensure public access is guaranteed when assessing riverfront development, private land should reasonably be allowed for private purposes.</p> <p>Housing can be positioned adjacent to rivers without adverse environmental effects. The Department are pushing people away from living on the Murray River while supporting riverfront and harbour front development in Sydney.</p> <p>The LSPS should require any changes to Council LEPs setback requirements to have local community support and the 'Murray River Riparian Planning Controls' document should not be endorsed by Department or Minister before it has been fully disclosed and agreed with impacted river communities.</p> <p>Rural Living Lots</p> <p>The LSPS should re-instate all historic dwelling rights deleted by the 2011 LEP.</p> <p>Incorrect Mapping</p> <p>The Biodiversity and Wetlands maps in the WLEP 2011 should be withdrawn until they are based on accurate ground trothed data.</p>	<p>Additions of population details have been added to the LSPS.</p> <p>The strategic direction referred to is aiming to prioritise development on land that is accessible to the public for public and/or recreational use, it does not refer or prohibit development on land that is privately owned.</p> <p>Development is permissible on riverfront land subject to setback requirements and not having a detrimental impact on the waterway.</p> <p>The Department of Planning is currently working on a strategy for the full length of the Murray River with the aim to ensure that there is greater consistency of the management of development on riverfront land along the river. The Strategy is applied along the full length of the Murray River but will be also be area specific as the natural riverine land varies greatly.</p> <p>The WLEP 2011 included a provision for the permissibility of historic dwelling entitlements for a period of seven years. This provision has expired. This issue will be addressed in the Rural Lands Strategy as required by the Land &amp; Environment Court Consent Orders.</p> <p>This issue is to be addressed through the Rural Lands Strategy as required by the Land &amp; Environment Court Consent Orders. It is also anticipated that obvious errors in the biodiversity and wetlands mapping will be corrected through a review of the WLEP 2011.</p> <p>The Land &amp; Environment Consent Orders requires Council to address details of the orders through the Rural Land Use Strategy. This project is still under review by Council and the WRPP. The Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan is currently being prepared, therefore it is not necessary to specifically refer to the plan in the LSPS. Any strengths and weaknesses of the WLEP will be reviewed and addressed as part of the review of the LEP.</p>
13 DOC/20/236	<p>The draft LSPS has failed to consider planning history/context by not addressing Land and Environment Consent Orders, the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan and the strengths and weakness of the current WLEP 2011.</p>	



## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	<p>The draft needs to be rewritten to delete references to the un-adopted Agricultural Land Strategy and should consider the above 3 topics.</p> <p>After the draft LSPS has been re-written a public consultation meeting should be held to discuss its content.</p> <p>The draft LSPS is not based upon proper research and evidence.</p>	<p>Reference to the Agricultural Land Strategy has been removed as it is not an endorsed or adopted document.</p> <p>A thorough review of the document in terms of content, format and submissions received has been undertaken. It is anticipated that while the document has changed significantly in format, the content remains consistent with the document that was exhibited. Therefore, it is not necessary to re-exhibit or to conduct a public meeting.</p> <p>The draft LSPS was prepared by the Department of Planning and Council in a collaborative effort to identify Shire wide opportunities and constraints both now and in the future. Further detailed research and evidence will be undertaken through the preparation of area or site specific strategies and plans.</p>
14 DOC/20/229	<p>The draft LSPS identifies that Northbank is a site for further investigation however, Council endorsed the proposal two years ago.</p> <p>The draft LSPS should be amended by including the following: Council has recommended the Northbank Planning Proposal for an integrated tourism development east of Gol Gol to the Department of Planning and it is still under assessment and/or review by the Department of Planning. Council continues to support the development of Northbank as an integrated tourism development and seeks to work with the Department of Planning to satisfy any concerns and put in place appropriate development controls.</p> <p>If Northbank is not approved by the Department of Planning the site should be considered for large lot residential development.</p>	<p>As the submission states, Council has supported this planning proposal and it remains with the Department of Planning for final determination.</p> <p>Given the submission and the fact that no other specific sites or areas have been included in this section, it is recommended to remove this section in its entirety.</p>
15 DPC/20/242	<p>The draft LSPS states that new rural residential should not encroach on emerging irrigated horticultural land outside of Pomona and Ellerslie. Grand Junction owns all the land adjacent to Pomona, so not sure what land this is referring to. It is suggested it be deleted.</p>	<p>Subject to a supply and demand analysis, this submission could be considered.</p> <p>The purpose of this statement is to ensure that new rural residential development does not encroach on land that is being developed for new irrigation purposes. The submitter has advised that their land does not contain new irrigation development, therefore the statement does not apply to their land.</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

	Map 2 marks an area west of Pomona as new irrigation, this area contains mainly native vegetation, it is suggested the area showing new irrigation is deleted.	Map 2 shows an area of new irrigation to the west of Pomona. The map refers to a large irrigation development that has been established to the north west of Pomona on land owned by others. As it is only a general reference to land that has been significantly developed for irrigation, it is not necessary to delete the area despite being slightly, inaccurately positioned.
16 DOC/20/243	<p>Wentworth has a lot of potential but needs investment that will not be available without encouragement. The tourism zone would be appropriate to encourage sustainable growth that benefits existing tourism and businesses.</p> <p>The LSPS should be amended to incorporate specific tourism zones at Gol Gol, Buronga and Wentworth and to make caravan parks and tourist visitor accommodation permitted with consent in the RU1 zone.</p>	<p>It is agreed that there is potential for growth, development and tourism in the Shire. However, should the tourism zone be applied, it would restrict relevant development to the areas where that zone is applied.</p> <p>The RU5 Village zone allows tourism uses and development, this zone is applied to Gol Gol, Buronga, Wentworth, Dareton and Poongarie townships. The aim of this strategy, particularly under Planning Priority 1 and 2, is to ensure that the tourism uses will be enabled in the RU1 Primary Production zone.</p>
17 DOC/19/24305	<p>River frontage should be for public use and not given or sold to individuals/groups.</p> <p>The Riverfront between the river and Carramar Drive sporting complex needs to be cleaned and developed as a community park.</p> <p>There is limited access to the river in the Buronga/Gol Gol area.</p> <p>Future sporting grounds need to go out to Alcheringa Drive where there is enough room and away from the highway. Gol Gol tennis courts need to be relocated away from the river and riverfront land returned to the general public.</p>	<p>All existing publicly accessible riverfront land will be retained to ensure that all people can enjoy riverfront and water pursuits.</p> <p>The area referred to is the southern portion of land known as Alcheringa Oval Reserve on the southern side of the levee. While any future redevelopment of this site may be addressed in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan, it should be noted that the area referred to is managed and maintained by Wentworth Shire Council.</p> <p>Due to extensive private ownership, there is limited public access to the Murray River. As such, Council has plans to improve the public recreational areas located on the riverfront, having completed a major redevelopment of James King Park, to improve the amenity and services provided to the public.</p> <p>It is imperative that public recreation land is suitably located where there is ease of access for all users. For example all users should be able to access these sites either by vehicle, bicycle and on foot. Consideration of this submission will be undertaken as part of the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan project.</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

18 DOC/19/23890	<p>Department of Planning, Industry &amp; Environment - Biodiversity &amp; Conservation Division, Climate Resilience &amp; Net Zero Emissions Branch</p> <p><u>Biodiversity</u> The LSPS supports Council to undertake its duty under the EP&amp;A Act and the BC Act in assessing development applications and their implications on threatened species and their habitats and reviewing land use permissibility and zoning to maintain biodiversity in the Shire.</p> <p>The LSPS enables Council to establish regulations in the DCP to give Council the ability to maintain and improve habitat and reduce the likelihood of offences against the BC Act occurring.</p> <p>The LSPS provides the mechanism to achieve goals of the Far West Regional Plan by mapping potentially high value environmental areas, support the recognition of cultural and heritage and to recognise offset areas that protect their values.</p> <p><u>Heritage</u> The LSPS provides an opportunity for Council to support the economic self-determination of Aboriginal people and collaborate with Aboriginal parties which are goals of the FWRP.</p> <p>The LSPS provides the opportunity for Council to improve the preservation and promotion of heritage in the Shire, giving effect to directions in the FWRP.</p> <p><u>Natural hazards – Flooding</u> Several issues regarding flooding have been addressed in the LSPS. It is recommended that when working through the actions under Planning Priority 6 Sustainable Settlements flooding and its impacts are given full consideration in the development of strategies and plans.</p>	In general, the DPIE – Biodiversity & Conservation division and the Climate Resilience & Net Zero Emissions branch support the strategic directions that specifically relate to biodiversity, cultural heritage and flood hazards.
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## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

19 DOC/19/23342	<p>It is suggested to add that golf courses, caravan parks, free camping, fishing clubs all contribute to the tourism dollar. DPI Water Barwon Darling Watercourse Water Resource Plan Status and issues paper estimates approximately \$2m across the Barwon-Darling River.</p> <p>Overlay a rail map under transport priority or add an additional map showing the proximity of the Transcontinental rail link to provide a more holistic, broad ranging overview of transport opportunities in the future.</p> <p>Add km distances in Figure 3 to show distance between capital cities and Shire.</p>	<p>The specifics of the contribution of various services and activities to the Wentworth Shire tourism dollar will be addressed in the tourism strategy as recommended under Planning Priority 2. This would allow for greater detail and assessment on the services/activities that we currently supply and provide evidence of those which are achievable and most beneficial to our Shire.</p> <p>To promote any opportunity for rail services to be developed in the future this has been included under Planning Priority 4.</p> <p>The map has been amended to show the distance in kilometres.</p>	
20 DOC/19/22972	<p>Roads &amp; Maritime Services</p> <p>The directions of Priority 4 are supported but should include an additional direction to identify and preserve existing and future corridors for local arterial roads and active travel links for efficient and convenient flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic as alternatives to the classified road network</p> <p>Department of Planning, Industry &amp; Environment – Crown Lands Division</p>	<p>An additional direction has been included under Planning Priority 4 as recommended by RMS (now Transport NSW).</p>	
21 DOC/19/22966 DOC/20/434	<p>It is noted that the economic growth of Wentworth Shire will likely result in a number of industries being developed and constructed in line with the planning priorities of the LSPS. Council will need to confirm land tenure prior to initiating development actions. Where the proposal is likely to be located on Crown land or a Western Land Lease, Council need to make contact with the department.</p> <p>Activities on Crown land may need to be determined by the Department prior to commencing where these are not covered by Part 4 of the EP&amp;A Act to ensure that protection of environmental values to actively control negative consequences.</p>	<p>This advice is noted and will be acted upon when necessary.</p> <p>This advice is noted and will be acted upon when necessary.</p>	

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

22 DOC/19/22962	<p>Western Land Leases box on Page 9 needs to be updated with correct legislation, being Crown Land Management Act 2016.</p> <p>Murray Darling Basin Authority</p> <p>Planning Priority 2 – Grow Tourism Strategic direction e) could be improved by stating: e) Support tourism developments along the river that do not negatively impact on the health, amenity, flow, use and control of water, in the Darling and Murray Rivers.</p> <p>Planning Priority 9 – Sustainable river systems A new strategic direction should be included under this planning priority along the lines of: To conserve and enhance the riverine environment of the River Murray for the benefit of all users, consistent with the aims of the Murray Regional Environmental Plan No 2 – Riverine Land.</p> <p>It is recommended that a minor amendment is made to Strategic Direction g) by deleting <i>cause environmental harm</i> and inserting adversely affect the riverine environment of the River Murray.</p> <p>It is suggested that Direction h) is separated in to two direction for improved clarity: - Avoid development on steep slopes and areas containing acid sulfate soil occurrence to reduce impact on riverine environment - Avoid development on steep slopes and any development along the riverfront should protect and maintain the stability of the river bed and banks.</p> <p>Planning Priority 11 Protect areas of environmental value Add development to the list of activities that may cause negative consequences. Page 53.</p>	<p>This correction has been completed.</p> <p>The recommendation to this strategic direction has been included in the document.</p> <p>A new strategic direction has been included in the document as recommended.</p> <p>The recommendation to this strategic direction has been included in the document.</p> <p>This strategic direction has been separated as recommended.</p> <p>The word 'development' has been added as recommended.</p>
23 DOC/19/22503	<p>Environment Protection Authority No comment.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

## LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT SUBMISSIONS TABLE

24 DOC/20/1789	<p>Department of Premier &amp; Cabinet – Heritage</p> <p>Heritage NSW supports many of the initiatives in the LSPS.</p> <p>To assist with the LSPS alignment with the FWRP it is suggested Council:</p> <p>Consider how Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscapes can be better protected in LEPs.</p> <p>Consider linkages between culture, heritage and tourism and the opportunities culture and heritage bring for economic growth.</p> <p>Further articulate heritage as it relates to the character of an area, potentially identifying clusters of places and items which contribute to the significant character of a place.</p> <p>Consider the linkages between actions and priorities. For example, the ways in which heritage and culture contribute to attractive and liveable spaces, local employment and community wellbeing.</p> <p>Mildura Rural City Council</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Strategic direction c. under Planning Priority 8 has been modified to include protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage.</p> <p>A link is made under Planning Priority 2 i. which refers to improving and maintaining access to allow ease of connectivity to places of heritage significance to strengthen tourism.</p> <p>It is anticipated that this work will be considered during the review of the Wentworth Heritage Study and/or the development of a tourism strategy.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the range of work identified in this submission would be undertaken by place based strategies, an economic development strategy and the community strategic plan and subsequent actions.</p>	<p>This submission will be further investigated, particularly in consultation with WaterNSW, to determine how Council can assist with maintaining water quality and the future water security.</p> <p>This suggestion has been included in the document.</p> <p>Specific reference to railway infrastructure has now been included under Planning Priority 4. The source of Figure 14 is directly from the NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2023. Figure 16 shows the link across to Mildura via the highway by existing road only.</p>
25 DOC/20/2483	<p>There is a need to formally recognise the issue around water quality and supply.</p> <p>A reference to Lake Mungo is suggested under Regional context.</p> <p>There has been no mention of existing or future rail freight infrastructure. No indication shown in Figures 14 and 16.</p>		

Wentworth Shire Council

# Local Strategic Planning Statement

A VISION TO 2040 AND BEYOND



## ***Foreword***

Wentworth Shire Council has had the privilege of working with the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment Chief Planner's office and Western Region staff to prepare this Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS).

The purpose of the LSPS is to develop a vision for land use in the Shire for the next 20 years by recognising and understanding the current land use trends and anticipate those that may likely emerge.

Our LSPS identifies three trends that have the ability to play a significant role in our future population and economic growth. These trends include changes to our agricultural industry, the demand and opportunities for new tourism enterprises and new residential development.

Wentworth Shire Council is committed to achieving the goals of the Community Strategic Plan. We believe the LSPS will provide the mechanism to support and facilitate our economic growth, social cohesion and environmental sustainability for the next twenty years and beyond.

**Cr Melisa Hederics**

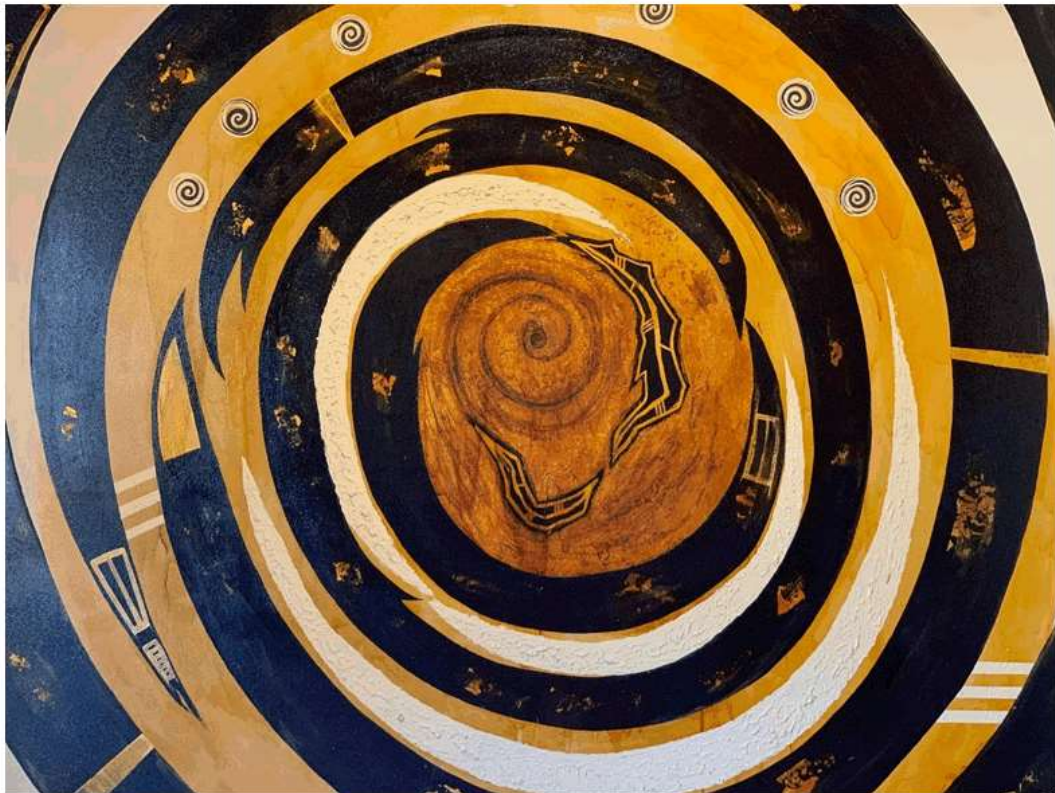
**MAYOR WENTWORTH SHIRE**

Version	Date	Approved by
Draft v1	13 November 2019	Michele Bos
Draft v2	6 March 2020	Michele Bos



## ***Acknowledgement of Country***

Wentworth Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



*Figure 1 - "Mungo - meeting place" by Craig Charles, Mutthi Mutthi*

This painting represents spirit and place – the coming together of three tribes, the Mutthi Mutthi, Paakantji, and Ngilyampaa.

The centre of the spiral represents the middle of the Lake, the Walls of China and sacred sites. The many captions of gold leaf on the black swirls signify special 'sites' – uncovered and swept away by the winds. The white swirls signify ceremonial grounds and the various lines and squares represent man-made sites which have come and gone. The gold represents the richness of the land and strength of its people.<sup>1</sup>

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## About this statement

This Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) sets the land use framework for Wentworth Shire's economic, social and environmental land use needs over the next 20 years. It addresses the planning and development issues of strategic significance for the Shire through planning priorities and actions, spatial land use direction and guidance.

The LSPS gives effect to the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* implementing the directions and actions at a local level. It is also informed by other State-wide and regional policies including *Future Transport Plan 2056* and the *NSW State Infrastructure Strategy 2018 – 2038*. It also adopts other relevant planning or related policies and strategies mentioned throughout this document.

The LSPS works concurrently with Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP) to deliver the community's vision for the Shire. The planning priorities and actions identified in the LSPS provide the rationale for decisions about the use of land to achieve the community's broader goals and drive updates to the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP).

This LSPS has been prepared in accordance with Section 3.9 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

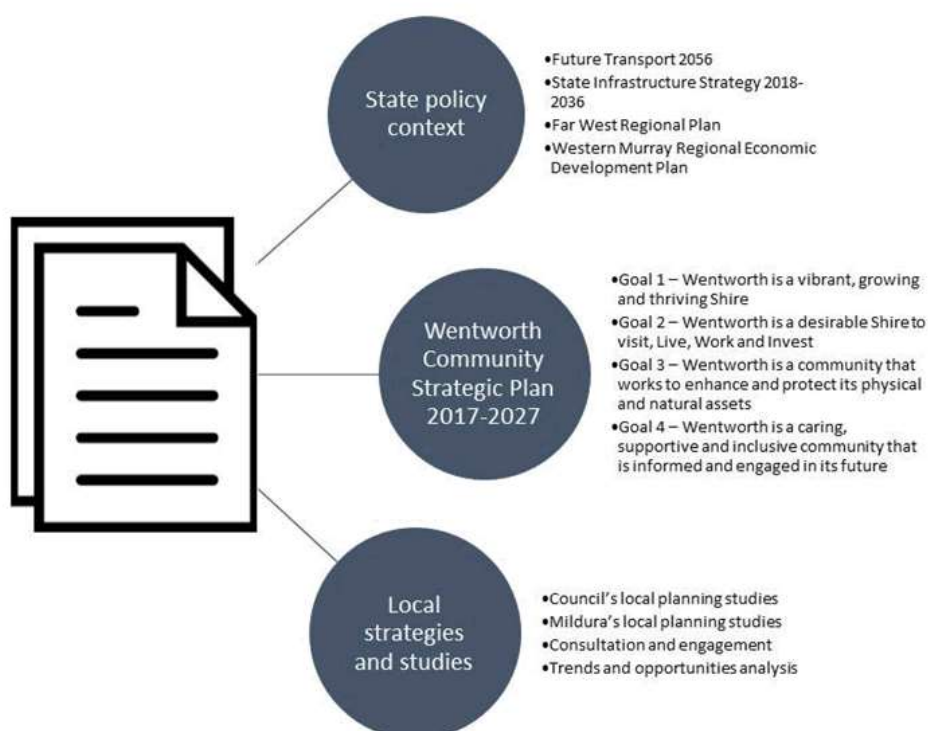
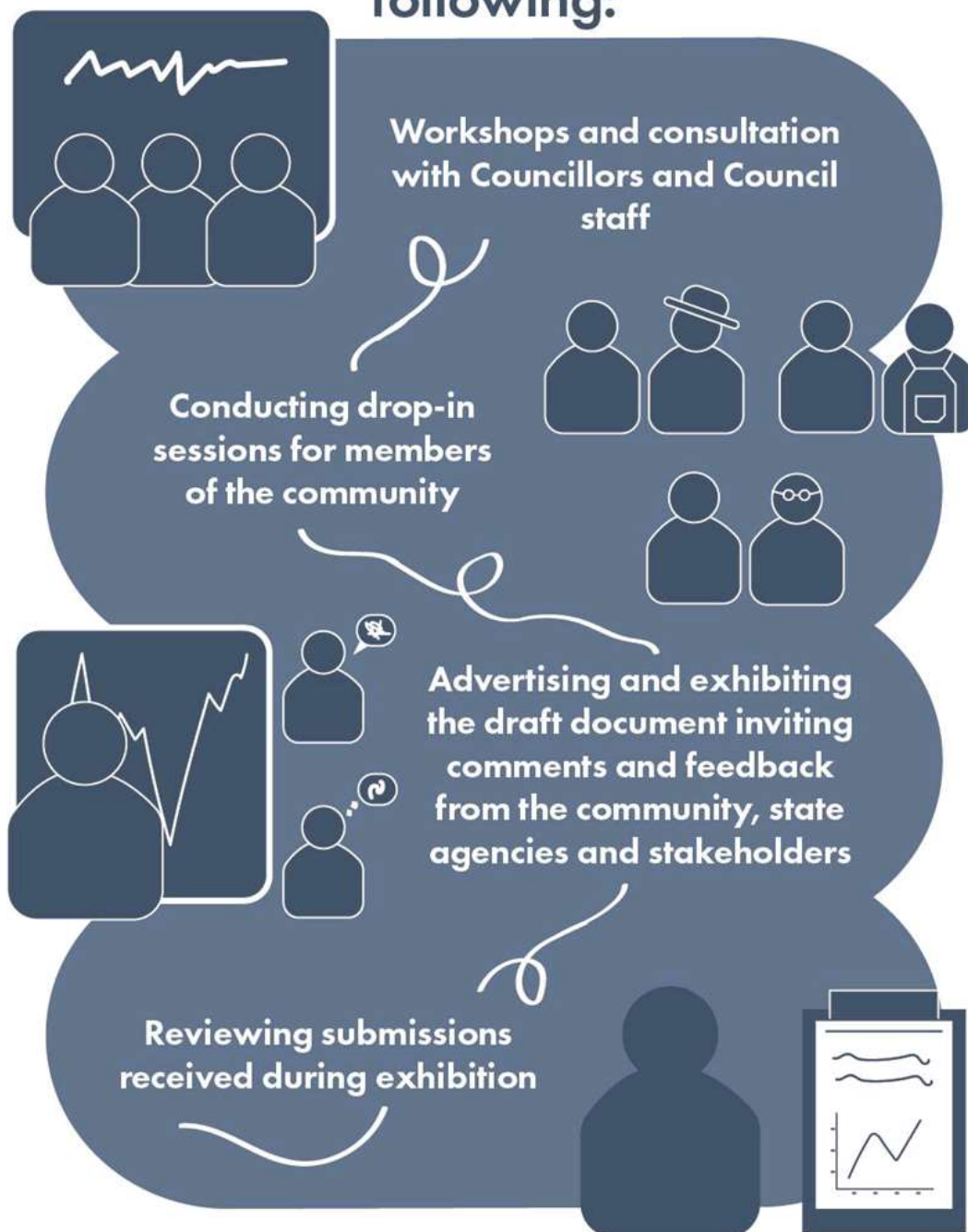


Figure 2: Summary of the plans, policies and strategies that inform the Local Strategic Planning Statement



## Consultation

This LSPS has been prepared following:



## Strategic context

### Regional context

The Far West Region of NSW covers a vast area of landscapes ranging from the 'outback' semi-arid desert areas to rich farmlands, rangelands and wetlands in the west of NSW. It is one of the most environmentally diverse regions in NSW, home to bushlands, nationally and internationally recognised wetlands<sup>i</sup> including the Willandra Lakes Work Heritage Area and Mungo National Park.

The nationally significant Murray and Darling rivers and the Menindee Lakes systems provide water for agricultural-based communities across the region. This includes intensive and irrigated horticulture, kangaroo and goat production, cropping and pastoral farming. Agriculture, mining, manufacturing and tourism make up the key regional economic specialisations in the Western Murray functional economic area<sup>ii</sup>.

Wentworth Shire is located across the Murray River from the growing regional city of Mildura. Wentworth has strong links to the capital cities of Melbourne and Adelaide via the national road transport network and Mildura Airport. Wentworth is positioned to capitalise on its strategic location and connectivity (Figure 3).

This strategic connectivity means that Wentworth can take advantage of and leverage its natural assets, economic strengths and specialisations identified in the *Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022*.

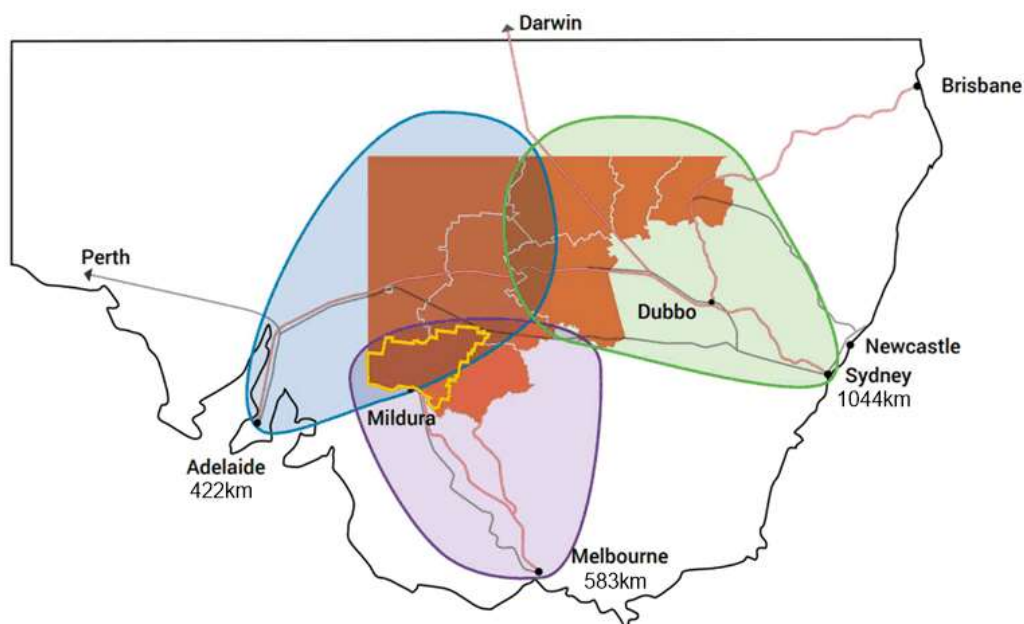


Figure 3: Wentworth Shire (yellow outline) in the Far West Region of NSW, proximity to Mildura and relationship to Adelaide and Melbourne.



Figure 4: Satellite image to illustrate terrain of area identified in Figure 3.



## Local context

Wentworth Shire encompasses an area of approximately 26,000 square kilometres and is the meeting place of Australia's largest and most iconic river systems – the Darling and the Murray. The Darling and Murray rivers intersect the arid and semi-arid landscape, running north to south and east to west, respectively.

These two river systems are the single most influential feature driving land use and activity in Wentworth Shire and shape the economy, the livelihood, identity and history of the community and the environment.



Figure 5: Murray River/Darling River Junction Wentworth



Figure 6: Perry Sands Hills Wentworth

### Western Land Leases

Most of the fragile semi-arid landscape of the Shire is managed under long-term leaseholds by the Crown Lands Commissioner under the Crown Land Management Act 2016, while privately-owned freehold properties are generally located in settlements and along the Murray and Darling rivers.

## ECONOMIC

### AGRICULTURE

Our communities rely heavily on our rivers that are a critical input into the local agricultural industry, which is the backbone of the local economy. Secure water supply and access to domestic and international markets via key freight routes, makes Wentworth Shire an attractive location for irrigated horticulture.



### TOURISM

There are opportunities for growth in this industry leveraged on both built and natural assets. River-based recreation, our reputation as the 'gateway to the outback', agritourism, cultural and built heritage are all supported by co-location with to key transport routes and air travel connections to major cities.



### MINING & RENEWABLE RESOURCES

The Shire is host to one of three major mineral sands resources in NSW. There is also potential to generate renewable solar and wind energy in areas close to existing electricity transmission infrastructure. These industries offer positive flow-on effects for many other industries such as construction, transport and professional services.



## SOCIAL

### POPULATION

Wentworth Shire has an estimated 7,042 people. The total number of people that were usually resident in Wentworth Shire on Census night in 2016 was 6,798 which is an increase of 2.8% from 6,610 people that were resident on Census night in 2011<sup>iii</sup>. This equates to an annual growth rate of 0.56%. Most reside in the Shire's four townships (Map 2 - Primary Settlement Area)<sup>iv</sup>.



### SETTLEMENT

Wentworth Shire experiences the benefits and challenges associated with proximity to the growing regional city of Mildura. New urban development has spilled over the Murray River leading to an increase in housing demand in Buronga and Gol Gol which is expected to continue. The township of Wentworth is popular for retirees as they are attracted to the rural qualities and amenities of the Shire and the services of nearby Mildura.



## ENVIRONMENTAL

### WATER

Wentworth Shire forms part of the Murray Darling Basin, the largest and most complex river system in Australia and is home to a unique and highly valued environment, including the confluence of the iconic Darling and Murray rivers and the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area.

### LAND AND HERITAGE

The internationally significant Willandra Lakes area contain RAMSAR wetlands and Mungo National Park which is home to Mungo Man and Mungo Lady – the earliest evidence of humans outside of Africa and the oldest known cremation in the world. These incredible sites are part of a rich indigenous history with records of human occupation dating back over 40,000 years.





## ***Strategic vision, intent and priorities***

Over the next 20 years Wentworth Shire will leverage the area's rural, industrial and residential strengths to generate economic and social growth opportunities.

Horticulture/agriculture, industry and local businesses complimented by opportunities for tourism and residential investment will drive prosperity in the Wentworth Shire as the area capitalises on its close proximity to the Murray and Darling river systems and its favourable climate conditions.

Local, regional, state and national road transport and freight networks provide access to national and international locations and markets which are fundamental for the success of the economic growth of Wentworth Shire. We will continue to work with all spheres of government to promote and enable the delivery of appropriate infrastructure to support the region.

Wentworth Shire will be open for business and Council will actively support the development of tourism, business and industrial sectors. Council will investigate and review land use pressures to ensure the shire has a complimentary balance of residential and commercial development opportunities to encourage population growth.

Wentworth Shire Council will continue to recognise the importance of the rural city of Mildura and our community's ability to access higher level services, such as higher education, health services and employment. Recognising and enhancing this connection will be a key driver to the success of Wentworth Shire.

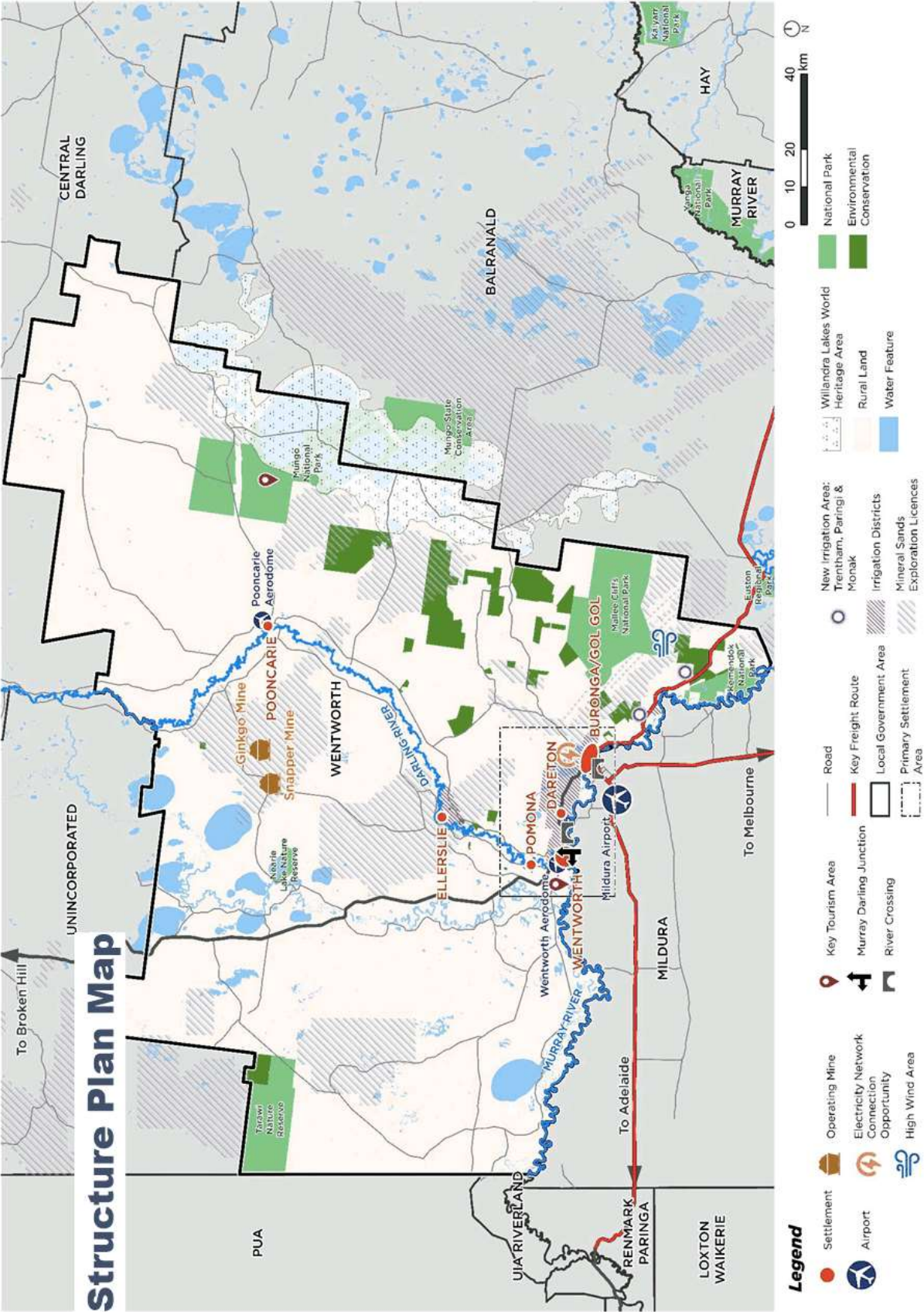
Our towns and villages will capitalise on growth opportunities so that they continue to service our local communities. Our towns will offer a variety of housing choice to support a growing population and as our towns continue to support new growth, our economic base will diversify. Our townships will be vibrant active places to visit and live, providing a variety of basic economic and community services.

Our natural environment will be fully understood and appreciated. Our existing environmental assets, national parks, river and water bodies will be leveraged off. Significant environmental areas adjoining our development areas will be identified, understood and protected. Our new development areas will respect environmental values and will also leverage off these features to make Wentworth Shire a great place to live and visit.

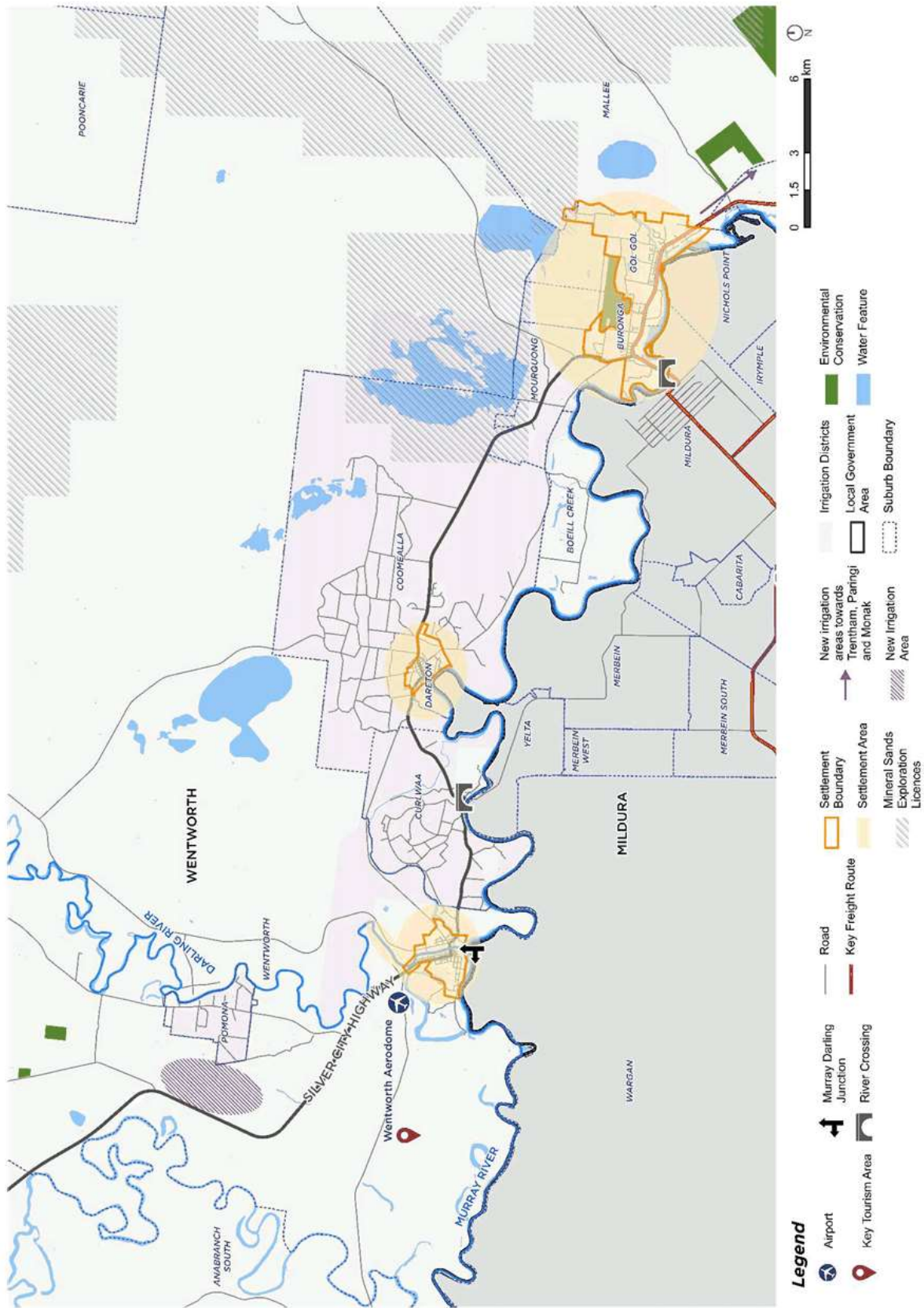
Wentworth Shire Council will also seek to establish a positive working partnership and relationship with the local Indigenous Barkindji people as the custodians of the land to ensure any future land use strategies, proposals or developments will co-exist with native title where possible. Council will work collaboratively with the Barkindji people to protect and preserve sites of heritage and cultural significance.

Council believes and will continue to promote that what we have to offer here in Wentworth is ***'Worth the Drive'***.









Map 2 - Primary Settlement Area



## ***A productive Shire***



Figure 8: Viticulture production throughout the LGA

## Planning Priority 1 – Promote agriculture and value-added manufacturing

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 2:** *Protect productive agricultural land and plan for greater land use compatibility of the Far West Regional Plan*

Agriculture is the main land use in Wentworth Shire (dryland cropping, pastoral farming and irrigated horticulture) and the top driver of the local and regional economy in terms of output and employment. Irrigated horticulture is the backbone of the agricultural industry in Wentworth Shire and accounts for over 80% of the gross value of this sector. It has strong connections to manufacturing, transport and construction sectors.

Irrigated horticulture is concentrated near established water infrastructure in irrigation districts of Pomona, Curlwaa, Coomealla, Buronga, Gol Gol and Ellerslie or on land adjacent to water sources of the Darling and Murray Rivers and the road transport network. Horticulture and the irrigated landscape are important elements of the identity and lifestyle of Wentworth Shire's townships and communities.

Value-added manufacturing businesses such as food and beverage manufacturing and processing facilities have set up near farms on the Sturt and Silver City Highways to connect producers to export markets via the national road transport network to Adelaide and Melbourne.

Growth in the local irrigated horticulture and related manufacturing sectors is expected in response to growing demand from Asian economies for more and high-value agricultural food produce. This has been observed along the NSW and Victorian sides of the Murray River as investors seek to establish new irrigated horticultural plantings close to water sources and new manufacturing plants near transport routes.

Three key trends are emerging in the agriculture industry. New irrigated horticulture plantings are growing in prevalence; there is a continued shift toward larger landholdings; and an increase in decoupling of water entitlements to development outside traditional irrigation districts.

The growth and scale of new irrigation development has triggered the necessity for affordable accommodation for seasonal workers in rural areas. Meanwhile, there is a growing demand for permissibility of tourism uses in the rural zone to capitalise on our natural assets and environment in rural locations.

This planning priority sets in place Council's land use planning response that aims to protect and grow new agriculture, irrigated horticulture and related value-added manufacturing in Wentworth Shire in line with the *NSW Right to Farm policy*, strategic land use directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036*, the *Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2022*.

### ***The Sunraysia District***

Sunraysia is one of the most productive horticultural areas in Australia and is known for sunshine, high-quality and high-value food and beverage products, including wine, grapes, citrus, vegetables and nuts. The district is an informal region spanning both sides of the Murray River and incorporates parts of Wentworth and Balranald Shires (NSW) and the Rural City of Mildura (VIC).





## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



- A. Protect irrigated horticultural land uses in pumped irrigation districts and general irrigation lands outside of pumped irrigation districts by:
- avoiding the fragmentation of land through subdivision to ensure large areas of land are available for new, expanded or consolidated irrigated horticulture.
  - avoiding the establishment of sensitive land uses that are incompatible with normal farming operations.



- B. Manage change in pumped irrigation districts of Pomona and Curlwaa by balancing the need to support the productive and sustainable function of existing water infrastructure with pressure for new rural and hobby farm living by:
- protecting established irrigated horticultural land uses.
  - enabling rural living opportunities such as hobby farming and environmental living in areas experiencing change.
  - manage the interface between agricultural, residential development and environmentally sensitive land, particularly river-front land through local development controls.



- C. Prioritise new irrigated horticulture on suitable land by:
- enabling the subdivision of land to enable new irrigated horticultural development.
  - preventing the development of incompatible land uses on or near these areas.



- D. Support other agricultural land uses, including dryland cropping and pastoral farming by:
- minimising subdivision to new or smaller lots unless in areas identified suitable for irrigated horticulture (refer c above).
  - preventing the establishment of dwellings not associated or required for the agricultural use of the land.
  - supporting the transition from one type of agricultural land use to another subject to any relevant land management considerations that may apply in lease agreements issued under the Western Lands Act 1901.

E. Facilitate the development of new, innovative and compatible non-agricultural land uses and development, particularly tourism on or near productive agricultural land by reviewing and amending the rural zone land use table.

F. Prioritise new value-added manufacturing (food processing, packaging and manufacturing) including on site sales (farm gate retail) and related transport facilities on land with safe access to the key regional freight route consisting of the Sturt and Silver City Highways.

### Actions

1. Review and update the *Wentworth LEP 2011* to give effect to the strategic directions in this Planning Priority – *Short term*
2. Develop supplementary guidance (such as a DCP) that provides local guidance on suitable non-agricultural land use development on rural land – *Medium term*



Figure 9: Pomona irrigation pipes

## Planning Priority 2 – Grow tourism

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 5:** *Promote tourism opportunities*

**Direction 10:** *Enhance the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Tourism is a key driver of growth in Wentworth Shire and opportunities presented by sustainable, cultural and experiential tourism can enhance and diversify the economy.

Tourism offerings include the two major river systems, national parks, food and agritourism, and pioneering and aboriginal cultural heritage.

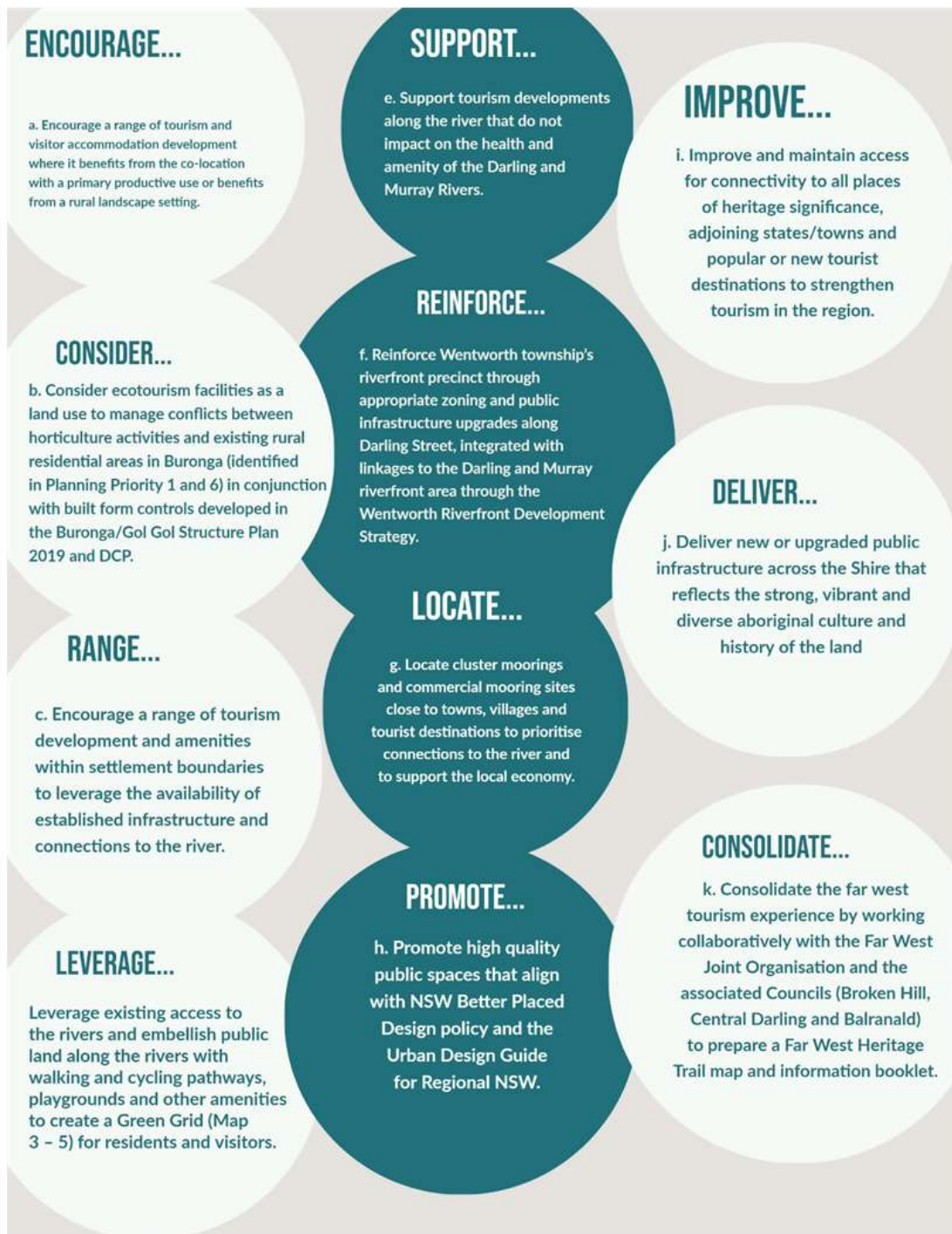
River-based tourism is increasingly popular with much of the region's tourism driven by recreational and whole of river experiences along the Murray. Visitors to Wentworth Shire have the unique ability to access attractions directly from the water including Coomealla Golf Club, Wentworth township, the Gol Gol Hotel and Trentham Estate Winery.

Improving access and connections (Planning Priority 4) to the Murray and Darling rivers will play an important role in continuing to attract visitors to Wentworth as well as enhancing the whole of river experience. Healthy and functioning waterways must be a priority to ensure the continued growth of tourism in the Shire and region (Planning Priority 9).

Wentworth Shire can leverage its proximity to Mildura but differentiate itself by showcasing the local environmental, pioneering and indigenous heritage features. The historic township of Wentworth will build on its existing local character and sense of place and the Shire can further its reputation as the 'Gateway to the Outback' by encouraging modern tourism facilities to locate on sites that take advantage of the river, rural landscape or nature-based settings.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework to support and grow tourism in the Wentworth Shire and aligns with the projects outlined in the *Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan*, strategic land use directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* and the *Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy*. It also reflects the community's aspirations in the CSP to increase investment in tourism, expand and promote events, and develop a local tourism strategy.





### Actions

1. Advocate for funding to upgrade unsealed roads to improve access and connectivity to places of significance, adjoining states and townships and tourist destinations – *Immediate and ongoing*
2. Review and update the *Wentworth LEP 2011* and give effect to the strategic directions in this Planning Priority – *Short term*
3. Prepare a local tourism strategy and give effect to the strategic directions within this Planning Priority – *Short term*
4. Prepare the Wentworth Riverfront Development Strategy and give effect to the strategic directions within this Planning Priority – *Short term*



## Planning Priority 3 – Manage resources and renewable energy

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 3:** *Sustainably manage mineral resources*

**Direction 4:** *Diversify energy supply through renewable energy generation*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Wentworth Shire is endowed with world class mineral-rich sand deposits and land suitable for solar and wind energy productions. These resources are significantly underutilised and have the potential to grow the mining and construction industries in the local government area.

### Mining

The Murray Basin has the potential to become one of the world's major new mineral sands provinces, with much of the identified deposits located within Wentworth Shire (Figure 10). Heavy minerals sand resources such as ilmenite, leucoxene and zircon are already being extracted from existing mines, with current sector output of \$147 million in the LGA. These resources are transported by road train to Broken Hill for processing before transport via rail to Adelaide Port.

Recent developments in mineral separation technology could improve the potential viability of deposits within Wentworth Shire. Investment in transport infrastructure to link mineral deposits and intermodal facilities that move products to export destinations is required to enable further development of these resources (*Planning Priority 4*).

It is expected that the mining sector will continue to provide an important contribution to the local economy into the future as a sustainable mining sector generates direct employment and flow-on benefits to the community.

### Renewables

NSW is transitioning towards renewable energy production and Wentworth Shire is well placed to take advantage of its solar and wind endowments as well as its strategic location on the transmission network.

Wentworth Shire has significant levels of solar exposure (Figure 11), high wind speeds (Figure 12) and TransGrid has identified Buronga as a potential additional connection point as part of the interconnector proposal between South Australia and NSW (Map 1 - Structure Plan Map). The new interconnector, in conjunction with the new energy storage generated from Snowy 2.0 pumped hydro scheme, will provide security of energy supply and facilitate large-scale solar and wind projects in the Shire.

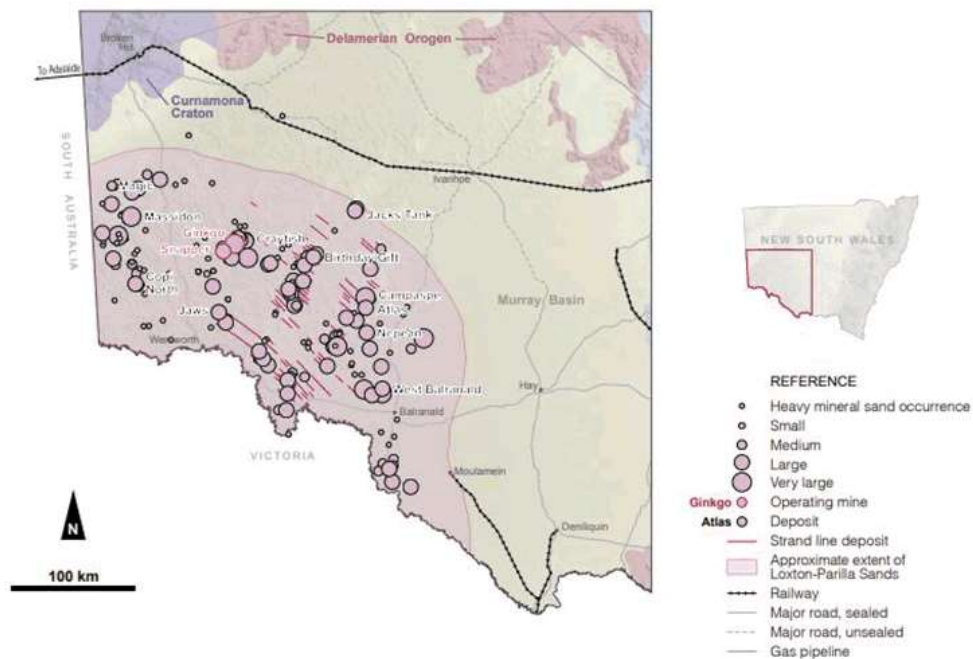


Figure 10 - Mineral Sands Occurrence in the Far West (Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Resources and Geoscience)

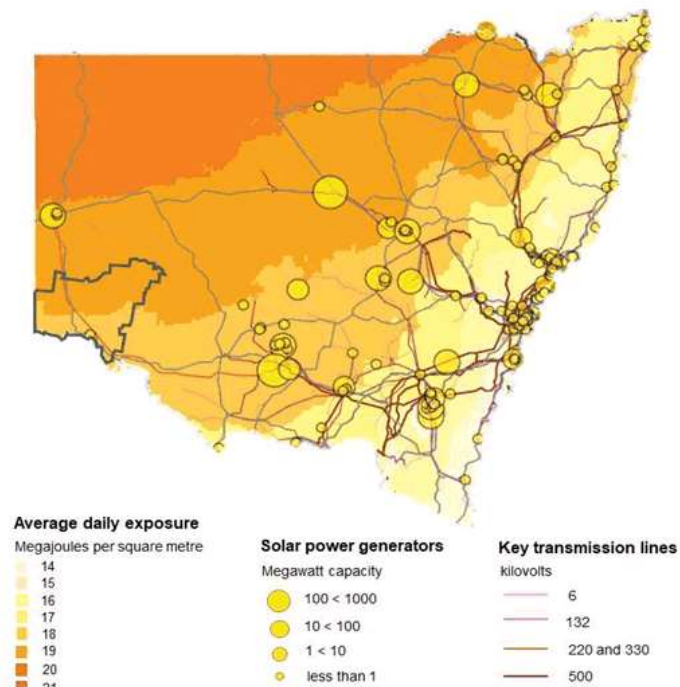


Figure 11 - Solar energy resources (Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Resources and Geoscience)

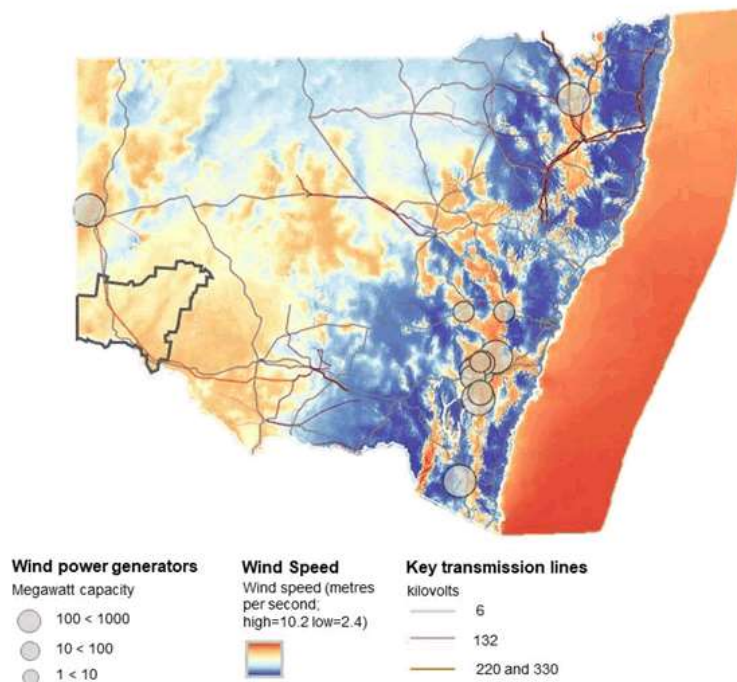


Figure 12 - Wind energy resources (Source: Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Resources and Geoscience).

The growth in this industry will also require an adequate supply of affordable accommodation for workers and necessity managing the cumulative impacts of demand for temporary workers accommodation associated with future mining and renewable projects in Wentworth and adjoining council areas.

The impact of future mining and renewable energy projects must be considered and balanced against Wentworth's agricultural industry. As outlined in Planning Priority 1, agriculture output in Wentworth Shire is primarily driven by irrigated horticultural lands and these areas must be protected. Impacts on other agricultural land and agri-processing developments in the Shire must also be considered.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework to grow the mining and construction industries to capitalise on Wentworth's mineral and solar endowments and gives effect to the directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* and the *Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022*. It also reflects the actions and land use directions outlined in the *NSW Transmission Infrastructure Strategy* and the *NSW Minerals Strategy*.

## ENERGY INDUSTRY STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

**AVOID** mining and renewable energy developments within pumped irrigation districts and on identified strategic agricultural land.



**REQUIRE** consideration of the value and cumulative loss of all other agricultural land (outside of pumped irrigation districts) throughout Wentworth Shire when a new mining or renewable development is proposed. This includes land lost through secondary impacts from the development on adjacent land.



**LIMIT** subdivision in areas of known mineral sands deposits in the north and north east of the Shire (Map 1 - Structure Plan Map) to support development of the mineral sands mining sector.



**ENSURE** the rehabilitation of mines and proposed post-mining land uses minimise the sterilisation of land and maximise beneficial economic, social and environmental outcomes for the Sunraysia region.



**INVESTIGATE** flexible subdivision provisions in association with renewable energy projects where it does not sterilise the land for future mineral extraction.



**FACILITATE** the development of temporary workers accommodation associated with large infrastructure and construction and consider the impacts on temporary accommodation for seasonal agricultural worker.





### Actions

1. Update mineral sand resource mapping in consultation with Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) - Resources and Geoscience – *Short term*
2. Collaborate with TransGrid to ensure all electricity easements for the proposed Interconnector project are identified in Council's GIS database for development assessment referral purposes – *Short term*
3. Investigate flexible subdivision provisions in association with renewable energy projects where it does not sterilise land for future mineral extraction and agricultural purposes – *Medium term*



Figure 13: Sunset on outskirts of Wentworth

## Planning Priority 4 – Efficient transport and connectivity networks

gives effect to:

**Direction 1:** Grow the agribusiness sector, value-added manufacturing opportunities and supply chains

**Direction 12:** Enhance the productivity of employment lands

**Direction 24:** Enhance access to education and training

of the Far West Regional Plan

Efficient transport and connectivity networks for Wentworth are important to:

- connect local growers, producers and miners to domestic and international export markets.
- connect residents to other communities of interest, particularly Mildura but also amongst Wentworth's townships and settlements.
- support new and emerging economic opportunities, such as tourism and other activities on key sites

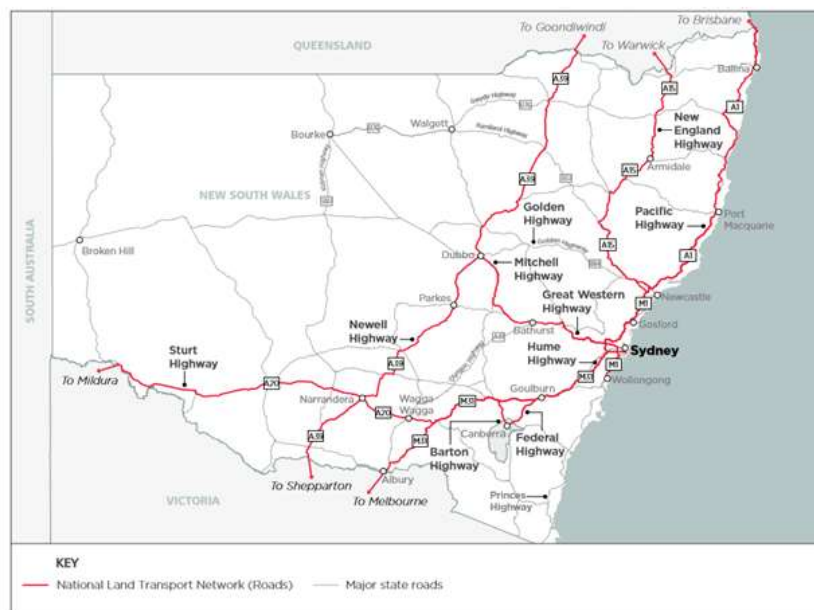


Figure 14 - National Land Transport Network and major State roads in NSW (Source: NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2023)

Wentworth benefits from its strategic location on the intersection of the National Land Transport Network (Sturt and Calder Highways) that connects the eastern cities of Brisbane, Sydney and Canberra with Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. The Sturt and Calder Highways form part of a key regional freight route

that connects growers and producers in Wentworth and nearby regions to domestic markets and export portals of Adelaide and Melbourne via two strategic river crossings, the George Chaffey Bridge and the Abbotsford Bridge. The Silver City Highway connects the Shire to the specialised mining service hub of Broken Hill and the rail network to Adelaide.

The main form of transport for Wentworth's communities is private car or limited bus service to access local amenities and services in townships. Many of Wentworth's townships and settlements have insufficient demand for more regular public bus transport services and some have walking and cycling tracks that encourage active transport.

The George Chaffey and Abbotsford Bridge are also important river crossings for Wentworth's residents to access the regional services and amenities, education, jobs and health available in the rural city of Mildura.

Air-transport is available at Mildura Airport, the busiest regional airport in Victoria. Mildura Airport provides strategic connections to Melbourne, Broken Hill, Sydney and Adelaide and is a key tourism gateway for the region.

The NSW Government is investing \$8.4 million to upgrade Wentworth aerodrome to support local businesses and emergency services and enable pilot training currently operating at Mildura Airport to relocate to Wentworth. This investment will improve air connectivity and offer new economic opportunities that Wentworth can leverage to further diversify the local economy through pilot training services, emergency services, agriculture and farm management and air passenger and freight.

The two significant challenges facing Wentworth Shire Council into the future include:

- the numerous unsealed roads that inhibit access, particularly in wet conditions, for communities, growers, producers and visitors to key attractions and adjoining localities (refer Planning Priority 2) and
- managing congestion as growth in Buronga and Gol Gol increases vehicle movements on the key regional freight route and the George Chaffey Bridge.

Council will plan, design and operate the road network to deliver movement and place outcomes where the National Land Transport Network and key freight route passes through local communities. This requires careful management of land to enable and activate centres, particularly the town centres of Buronga and Gol Gol, without compromising the efficiency of the key freight route (refer Figure 14).

While Wentworth Shire does not contain any rail infrastructure at present, consideration for the future development of this mode of transportation to connect to Mildura's rail network, and the northern rail link should be considered.

A Movement and Place framework would be delivered in line with *Future Transport 2056*, the *NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2022* and the Movement and Place Practitioner's Toolkit.



Figure 15: Examples of transport operating in the LGA



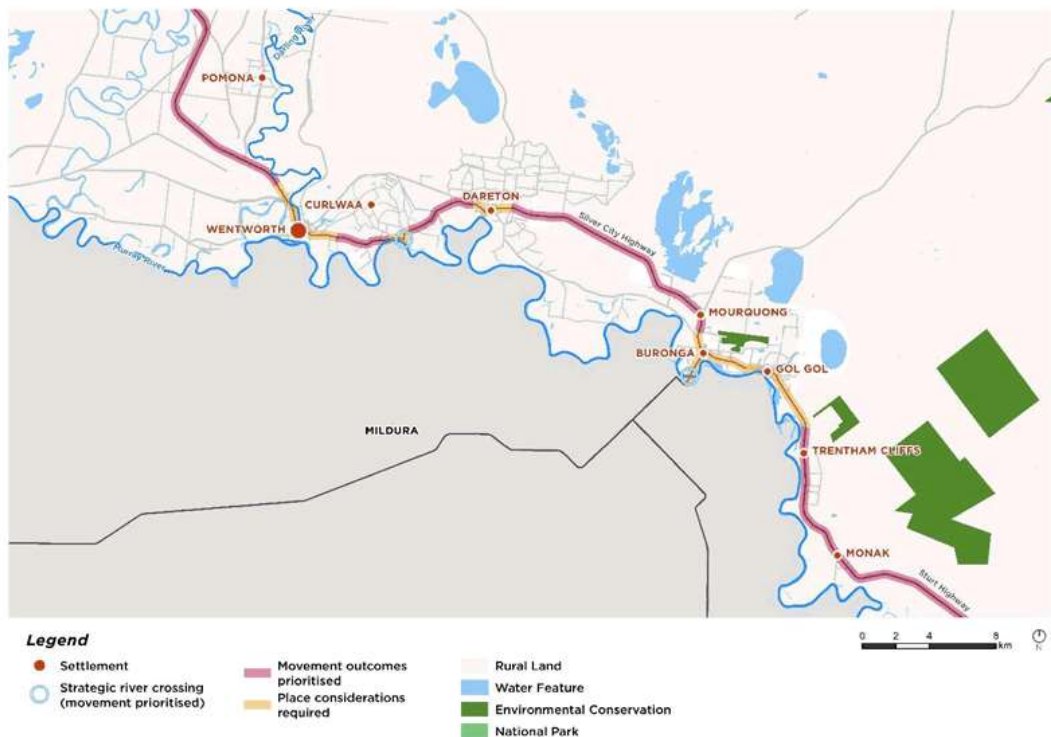


Figure 16 - Wentworth's movement and place approach in Wentworth, Dareton, Buronga and Gol Gol

## Actions

1. Develop a local movement and place guideline for projects that deliver new or enhanced road transport infrastructure (either by Council, government partners or private developers as part of subdivision, development agreements or conditions of consent) that reflect the local movement and place priorities in Wentworth Shire – *Short term*
2. Review and update the Wentworth Aerodrome Master Plan to provide for the new economic opportunities that will be available following the upgrade of the runway to a sealed all-weather surface, including potential economic opportunities in nearby Wentworth for related businesses or service sectors to support activities such as pilot training, mechanical servicing or passenger and freight air transport – *Short term*

## TRANSPORT STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Protect the national land transport network (including the Sturt, Silver City and Calder Highways) and the strategic river crossings (including the George Chaffey Bridge and Abbotsford Bridge) to ensure the efficient, safe and reliable movement of people and goods.



Lobby with relevant State Agencies and State Government for funding to improve and/or seal local roads.

Consult and lobby with State and Federal Government for an additional bridge across the Murray River to Mildura and future rail services.



Consider the function, identity and character of settlements, including Wentworth, Dareton, Buronga and Gol Gol on the national land transport network when planning new or enhanced road infrastructure (refer Figure 16).

Development must consider the impact on the existing and future capacity of the road network.

Ensure land use, structure and master plans consider maintenance and capacity enhancements of the Sturt and Silver City Highways and State and local roads, including lane and shoulder widths, intersections and crossings, bridges and other safety upgrades (refer NSW Freight and Ports Plan 2018-2023).



Avoid locations for new development that may be sensitive to the movement function of the national land transport network outside of settlement boundaries (refer Planning Priority 6). Use development controls to ensure that sensitive land uses are located, designed and constructed to minimise potential impacts from the national land transport network.



Encourage a shift from private vehicles through:

- new walking and cycling opportunities in and between Wentworth, Dareton and Buronga/Gol Gol.
- advocate for a new public transport bus service to connect towns to one another and Mildura.
- investigate opportunities for river-based transport.



Encourage the location of new development at Wentworth Aerodrome and in nearby Wentworth that leverages new economic opportunities from investment in the new runway surface and ancillary infrastructure, such as pilot training, emergency services, agricultural and farm management support and passenger and freight transport services.



Manage new residential development at Wentworth Aerodrome to ensure land is available for new businesses that require co-location on or near the aerodrome to support (g) above.

## Planning Priority 5 – Aboriginal economic self determination

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 10:** *Enhance the economic self-determination of Aboriginal communities*

**Direction 22:** *Collaborate and partner with Aboriginal communities*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people make up approximately 10% of the Wentworth Shire's population compared to the NSW State and Australian average of about 3%. The Barkandji people are the main recognised Aboriginal people in the Shire. The Barkandji nation of far west NSW holds native title for over 128,000 square kilometres of land, of which a significant proportion is located within Wentworth Shire under Barkandji Native Title Group Aboriginal Corporation.

The Shire's relatively large indigenous population and native title claim present opportunities for planning for land uses and development that promote the economic wellbeing and independence of the Aboriginal people.

Understanding and capitalizing on these opportunities will require Council to actively engage and collaborate with the indigenous community to determine and consider the economic benefits and impacts of land use planning decisions. Council will align with existing federal and state strategies, such as the Australian Government Indigenous Economic Strategy and the New South Wales Aboriginal Land and Council Strategic Plan 2018-2022 which seek to promote economic development, social wellbeing and cultural protection of Aboriginal people.

While many of the actions of the state and federal documents fall outside the planning system, Wentworth Shire can draw on these documents to build a greater understanding of the Indigenous communities social and economic priorities, how they relate to the opportunities on indigenous owned land and to initiate meaningful engagement with indigenous people.

In order for Council to achieve this, more strategic work is required. There is opportunity for Council to review existing consultation processes and how it engages with the local aboriginal community; and develop an agreed protocol in order to provide advice and facilitate planning and development opportunities on Indigenous owned land.



### Actions

1. Develop a list of contacts in collaboration with the LALC and BNTG – *Short term*
2. Develop a process of consultation with the LALC and BNTG when exhibiting strategic documents or notification of development applications – *Short term*
3. Map local indigenous land and develop a document that details the zone of each parcel, the development opportunities and constraints in collaboration with DPIE, LALC and BNTG – *Medium term*



Figure 17: Aboriginal Language Map NSW



## ***An attractive Shire***

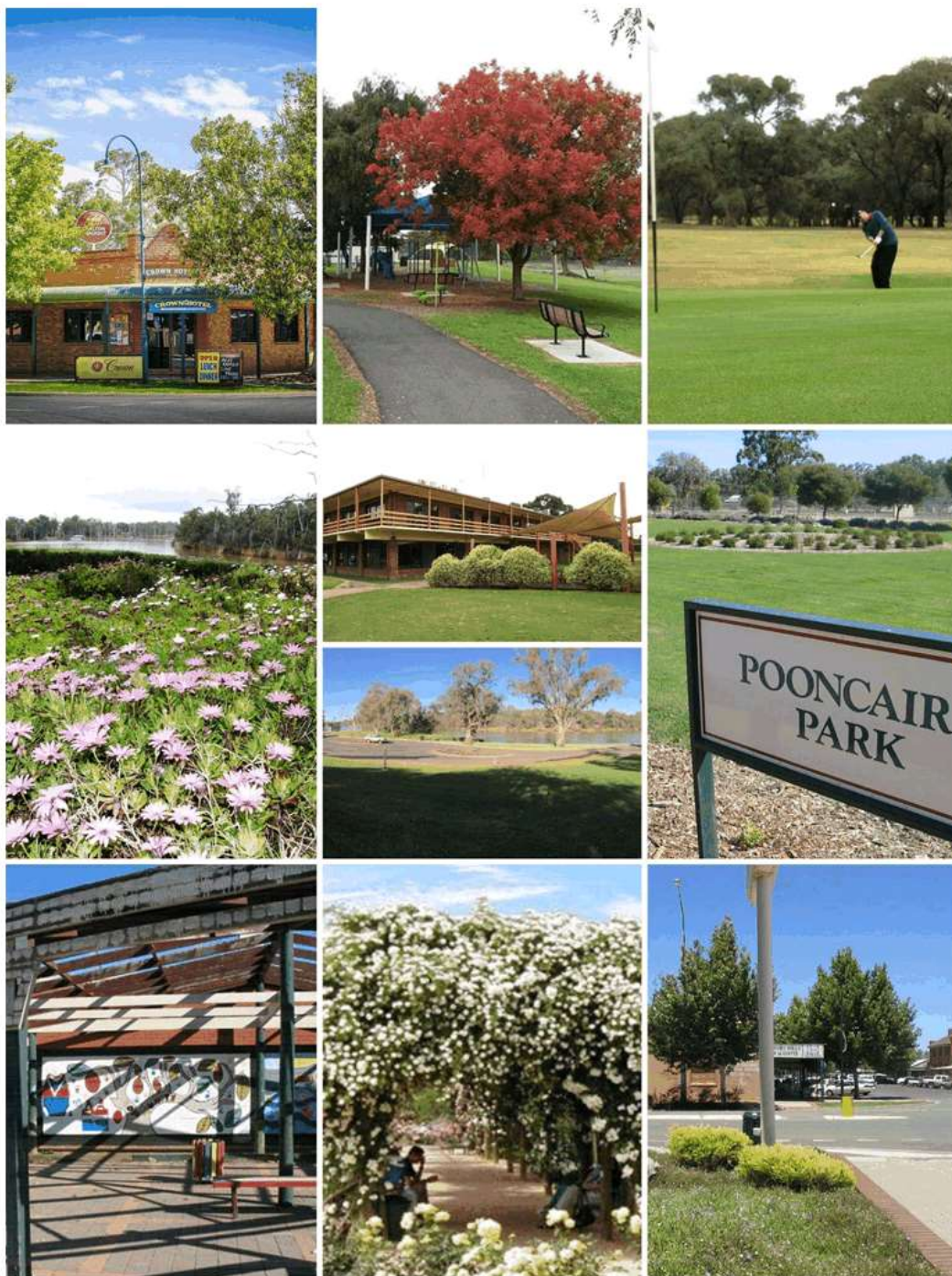


Figure 18: Crown Hotel Wentworth, James King Park Gol Gol, Golfer at Coomealla Golf Club Dareton, Drings Hill Gol Gol, Coomealla Golf Club, James King Park, Pooncaira Park Pooncarie, Mural & Pergola Dareton, Australian Inland Botanical Gardens Buronga, Wentworth Streetscape.

## Planning Priority 6 – Sustainable settlements

*gives effect to:*

*Direction 20: Manage change in settlements*

*Direction 21: Strengthen communities of interest and cross-regional relationships*

*Direction 27: Provide greater housing choice*

*Direction 28: Deliver greater opportunities for affordable housing*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

The four townships of Wentworth Shire each have a unique identity and function:

- Wentworth is located at the meeting place of two of Australia's most iconic river systems and is a place of historical, social and environmental significance. It is the primary administrative hub for the Shire and home to the local hospital, a public primary school and recreational amenity along the river-front, which together with historic built and cultural heritage is an attractive tourist destination.
- Dareton is a local service centre and community that provides services and amenity to the nearby productive irrigation district of Coomealla. Key services and amenities include agricultural-oriented services and retail on the main high street (Tapio Street/Silver City Highway), a local primary and high school and recreational amenity, Rural Fire Services and NSW Police. Recreation opportunities include the Coomealla Memorial Sporting and Golf Club, the George Gordon Oval Recreation Reserve and nearby mountain biking trails. Dareton benefits from a large extent of public recreation land along the northern bank of the Murray River.
- Buronga/Gol Gol is a growing urban area that has evolved from two distinct villages as growth from Mildura has flowed across the border, seeking new residential options close to the amenity of the Murray River and employment and services available in Mildura. The two townships are developing as a new urban identity as a single township located on the banks of the Murray River set amongst an agricultural landscape of irrigated horticulture and an entrance way from Victoria into NSW.
- Pooncarie is a small village located on the Darling River approximately 120 kilometres north east of Wentworth. Pooncarie provides limited services to the resident community and its surrounds. These include a hotel, cafés, post office/library/community centre, camp ground and several heritage items of local significance. Pooncarie is predominantly surrounded by pastoral grazing land.



## PRIMARY SETTLEMENT AREAS STRATEGIES

In Buronga and Gol Gol new urban development is to:

- i. be located in the identified settlement boundary. The settlement area is bounded by the environmentally sensitive land in the north, Native Ridge Lane in the east and Silver City Highway and Pitman Avenue West in the west (Map 5 – Buronga Gol Gol Townships).
- ii. provide for rural residential development in suitable locations subject to further investigation.
- iii. support the development of the new local centre at Midway Drive by concentrating new commercial, retail, community and other non-residential development in the vicinity.
- iv. deliver a new publicly accessible green grid (pedestrian and cycleway) along the northern banks of the Murray River out to Trentham Cliffs (Planning Priority 2), and linking to the local centre at Midway Drive.

In Dareton, new urban development is to:

- i. be located in the identified settlement boundary. The settlement area is bounded by Burtundy Street in the north east, School Road in the north, Boronia Crescent in the east, the Murray River in the south and School Road in the west. It includes the future residential and rural residential lands on River Road.
- ii. provide for rural residential development located along River Road within the settlement boundary.
- iii. concentrate new retail, commercial and community development along Tapio Street (Sturt Highway).
- iv. deliver a new publicly accessible green link (pedestrian and cycleway) from the centre of Dareton through the growth area lands on River Road to connect to the green grid public recreation land along the Murray River (Planning Priority 2).

In Wentworth, new urban development is to:

- i. be located in the identified settlement area. The settlement area is bounded by Renmark Road in the north, end of Armstrong Avenue in the east and Wilmont Street in the west.
- ii. utilise existing zoned and serviced land for a range of urban development outcomes, including housing for older people and affordable housing near existing services and amenities.
- iii. identify and promote the local commercial town centre function on land bound by the Silver City Highway, Darling Street and Adam Street.
- iv. improve walking and cycling connectivity along the Murray and Darling river front areas through a connected green grid of publicly accessible land as part of a Riverfront Development Strategy (Planning Priority 2).
- v. investigate new rural residential development opportunities outside the township boundary.

In Pooncarie, investigate opportunities and constraints for new activity/attractions in and around the township aimed at sustaining population and services.

Manage change in the settlements of Pomona and Curlwaa due to the changing nature of agriculture and capitalise on new opportunities for:

- i. rural residential or other forms of development compatible with the existing use of land for agriculture in Pomona and Curlwaa.
- ii. recognise the local village function of the existing settlement at Curlwaa on the Silver City Highway.

Outside the townships and villages, land is to be maintained for rural, landscape and biodiversity values, including agriculture and value-added manufacturing, tourism and natural areas.

New urban and rural residential development should generally avoid encroachment on productive agricultural, employment and environmentally sensitive lands, particularly the irrigation areas of Coomealla, parts of Curlwaa, Monak and Trentham Cliffs and the emerging irrigated horticultural areas outside of the Pomona and Ellerslie irrigation districts.

New urban development in the primary settlement areas is to:

- i. provide a range of housing options, including affordable housing, housing for older people, family housing and temporary worker accommodation based on an analysis of local demographics and future demand.
- ii. promote high-quality urban design in line with NSW Better Placed design policy and the Urban Design Guide for Regional NSW.
- iii. manage land use conflict through the use of setbacks and buffer zones in subdivision layouts, mitigate potential impacts in building location and design and generally avoid affecting the economic viability of land needed to support key sectors of the local economy.
- iv. deliver improvements to connectivity, transport and access for existing and future planned communities to Mildura, Broken Hill, Renmark, local town centres and amenities, particularly river-front and recreational facilities and land.

Ensure new employment development that requires separation from urban development due to potential amenity impacts, is located in suitable areas.



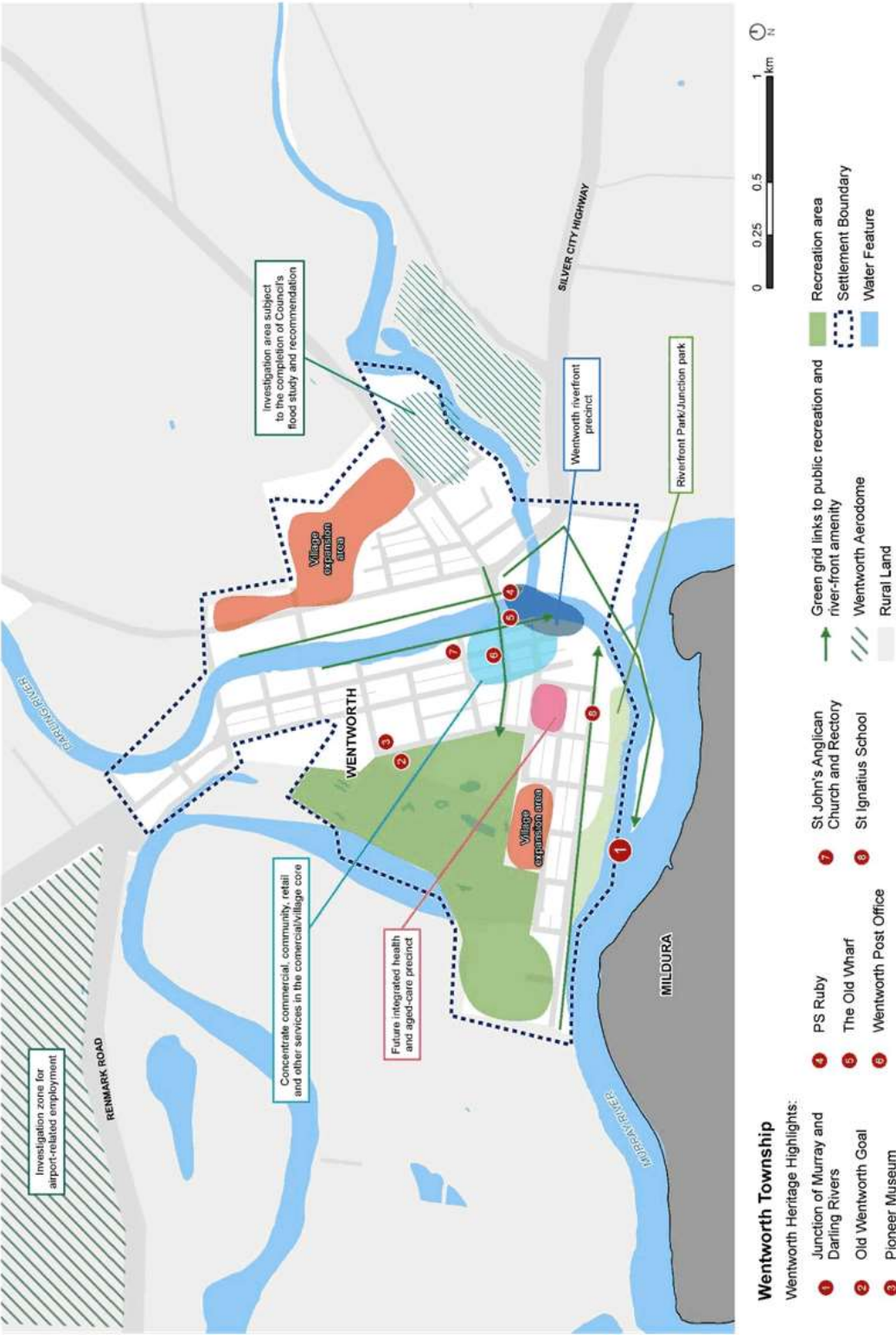
### Actions

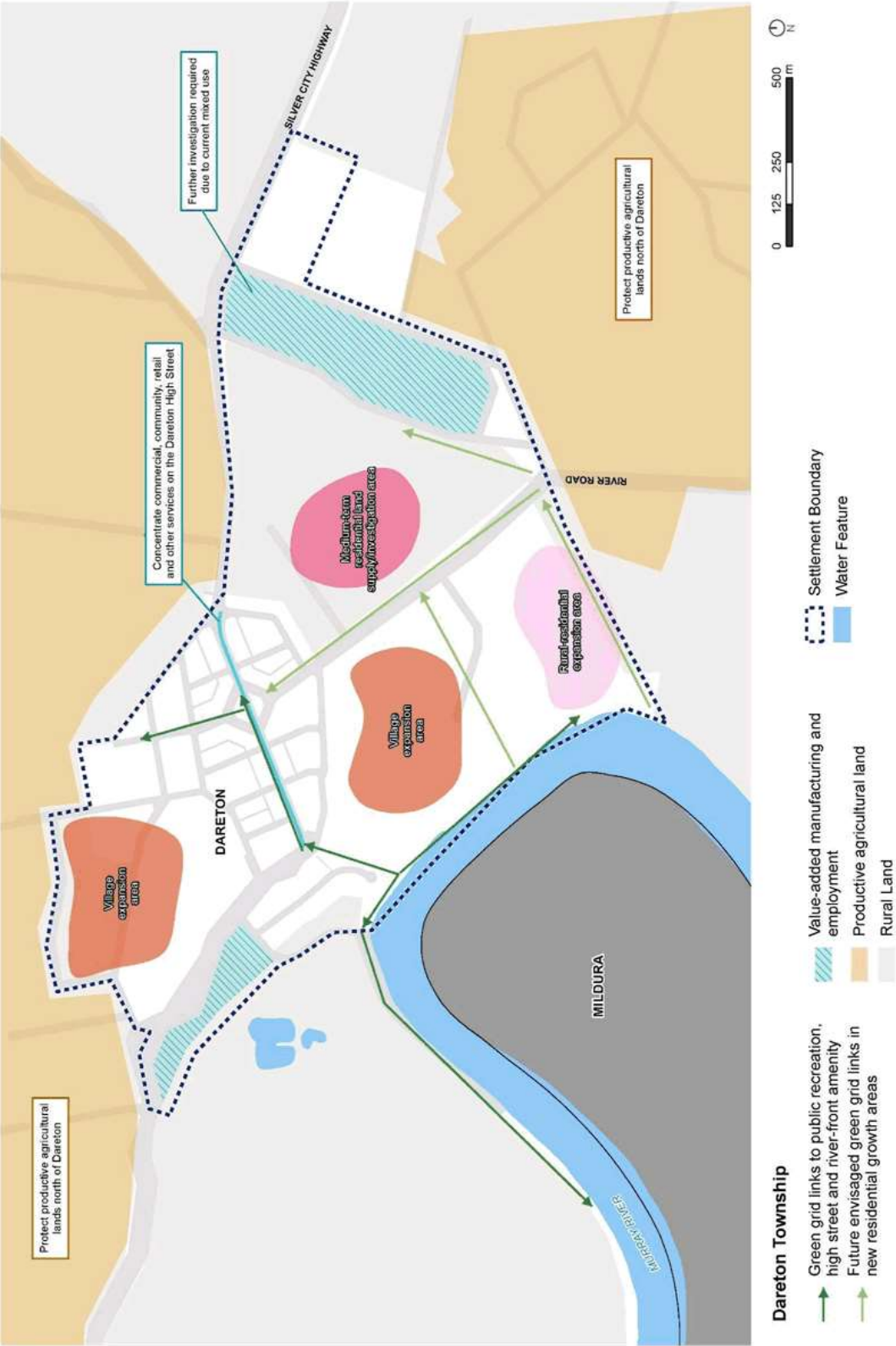
1. Develop a *Sustainable Dareton Strategy* to guide future development opportunities in this township – *Short term*
2. Develop a *Sustainable Pooncarie Strategy* to determine the opportunities and constraints within the township for sustaining current population and services – *Short term*
3. Develop rural living strategies for Pomona and Curlwaa to guide the transition from irrigation settlements to lifestyle settlements – *Medium term*
4. Investigate and identify suitable locations for future rural residential development outside the Wentworth town boundary – *Medium term*.

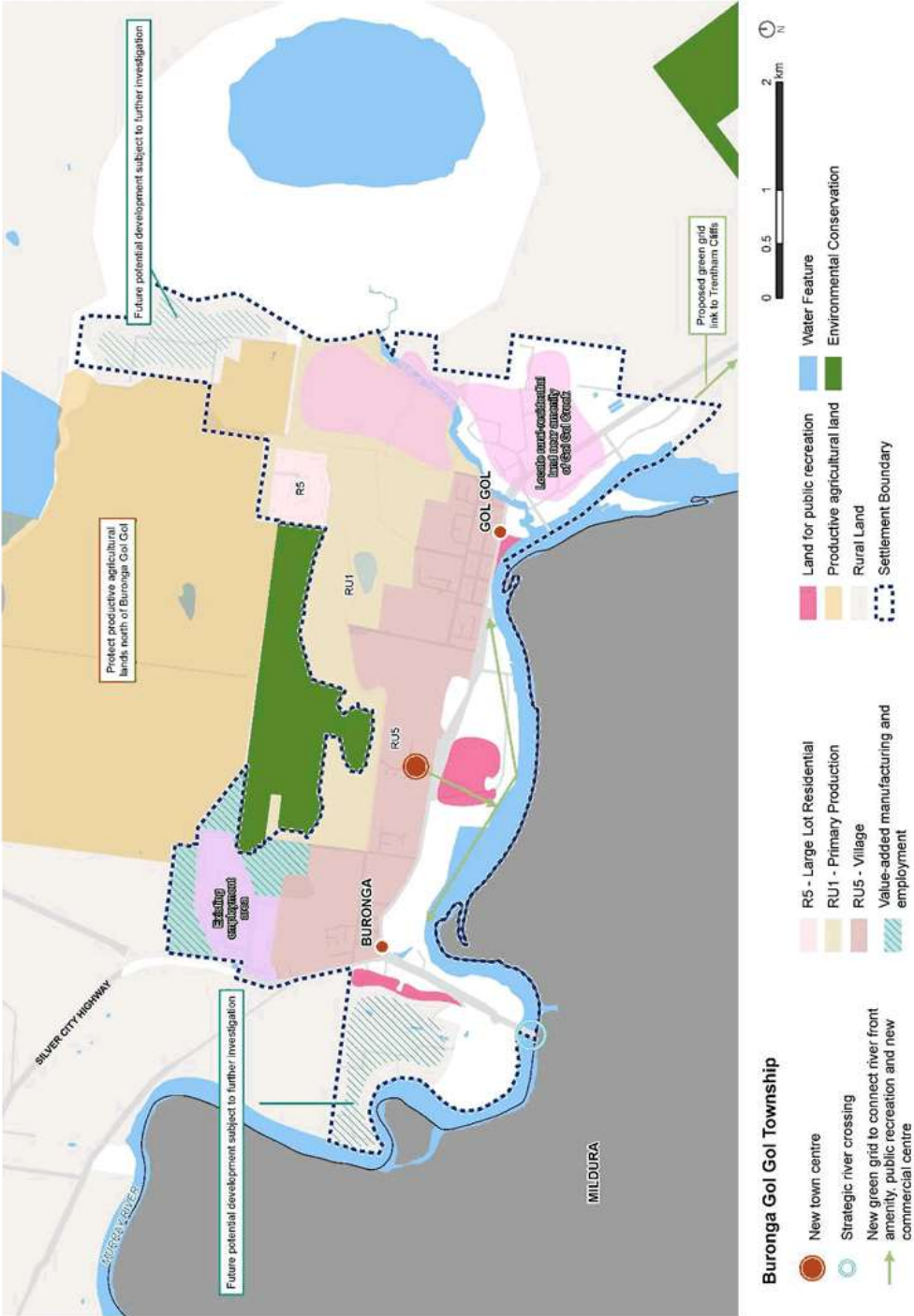


Figure 19: Township aerials of Wentworth, Dareton, Mourquong, Trentham Cliffs, Buronga/Gol Gol, Curlwaa, Ellerslie, Pomona, Pooncarie

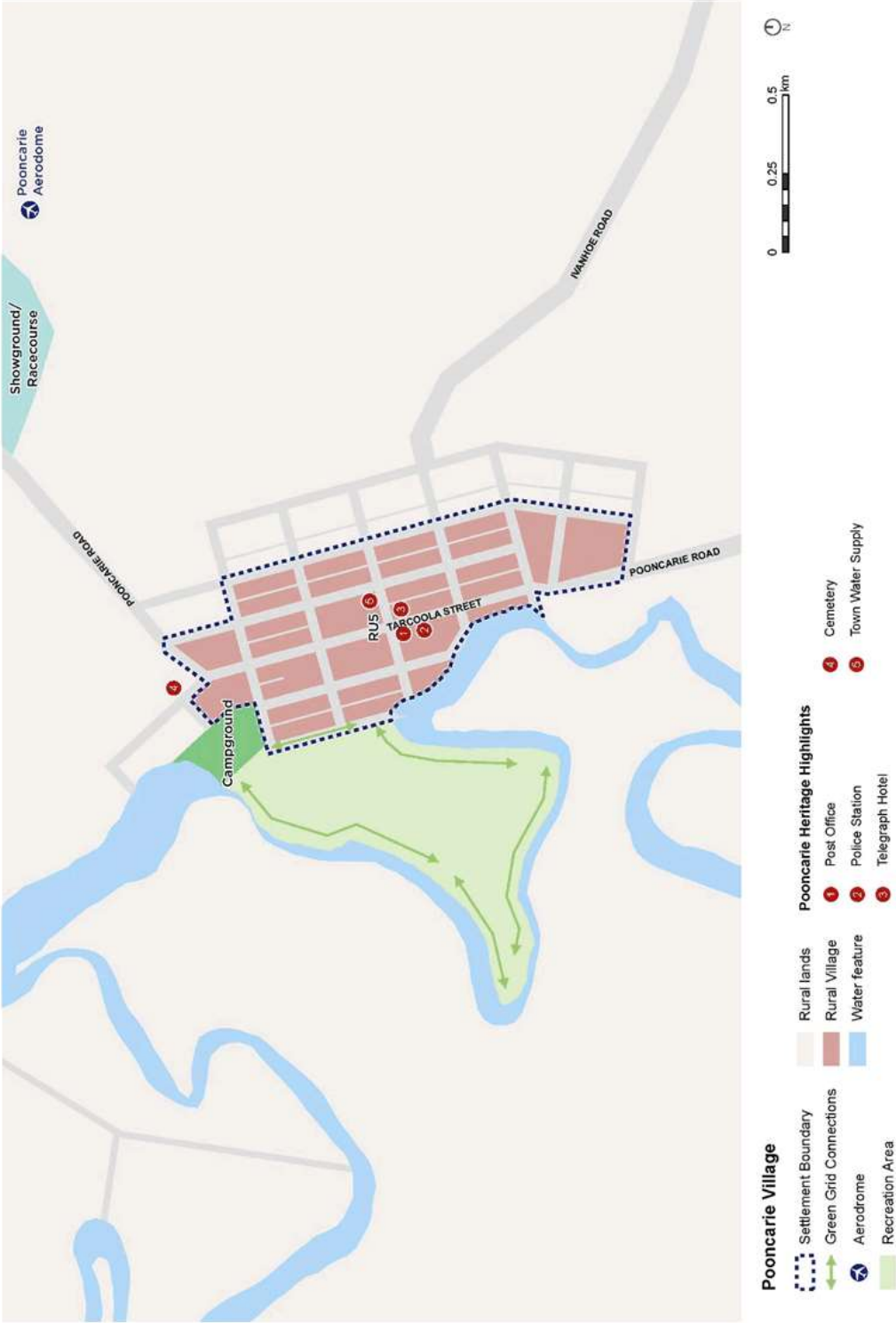








Map 5 – Buronga Gol Gol Townships





## Planning Priority 7 – Infrastructure and services

Gives effect to:

*Direction 8: Enhance access to telecommunications*

*Direction 30: Create healthy built environments*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Well planned infrastructure, services and community facilities improves the liveability of urban areas for the Shire's residents both now and into the future. This is particularly apparent when consideration is given to the needs of children, youth, singles, families, those with disabilities and senior residents.

As the population expands, particularly in Buronga/Gol Gol, it is imperative that utility infrastructure and services have the capacity to cope with the increase in demand. Understanding the current capacity and committing to investment for future planning and development of infrastructure will assist with the provision of water, sewer and stormwater services. This will enable the continuation of sustainable urban development and economic growth<sup>9</sup>.

Council has committed to and commenced works on major sewer upgrades to the townships of Dareton and Wentworth, which will enable Council to accommodate and service any growth in these locations.

In order to relieve pressure on Council's existing stormwater and water infrastructure networks and to respond to the fluctuation in climatic events and water security challenges, water sensitive urban design techniques will be incorporated through the strategic planning and development phases, which will support catchment, retention and reuse both on private and public land. Wentworth Shire Council taking the lead and providing example to the community.

As our communities continue to grow and change it will be necessary for Council to accommodate the change by ensuring that suitable open space, sporting and community facilities are provided. Understanding our existing open space, community and sporting facilities provided and its ability to support a high quality of lifestyle for both existing and new residents will be important when developing Council strategies through to the different phases of development. Through Council's Operational and Delivery Plans, Council has committed to a number of key community infrastructure projects. To ensure the success of these and future projects Council will actively pursue funding opportunities so that as development occurs, community facilities will also be improved.

Digital connectivity will play a greater role in supporting the connectivity of communities for social and economic purposes, such as distance education, training and health services for communities, accessing customers and suppliers for growers and producers, enabling precision agriculture techniques such as spraying, virtual fencing and optimal harvesting and supporting digital trends in product differentiation such as distributed ledger tracking and verification for farm-to-plate goods.

Working together with key telecommunication providers and other levels of Government, to identify new suitable locations and fill telecommunication gaps in the Wentworth Shire will be an important role for Council. Council will assist providers in identifying these areas and facilitate the establishment of new telecommunication facilities.

The key strategic directions for maintaining existing and enabling new infrastructure and services are:

- A. Support new infrastructure investment in digital connectivity, including the National Broadband Network, upgrades to existing and new telecommunication infrastructure such as mobile phone towers
- B. Enable continued growth of townships by ensuring that adequate water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure is provided
- C. Investigate the necessity for and location of major stormwater storages, reuse and passive recreation areas, particularly in Buronga and Gol Gol
- D. Ensure the public open space in all urban townships is appropriately located, functional and accessible by shared pathways and road networks.
- E. Support the ongoing use of existing and development of new community facilities in the townships
- F. Promote the opportunities for reuse of stormwater
- G. Advocate and support the establishment of new telecommunication facilities; to provide opportunity for the wider community to benefit from new developments
- H. Ensure the Servicing and Contributions plans are maintained and aligned with service and infrastructure requirements

#### Actions

1. Develop a water/wastewater management plan to ensure the services have the capacity to service current demand and future growth – *short term*.
2. Develop a stormwater management plan to cater for and align with anticipated future growth for Buronga/Gol Gol – *short term*.
3. Complete current projects as identified in the Operational Plan 2019/20 – *Short term*



Figure 20: Midway Centre Buronga, water and sewer connection, drainage basin, Sturt Highway roundabout Buronga



## Planning Priority 8 - Preserve and promote heritage

*gives effect to:*

*Direction 18: Respect and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage assets*

*Direction 19: Conserve and adaptively re-use European heritage assets*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Wentworth Shire retains a strong sense of place and identity which is shaped by its historic assets of pioneering vintage and places and landscapes tied to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The junction of the Darling and Murray rivers is a traditional meeting place for Aboriginal people and also significant to Wentworth's paddle steamer heritage during early European settlement.

The River Murray, its foreshores, tributaries and adjacent lakes are home to a large distribution of aboriginal artefacts, middens, and burials. Aboriginal cultural heritage values are, and will continue to be recognised and respected in spatial planning and community partnerships. Updated mapping of archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance will guide decision making on future development proposals and recognition of known key cultural sites will be undertaken in collaboration with the community.

The historic township of Wentworth comprises a rich built heritage contributing to local character and future development in the town centre should contribute to its unique identity and sense of place. This includes structures and buildings located along the commercial core of Darling Street, and notable buildings such as the Old Wentworth Gaol and the Wentworth Post Office (Map 3 - Wentworth Township). Adopting a principle of ongoing and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings and places is a precondition to increasing amenity and vibrancy, both for investment and development of a quality-built environment for residents and visitors.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework to preserve and promote Wentworth's heritage and gives effect to the strategic land use directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* and strategies outlined in Wentworth's CSP.

### KEY STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING HERITAGE

A. Exercise due diligence and caution where development is proposed in or near landscape features that are likely to indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects of cultural significance. Generally, areas of environmental sensitivity coincide with these areas. Updated mapping that extends beyond Buronga and Gol Gol will be completed by Wentworth Shire Council to inform the development assessment process and updated development controls.

B. Establish a consultation framework with the Local Aboriginal Land Council for development assessment through the Community Participation Plan (CPP) to inform development assessment processes.

C. Acknowledge and identify known key cultural sites in an appropriate and respectful way in collaboration with the local aboriginal community.

D. Manage built heritage in Wentworth Shire in accordance with the Burra Charter's best practice conservation principles, Heritage NSW guidelines and the Government Architect's NSW Design Guide for Heritage.

E. Manage Council owned heritage buildings, to accommodate and promote additional uses.

**Actions**

1. Consult with the Local Aboriginal Land Council to determine the best mechanism for development assessment referral and update the Community Participation Plan accordingly – *Short term*
2. Conduct a review of the current Wentworth Shire Heritage Study 1989 – *Medium term*
3. Update the Wentworth DCP following a Shire review of Aboriginal archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance– *Medium term*



Figure 21: Pooncarie Police Station, Wentworth Court House, State Bank Dareton, former Wentworth Post Office, Paddlewheel Hotel Gol Gol, Ruby Paddle Steamer Wentworth.



## ***A sustainable and resilient Shire***



Figure 22: Types of Solar panels, Wine tanks and barrels and factories that can be seen in the LGA

## Planning Priority 9 – Sustainable river systems

*gives effect to:*

*Direction 14: Manage and conserve water resources for the environment*

*Direction 15: Manage land uses along key river corridors*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

The Murray River, Darling River and Great Anabranch of the Darling are integral to Wentworth Shire. Irrigation, tourism and settlements rely on these river systems to survive and prosper and both aboriginal and pioneering heritage are inherently connected to the rivers and waterways.

The environmental values and assets along the river systems are dependent on environmental water flows and water quality, as well as the general health of the river channel and the aquatic environment.

Within the broader context of water management in the Murray-Darling Basin, Council can contribute to sustainable river systems through consideration of land uses along the river, as well as committing to using water resources responsibly, championing sustainable water use and delivering upgraded waste disposal infrastructure for both on and off water uses.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework to support a healthy and functioning river and aligns with the strategic directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036*. This priority will be updated to reflect the recommendations and strategies described in the *River Murray Riverfront Strategy* upon its release. The *Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan* recognises the need to upgrade aging houseboat waste disposal infrastructure for improved river health and to facilitate the ongoing success of the houseboat industry.

The document also reflects the community's aspiration to recognise the importance of a healthy Murray-Darling River system outlined in the CSP.



## SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE RIVER SYSTEMS

- A. Prioritise public river areas and allow riverfront development where public use and access is prioritised.
- B. Develop green grid links as identified in Planning Priority 2 and 7.
- C. Support development that achieves reasonable environmental performance levels that are sustainable, practical, and socially and economically viable.
- D. Support development inside settlement boundaries (Map 2 - Primary Settlement Area) where it improves the quality of water draining from urban developments into the Murray and Darling rivers and their tributaries. This is reinforced through relevant stormwater and wastewater controls in Wentworth LEP 2011 and DCP.
- E. Integrate sustainable stormwater treatment into the rural and urban landscape.
- F. Investigate and support new ways to re-use/ recycle water for residential and agricultural use.
- G. Protect river corridors, wetlands and sensitive landscapes with appropriate setbacks and vegetation protection. Development on the riverfront is not permitted unless it can demonstrate that it will not cause environmental harm.
- H. Avoid development on areas containing acid sulfate soil occurrence to reduce impact on riverine environment.
- I. Avoid development of steep slopes and any development along the riverfront should protect and maintain the stability of the river bed and banks.
- J. To conserve and enhance the riverine environment of the River Murray for the benefit of all users, consistent with the aims of the Murray Regional Environmental Plan No 2 – Riverine Land.
- K. Incorporate water sensitive urban design into the delivery of infrastructure projects to avoid negative impacts on the natural water cycle and to protect the health of aquatic ecosystems.
- L. Upgrade houseboat waste infrastructure to facilitate the ongoing success of the houseboat industry and to protect the health of aquatic ecosystems.

### Actions

1. Undertake the Wentworth Houseboat Infrastructure project to upgrade ageing facilities used to dispose of waste from the house boat industry and prepare a public mooring strategy – *Medium term*
2. Finalise the Integrated Water Management Cycle Plan for Wentworth – *Medium term*



Figure 23: Swan taking flight on the Murray River, Abbotsford Bridge Curlwaa, Murray River Landscape, Murray River/Darling River Junction Wentworth, River front property with retaining wall.

## Planning Priority 10 – Manage natural hazards and climate change risks

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 16:** Increase resilience to climate change

**Direction 17:** Manage natural hazard risks

**Direction 30:** Create healthy built environments

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Wentworth Shire's unique geographic character and natural environment are rich assets to the LGA. However, this unique environment makes it susceptible to the impacts of climate change. Regional temperatures are expected to increase throughout the Sunraysia region, resulting in heightened risk of the frequency and severity of natural hazards and climate risks.

Drought, water security and floodplain management are essential natural hazard management priorities for Wentworth Shire. The impact on agricultural production, particularly Wentworth's highly productive horticultural industry, requires informed land use decision-making and an increase in sustainable agricultural practices by land owners.

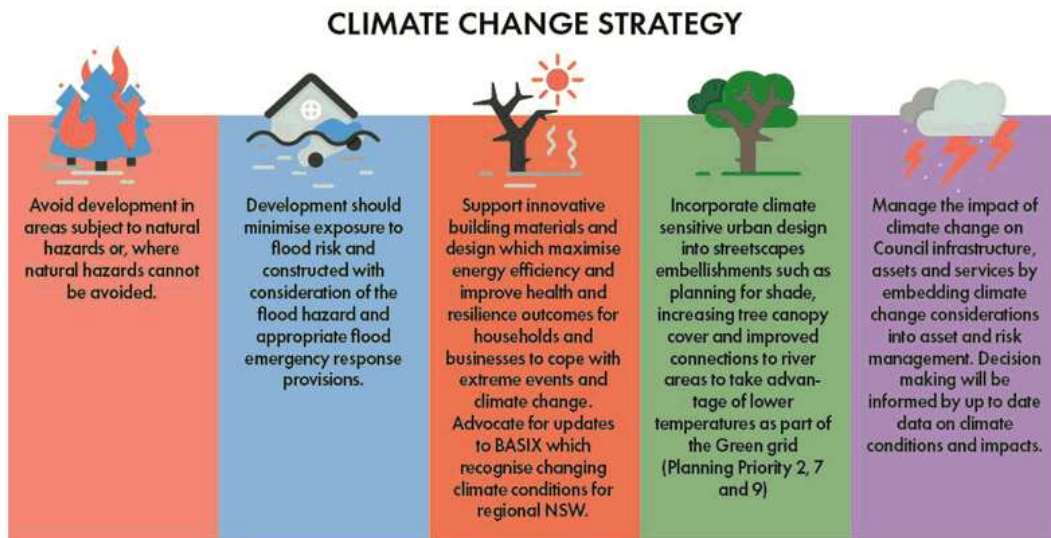
Council and the community must be well informed, resilient and able to adapt and plan for future climate risks and land use planning plays an important role by reducing future carbon impacts of development as well as improving resilience of the built environment and the population. Sustainable urban development includes water sensitive urban design in new subdivision development, the planting of endemic species and drought-resilient landscaping, the use of trees to mitigate heat island effects in more urban townships and building design that reduces the need for energy-intensive heating and cooling of new housing and water consumption.

Wentworth Shire Council will also show leadership by committing to transitioning its energy needs to renewable sources, setting a target of zero net emissions by 2050 and creating healthy public spaces and resilient infrastructure.

This planning priority sets in place a land use planning framework for reducing current and future impacts associated with climate change and natural disaster risk, in accordance with NSW Government's *Climate Change Policy for NSW* and the initiatives in the *Western Enabling Regional Adaptation* project. The planning priority also gives effect to the strategic land use directions in the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* and reflects the community's aspirations regarding water management, preparing for climate change risks and protecting assets from natural hazard.

The strategic directions to increase resilience to climate change, create healthy built environments and manage natural hazard include:





### Actions

1. Finalise and implement the Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan, including any updates to *Wentworth LEP 2011* and DCP – *Short term*
2. Finalise and regularly update Wentworth Shire Council's Climate Change Risk Assessment, Floodplain Risk Management Plan, Bushfire Protection Measures and other natural disaster strategies – *Short term*
3. Collaborate with DPIE to develop a monitoring and reporting program on climate conditions and projections using data from AdaptNSW– *Short term*



Figure 24: Wentworth Levee Bank

## Planning Priority 11 – Protect areas of environmental value

*gives effect to:*

**Direction 13:** *Protect and manage environmental assets*

**Direction 18:** *Respect and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage assets*

*of the Far West Regional Plan*

Two of Australia's most important waterways, the Barwon-Darling and the Murray River systems meet at Wentworth and connect waters from Queensland and NSW through to South Australia. In addition to the important economic value of supplying water to support the local economy, the two river systems provide a range of biodiversity, aquatic ecology, water quality and Aboriginal and cultural heritage functions.

Wentworth Shire's character and identity are not only shaped by the important economic value of water but also by the rivers contribution to the environment, amenity and culture. This should be protected now and for future generations.

The famous Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area encompassing Mungo National Park is one of six World Heritage Areas in NSW and is on the National Heritage List. This area presents the fossil remains of a series of lakes and sand formations from the Pleistocene and archaeological evidence of human occupation dating 45 – 60,000 years ago<sup>v</sup>. The land is of great significance to three local Aboriginal tribal groups including the Paakantyi, Mutthi Mutthi and Ngyiampaa, and is recognised for cultural, archaeological, landscape, biodiversity and research values at a global scale and social, economic and recreation values at the State and regional level<sup>vi</sup>.

Wentworth Shire is also home to other National Parks (including the Mallee Cliffs and Tarawi National Parks) and State Parks and Reserves that are managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Across the Shire, most land is owned by the Crown and administered by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment– Crown Lands through long-term lease agreements. Under this arrangement, measures are established to protect the environmental values of land. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has mapped biodiversity values at a regional scale and this information is used as an input to decision-making as proposals are brought forward on a site by site basis.

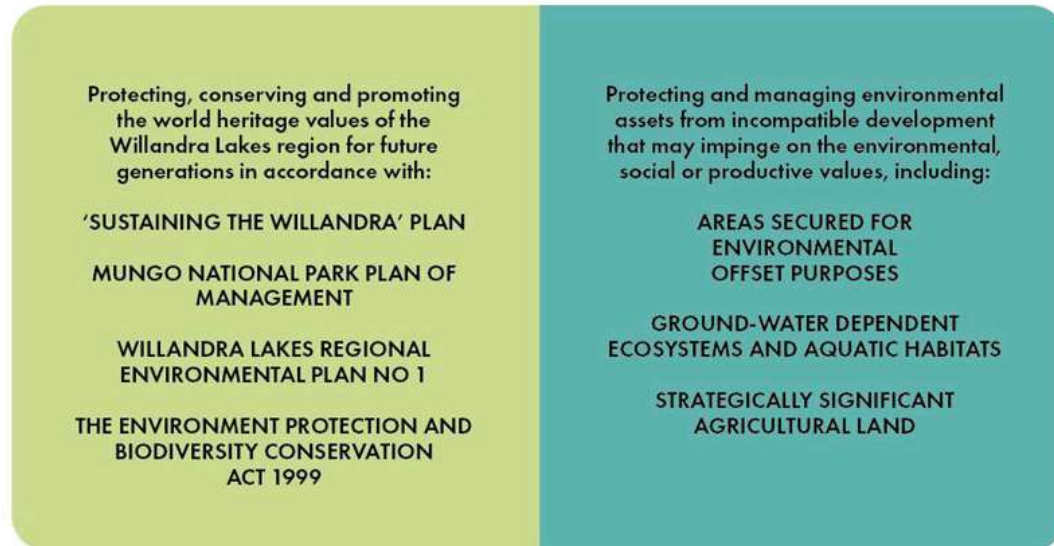
A major challenge is to protect the important values of these environmental areas for future generations while managing the potential negative consequences that may arise from land clearing, feral animals, drought, overgrazing, climate change and development. This requires a coordinated approach across Council's operations and is guided by these planning priorities.

### **Mungo**

Mungo Lady and Mungo Man, found resting just metres apart, were buried more than 42,000 years ago on Lake Mungo's shores. The planet's oldest ritual burials, Mungo Lady was cremated, Mungo Man adorned with ochre. They represent the early emergence of human spiritual beliefs and provide a glimpse into the care provided to kin throughout Australia's deep history. Along with 20,000-year-old fossil human footprints, they tell an incredible story of First Australians' long history and led to the establishment of Mungo National Park.

This planning priority reflects the CSP and also recognises the important links between a sustainably managed natural environment and local economic activity, particularly in agriculture, tourism, mining and related sectors.

This priority aims to deliver a healthy, resilient, protected and productive environment by:



### Actions

1. Maintain a publicly available register and map of land covered by carbon offsets or conservation agreements under NSW or Commonwealth legislation to ensure future protection and inform land use planning decisions – *Medium term*
2. Review council owned land to identify offset requirements for future development and any opportunities to use council land for Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements – *Medium term*
3. Review Wentworth LEP 2011 controls (e.g. biodiversity mapping and appropriate zoning of high value environmental areas, adopting a clause to permit undersized lot subdivision for environmental conservation) to protect biodiversity – *Medium term*



Figure 25: Buronga Wetlands, Mungo National Park, Eucalyptus flower



# ***Implementation, monitoring and reporting***

## ***Implementation***

An open, accountable and strategic-based planning system is essential to achieving the vision for Wentworth Shire region in this LSPS. Openness and accountability create trust that enables effective planning while a long-term strategic approach will ensure good public interest outcomes.

### **Cross-border partnerships and existing governance**

Many of the planning priorities identified in this plan can be optimised and enhanced through strengthened engagement and collaborative cross-border planning initiatives between Wentworth Shire Council and Mildura Rural City Council.

The first action of this plan is for Wentworth Shire Council to proactively engage and collaborate with Mildura Rural City Council on local planning policy, strategies and delivery.

Existing governance arrangements such as reporting to the Far South Joint Regional Organisation of Councils will also be utilised to support effective approaches to cross boundary issues.

The need to work effectively with other councils in the region recognises the wider role that Council's strategic planning and decision-making plays in achieving the objectives of the Far West Regional Plan 2036. It also recognises the potential impact that strategically important decisions taken by Council may have on the plans of adjoining councils.

These valued cross boundary partnerships will also support Wentworth Shire to realise its vision by driving efficiencies in accessing government funding, attracting inward investment and accessing a wider field of expertise.

The LSPS also provides a framework for the coordinated action of many other partners in delivery. Council will continue to work to establish effective partnerships with State government agencies, the community and other organisations to support the realisation of the plan.

## ***Monitoring and reporting***

Council will monitor, review and report on its LSPS to ensure that its planning priorities are being achieved. Council will use the existing Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework under the *Local Government Act 1993* for the purpose of monitoring implementation of the LSPS.

Council will commence its first full review of the LSPS in 2024 and again every four years to align the review period with Council's overarching community strategic planning and IP&R under the LG Act.

Regular reviews will ensure that the LSPS reflects the vision the community has for the future of Wentworth Shire and is aligned to the latest trends and information available about the environment and the community's social and economic need.

## ***Measures and indicators***

### **A productive Wentworth**

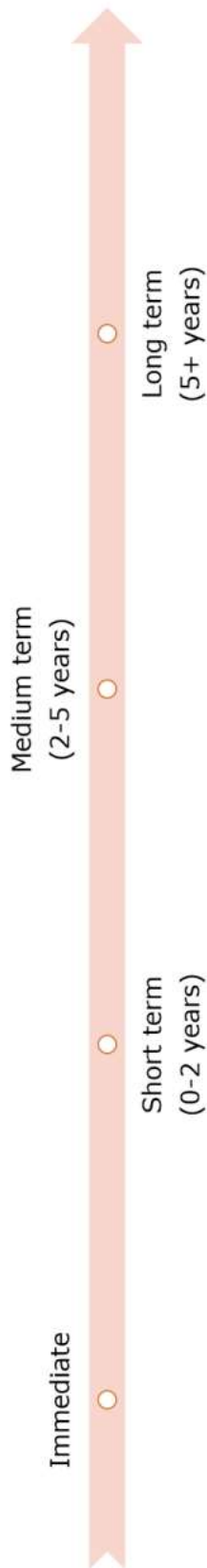
- Jobs by industry
- Level of employment
- Gross Regional Product
- Vacancy rates
- Visitor numbers
- Infrastructure projects
- Renewable energy projects

### **An attractive Wentworth**

- Population growth
- Dwelling approvals by location and type
- Residents' satisfaction with built environment
- Visitor numbers
- Awareness
- Understanding and respect of Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Coverage of mapping for archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance

### **A sustainable Wentworth**

- Environmental indicators (water quality, air quality etc)
- Tree canopy coverage
- Green grid connections
- Public access to rivers
- Flood and bush fire disaster-cost and property damage

**Action plan**

Planning Priority	Actions	Timeframe	Responsibility
Implementation	Proactively engage and collaborate with Mildura Rural City Council on local planning policy, strategies and delivery	Ongoing	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: Mildura Rural City Council
<b>A productive Wentworth</b>			
Planning Priority 1 – Promote agriculture and value-added manufacturing	Review and update the <i>Wentworth LEP 2011</i> to give effect to the strategic directions in this Planning Priority	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Develop supplementary guidance (such as a DCP) that provides local guidance on suitable non-agricultural land use development on rural land	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Advocate for funding to upgrade unsealed roads to improve access and connectivity to places of significance, adjoining states and townships and tourist destinations	Immediate and ongoing	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: TransportNSW
Planning Priority 2 – Grow tourism	Review and update the <i>Wentworth LEP 2011</i> to give effect to the strategic directions in this Planning Priority	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Prepare a local tourism strategy and give effect to the strategic directions within this Planning Priority	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Prepare the Wentworth Riverfront Development Strategy and give effect to the strategic directions within this Planning Priority	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
Planning Priority 3 – Manage resources and renewable energy	Update mineral sand resource mapping in consultation with Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) - Resources and Geoscience	Short term	Lead: Department of Planning, Industry & Environment Support: Wentworth Shire Council
	Collaborate with TransGrid to ensure all electricity easements for the proposed Interconnector project are identified in Council's GIS database for development assessment referral purposes	Short term	Lead: TransGrid

				Support: Wentworth Shire Council
	Investigate flexible subdivision provisions in association with renewable energy projects where it does not sterilise land for future mineral extraction and agriculture purposes		Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
Planning Priority 4 – Efficient transport and connectivity networks	Develop a local movement and place guideline for projects that deliver new or enhanced road transport infrastructure (either by Council, government partners or private developers as part of subdivision, development agreements or conditions of consent) that reflect the local movement and place priorities in Wentworth Shire		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: TransportNSW
	Review and update the Wentworth Aerodrome Master Plan to provide for the new economic opportunities that will be available following the upgrade of the runway to a sealed all-weather surface, including potential economic opportunities in nearby Wentworth for related businesses or service sectors to support activities such as pilot training, mechanical servicing or passenger and freight air transport		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Develop a list of contacts in collaboration with the LALC and BNTG		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: LALC & BNTG
Planning Priority 5 – Aboriginal economic self determination	Develop a process of consultation with the LALC and BNTG when exhibiting strategic documents or notification of development applications		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: LALC & BNTG
	Map local indigenous land and develop a document that details the zone of each parcel, the development opportunities and constraints in collaboration with DPIE, LALC and BNTG		Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: LALC & BNTG & DPIE
<b>An attractive Wentworth</b>				
Planning Priority 6 – Sustainable settlements	Develop a <i>Sustainable Darebin Strategy</i> to guide future development opportunities in this township		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Develop a <i>Sustainable Pooncarne Strategy</i> to determine the opportunities and constraints within the township for sustaining current population and services		Short Term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Develop rural living strategies for Pomona and Curlew to guide the transition from irrigation settlements to lifestyle settlements		Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Investigate and identify suitable locations for future rural residential development outside the Wentworth town boundary		Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
Planning Priority 7 – Infrastructure and services	Develop a water/wastewater management plan to ensure the services have the capacity to service current demand and future growth		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Develop a stormwater management plan to cater for and align with anticipated future growth for Buronga/Gol Gol		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council
	Complete current projects as identified in the Operational Plan 2019/20		Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council

Planning Priority 8 - Preserve and promote heritage	Consult with the Local Aboriginal Land Council to determine the best mechanism for development assessment referral and update the Community Participation Plan accordingly	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: LALC & BNTG
	Conduct a review of the current Wentworth Shire Heritage Study 1989	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: Heritage Consultant
	Update the Wentworth DCP following a Shire-wide review of Aboriginal archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: LALC & BNTG
<b>A sustainable Wentworth</b>			
Planning Priority 9 – Sustainable river systems	Underlake the Wentworth Houseboat Infrastructure project to upgrade ageing facilities used to dispose of waste from the house boat industry and prepare a public mooring strategy	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support:
	Finalise Council's Integrated Water Management Cycle Plan for Wentworth Shire	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support:
Planning Priority 10 – Manage natural hazards and climate change risks	Finalise and implement the Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan, including any updates to <i>Wentworth LEP 2011</i> and DCP	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: External consultants
	Finalise and regularly update Wentworth Shire Council's Climate Change Risk Assessment, Floodplain Risk Management Plan, Bushfire Protection Measures and other natural disaster strategies	Short term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: DPIE, RFS
	Collaborate with DPIE to develop a monitoring and reporting program on climate conditions and projections using data from AdaptNSW	Short term	Lead: DPIE Support: Wentworth Shire Council
Planning Priority 11 – Protect areas of environmental value	Maintain a publicly available register and map of land covered by carbon offsets or conservation agreements under NSW or Commonwealth legislation to ensure future protection and inform land use planning decisions	Medium	Lead: DPIE Support: Wentworth Shire Council
	Review council owned land to identify offset requirements for future development and any opportunities to use council land for Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: DPIE
	Review <i>Wentworth LEP 2011</i> controls (e.g. biodiversity mapping and appropriate zoning of high value environmental areas, adopting a clause to permit undersized lot subdivision for environmental conservation) to protect biodiversity	Medium term	Lead: Wentworth Shire Council Support: DPIE



## ***References***

- i. Far West Regional Plan 2036, Department of Planning and Environment, 2017
- ii. Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy, Department of Premier and Cabinet, 2018
- iii. REMPLAN Community Profile viewed 5 February 2020,  
<https://www.communityprofile.com.au/wentworth/population/age#lbar-chart;i=0>
- iv. Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census QuickStats, viewed 1 April 2019,  
[https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census\\_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/LGA18200](https://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/LGA18200)
- v. Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022
- vi. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – World Heritage Centre - World Heritage List – Willandra Lakes Region <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/167>

## 9.7 ACOHOL FREE ZONE - APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY EXEMPTION

File Number: RPT/20/129

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth is a desirable Shire to visit, live, work and invest  
 Strategy: 2.1 Grow visitation to the Shire by developing a quality visitor experience and promoting our destination

### **Summary**

The Wentworth District Rowing club have applied for a temporary exemption to the Alcohol Free Zone. The application relates to the upcoming annual Easter Wentworth/Mildura joint regatta on 11 and 12 April 2020.

### **Recommendation**

That Council approve a temporary exemption to the Alcohol Free Zone limited to the areas of the Rowing Club and immediate lawn areas on 11 and 12 April 2020.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council for a temporary exemption to the Alcohol Free Zone for the Easter Wentworth/Mildura joint regatta.

#### **Background**

The regatta is an event that has been occurring in the Shire for a number of years. This event will bring visitors to the town of Wentworth which provides positive economic and tourism outcomes.

#### **Matters under consideration**

Nil

#### **Options**

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address this matter are to:

Approve or reject the application.

#### **Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications**

If Council approves the application, public notification will be made by way of newspaper and website. The NSW Police Patrol Dareton will also be notified.

#### **Conclusion**

This is an annual event and the application will lift the Alcohol Free Zone for the 11 and 12 April 2020 only, and will be restricted to the Rowing Club and immediate lawn areas.

### **Attachments**

Nil

## 9.8 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF FEBRUARY 2020

File Number: RPT/20/160

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Nicky Meredith - Coordinator Health and Planning

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire

Strategy: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and expand

### Summary

For the month of February 2020, a total of seven Development Applications and five S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$2,137,453.00. This brings the year to date total to 12 Development Applications approved and six S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$2,338,192.00.

### Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of February 2020.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a list of Development Applications as tabled in Attachment 1, determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning for the month of February 2020, hence complying with the requirements under section 3.20 of the Office of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Program.

#### Conclusion

The total value of determinations was \$2,137,453.00 for the month of February 2020, which was more than the previous month of \$200,739.00. The average determination time was 32 days.

### Attachments

1. Determination of Development Applications for the month of February 2020 [↓](#)

## DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2020

File Number	Owner	Location	Description	Value (Ex GST)	Determination Date	Active Days to 29/02/2020
DA2019/110	Tracey Maynard	120 West Road Lot 425 DP 756961 Buronga	Dwelling, carport & shed	\$400,000.00	4/02/2020	107
DA2019/145	Stefan Bate & Nicole Shaw	28 River Drive Lot 1 DP 1176854 Buronga	Dwelling, swimming pool & carport. Storage shed removed.	\$400,000.00	13/02/2020	32
DA2019/149	Michael Williams & Tracy Herlihy	87 Wentworth Street Lot 1 DP 1246831 Wentworth	Mooring site	\$0.00	10/02/2020	36
DA2019/151	Graeme & Melanie Walden-Mills	175 Pooncarie Road Lot 6 DP 1239541 Wentworth	Dwelling, bungalow, carport & swimming pool	\$500,000.00	4/02/2020	34
S4-55/2019/025	Jarrod Alderton	Corbett Avenue Lot 3 DP 1110199 Buronga	Modify DA2017/062 Lot 1 Change original plan to 2 (two) separate sheds	\$0.00	21/02/2020	46
DA2019/159	Davin Wright & Natalie Cobb	12 Livingstone Drive Lot 32 DP 1229757 Gol Gol	Storage shed	\$14,453.00	10/02/2020	39
DA2020/001	Peter & Sharon Kelleher	10 William Street Lot 2 DP 1251938 Gol Gol	Dwelling & garage	\$200,000.00	18/02/2020	29
DA2020/002	Lee Dodemaide	Wurlong Drive Lot 4 DP 1251134 Gol Gol	Two storey dwelling	\$623,000.00	26/02/2020	34
S4-55/2020/001	Wentworth Shire Council	82 Beverley Street Lot 1 DP 705031 Wentworth	Modify DA15/012 to increase patron capacity from 80 to 120 for liquor licence	\$0.00	4/02/2020	13
S4-55/2020/002	NSW Department of Industry - Crown Lands	Arumpo Road Lot 6918 DP 1000008 Wentworth	Modify DA2019/079 condition 14 to reflect 20,000 tonnage annual extraction of gypsum	\$0.00	5/02/2020	3

S4-55/2020/003	Lynne Bentley	4 Tower Court Lot 28 DP 830879 Buronga	Modify DA2019/152 Amend personal access door to glass sliding door	\$0.00	11/02/2020	6
S4-55/2020/004	David & Tania Scammell	Nix Court Lot 27 DP 124927 Gol Gol	Modify DA2019/131 Amend front portico	\$0.00	13/02/2020	8



## 9.9 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/139

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
 Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
 Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
 Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of February 2020 were \$1,148,525.15. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 67.32%. For comparison purposes 72.34% of the levy had been collected at the end of February 2019. Council currently has \$27,639,230.02 in cash and investments.

### Recommendation

That Council notes the monthly finance report.

### Detailed Report

The purpose of this report is to indicate to Council the position in relation to the rate of collections and the balance of cash books.

### Reconciliation and Balance of Funds held as at 29 February 2020

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 29 February 2020.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 February 2020	\$ 1,494,561.47
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 29 February 2020 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	\$ 4,774,347.60
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 29 February 2020 Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 4,629,679.05
Cash Balance at at 29 February 2020	\$ 1,639,230.02
Investments	
Total Investments as at 29 February 2020	\$ 26,000,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 27,639,230.02</b>

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of February 2020 were \$ 1,148,525.15. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 67.32%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 29 February 2020 is as follows:

	Rates and Charges	
<b>Levies</b>		
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2019 - Rates	1,048,851.71	
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2019 - Water (Jan-June 2019)	913,670.40	
Rates and Charges Levied 24 July 2019	8,808,110.28	\$ 10,770,632.39
+ Additional Water Charges	877,372.40	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	98,854.38	
+ Additional Charges	63,022.67	
- Credit Adjustments	11,440.81	
- Abandonments	1,263.90	\$ 11,797,177.13
<b>Deductions</b>		
- Payments	7,763,974.44	
- Less Refunds of Payments	4,874.59	\$ 7,759,099.85
		\$ 4,038,077.28
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	100,534.80	
Council Subsidy	82,249.66	\$ 182,784.46
Total Rates/Water Charges Outstanding		\$ 3,855,292.82

Note: For comparison purposes 72.34% of the levy had been collected at the end of February 2019.

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

Rates and charges that have been written off under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of February 2020.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
Rate Account 1170-2	8/01/2020	952.88	Land owned by NSW Land & Housing is now vacant land and therefore Non-Rateable Under Section 555 of the Local Government Act
441-2	13/02/2020	1608.09	Reduction of rates due to conservation agreement
734	25/02/2020	37.45	Write off interest as ratepayer did not receive rate notice
1176	5/02/2020	205.12	Write of interest due to hardship caused by drought

Council Loans Report

Name	Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding	Due Date
Loan 201	National Australia Bank	Buronga Landfill	4.550% Fixed	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 522,083.77	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.470% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 722,583.91	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,781,264.80	28/04/2023
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.290% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,372,571.33	12/05/2037
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,398,503.81</b>	

Overtime and Travelling

<b>Month: February 2020</b>	<b>Pay Periods 17 &amp; 18</b>					
<b>Overtime</b>						
	<b>Time and a Half</b>		<b>Double Time</b>		<b>Double Time and Half</b>	
<b>Department</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Animal Services	2.00	\$ 90.56	2.00	\$ 120.75		
Caravan Park					25.50	\$ 1,439.73
Civil Works	1.00	\$ 58.36	3.50	\$ 249.89		
Finance	4.50	\$ 233.99				
Health & Planning			6.00	\$ 423.53		
Human Resources	29.00	\$ 2,530.98	31.00	\$ 3,607.35		
Parks & Gardens	20.00	\$ 904.60	34.50	\$ 2,061.93		
Roads - Council	82.50	\$ 3,756.20	73.00	\$ 4,267.05		
Roads - RMS	31.00	\$ 1,291.52	32.50	\$ 1,769.65		
Roads & Eng Indoor	2.75	\$ 120.85				
Tourism	4.25	\$ 170.66				
Waste Management	17.00	\$ 822.33	23.50	\$ 2,381.97	8.50	\$ 511.18
Water & Waste Water	49.50	\$ 2,340.08	72.50	\$ 4,390.09		
Workshop	2.00	\$ 93.88	1.00	\$ 62.59		
<b>Total</b>	<b>245.50</b>	<b>\$ 12,414.01</b>	<b>279.50</b>	<b>\$ 19,334.80</b>	<b>34.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,950.91</b>
<b>Travel Allowance</b>						
<b>Department</b>	<b>Kms</b>	<b>Amount</b>				
Roads & Eng Indoor	12.0	\$ 9.36				
Health & Planning	3,862	\$ 3,012.36				
Water & Wastewater	476	\$ 371.59				
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,350.4</b>	<b>\$ 3,393.31</b>				
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>37,093.03</b>				

Conclusion

The report indicates to Council that its finances are in a favourable position.

Attachments

Nil

## 9.10 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/156

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
Reporting Officer: Hodi Beauliv - Manager Finance

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future  
Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### Summary

As at 29 February 2020 Council had \$26,000,000.00 invested in term deposits. Council received \$52,347.68 from its investments for the month of February 2020.

In February 2020 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 1.63% and it currently has \$8,466,832.09 of internal restrictions and \$6,220,553.78 of external restrictions.

### Recommendation

That Council notes the monthly investment report.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the current status of its investments.

#### Matters under consideration

As at 29 February 2020 Council had \$27,639,230.02 invested with eight financial institutions. As Bank West has withdrawn from the term deposit market, two new investment options have been sourced, Macquarie Bank and Westpac Banking Corporation. Their Standard & Poor ratings are A-1 and A-1+ respectively for short term investments. This makes them acceptable institutions to invest with according to Council's investment policy.

#### Breakdown of Total Funds Available

Financial Institution	Amount	Percentage of Available Funds
AMP	\$ 6,000,000.00	21.71%
Bank of Queensland	\$ 4,000,000.00	14.47%
Bendigo Bank	\$ 5,639,230.02	20.40%
IMB Bank	\$ 2,000,000.00	7.24%
Macquarie Bank	\$ 1,000,000.00	3.62%
Members Equity Bank	\$ 4,000,000.00	14.47%
National Australia Bank	\$ 4,000,000.00	14.47%
Westpac Banking Corporation	\$ 1,000,000.00	3.62%
	\$ 27,639,230.02	100.00%

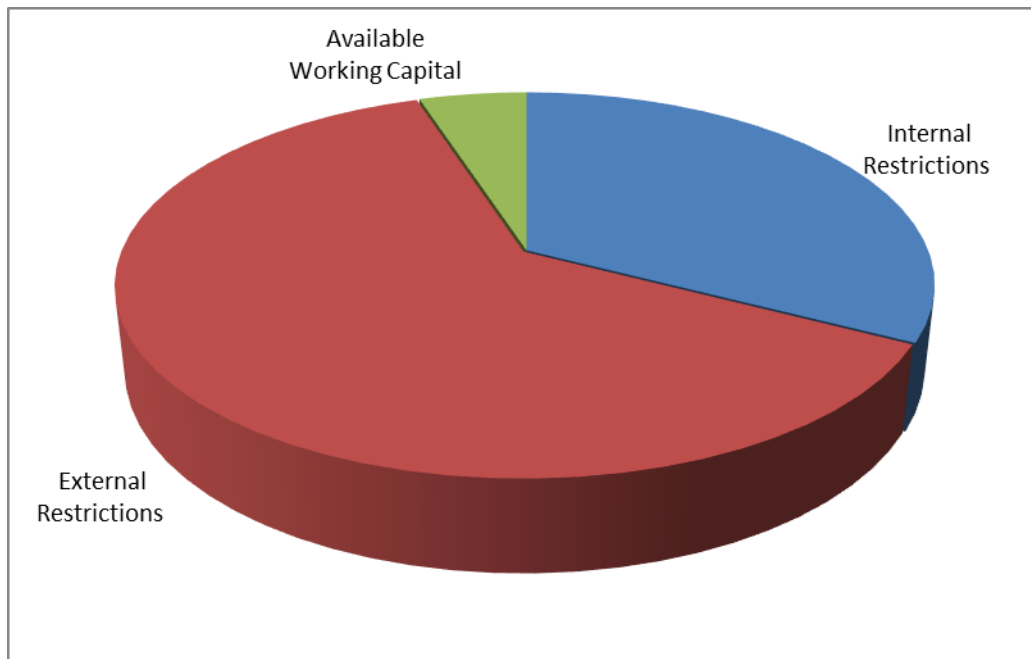


Investments on Hand as at 29 February

Investments on Hand as at 29 February 2020						
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Investment Type	Amount Invested	Rating
AMP (2)	7/11/2019	7/05/2020	1.75%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
AMP (5)	25/09/2019	24/03/2020	1.75%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
AMP (6)	14/10/2019	14/04/2020	1.70%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
AMP (7)	25/11/2019	25/05/2020	1.90%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
AMP (9)	13/11/2019	13/05/2020	1.80%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
AMP (10)	10/01/2020	9/04/2020	1.75%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bank of Queensland (6)	23/01/2020	23/04/2020	1.53%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bank of Queensland (7)	19/06/2019	17/03/2020	2.08%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bank of Queensland (8)	4/02/2020	3/06/2020	1.48%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bank of Queensland (9)	26/02/2020	26/08/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank (6)	4/09/2019	4/03/2020	1.60%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank (7)	29/11/2019	29/04/2020	1.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank (9)	21/02/2020	19/08/2020	1.45%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank (10)	5/12/2019	3/05/2020	1.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
IMB Bank	9/12/2019	9/03/2020	1.59%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
IMB Bank (2)	19/02/2020	20/05/2020	1.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
Macquarie Bank	12/02/2020	10/06/2020	1.60%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1/A+
Members Equity Bank	24/02/2020	26/08/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
Members Equity Bank (10)	15/01/2020	16/06/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
Members Equity Bank (9)	29/10/2019	31/03/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Members Equity Bank (11)	19/11/2019	16/04/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank (1)	11/09/2019	9/03/2020	1.73%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank (3)	3/12/2019	2/03/2020	1.54%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank (4)	28/01/2020	27/04/2020	1.60%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank (5)	13/09/2019	11/03/2020	1.73%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	20/02/2020	19/06/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Total					\$ 26,000,000.00	
Representing:						
- Internal Restrictions						
- Employee Entitlements				\$ 2,376,437.00		
- Doubtful Debts				\$ 48,595.00		
- Tip Remediation				\$ 1,372,493.54		
- Future Development Reserve				\$ 1,113,213.94		
- Trust Account				\$ 356,092.61		
- Capital Projects				\$ 1,000,000.00		
- Plant Replacement Reserve				\$ 2,200,000.00	\$ 8,466,832.09	
- External Restrictions						
- Water Fund				\$ 9,184,020.93		
- Sewer Fund				\$ 2,803,251.79		
- Developer Contributions Reserve				\$ 619,065.20		
- Domestic Waste Management Reserve				\$ 104,796.78		
- Unexpended Grants				\$ 2,659,485.11		
- Crown Reserves Reserve				\$ 333,116.80		
- Loan Guarantee Reserve				\$ 10,774.04		
- Prepayments Cemeteries				\$ 506,043.13	\$ 16,220,553.78	
- Day to Day Liquidity					\$ 1,312,614.13	
					\$ 26,000,000.00	
Operating Account					\$ 1,639,230.02	
Total Funds Available					\$ 27,639,230.02	

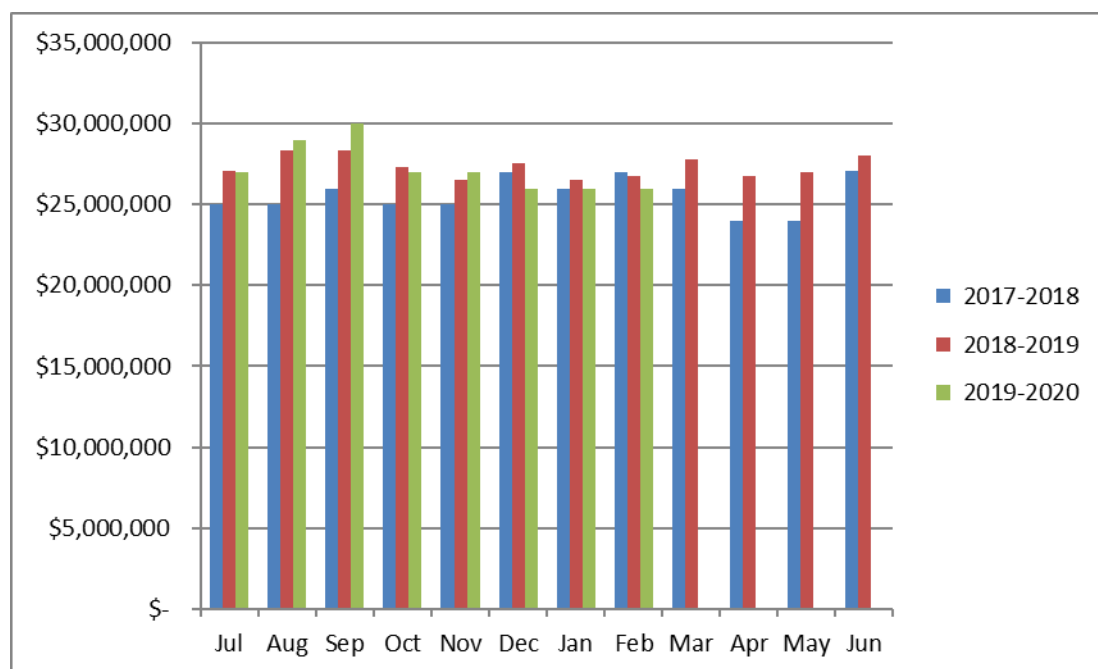
Note: Ratings provided are from Moody's and Standard & Poors Rating Agencies

Breakdown



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 29 February 2020

Grant	Amount
Block Grant	\$1,467,544.77
Roads to Recovery	\$0.00
Pooncarie Weir	\$77,746.00
RFS R & M Grant 2011-2018	\$260,923.00
Financial Assistance Grant 2019/20 Received in Advance	\$771,097.25
Drought Communities Programme	\$58,845.99
Stronger Country Communities Fund	\$23,328.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,659,485.11</b>

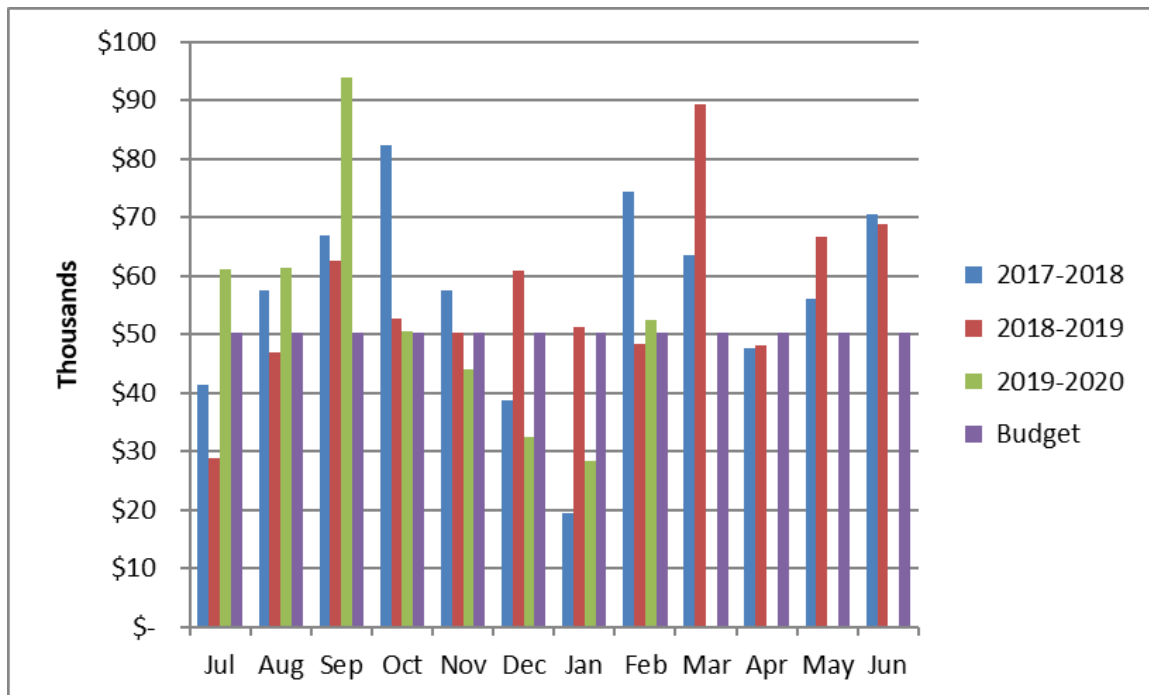
Total funds invested

Seven term deposits matured in February earning Council \$52,347.68 in interest. The budget for February was \$50,212.50. Year to date Council has received \$423,925.77 in interest. The year to date budget is \$401,700.00.

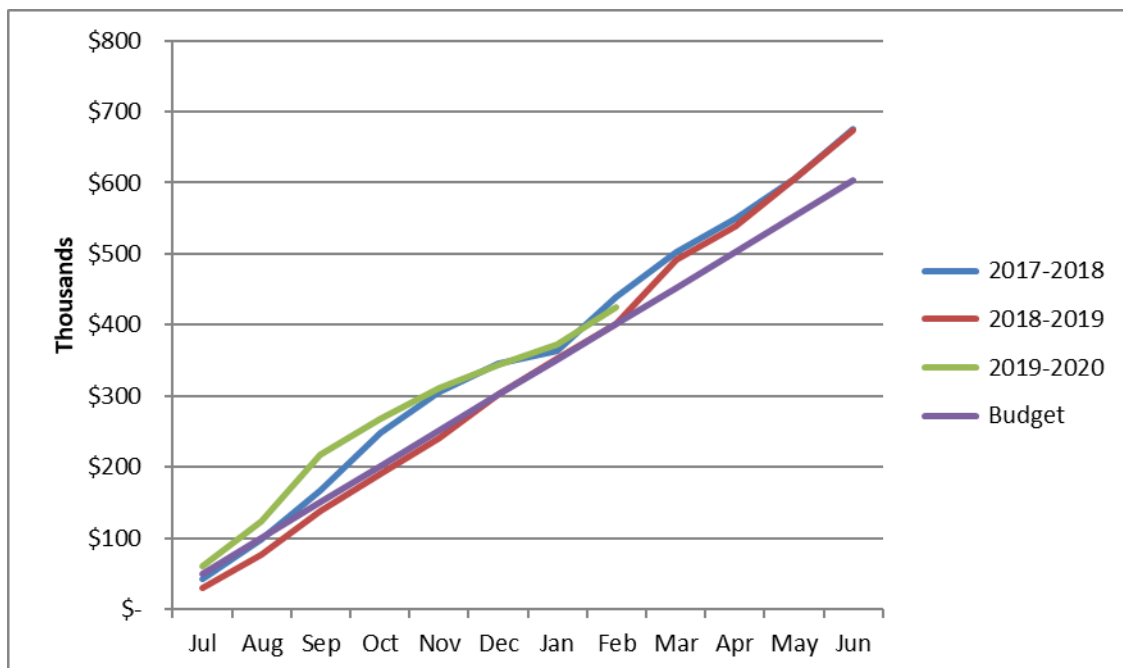
Investments maturing in February 2020

Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Investment Type	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
Bank of Queensland (2)	12/08/2019	11/02/2020	1.73%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 8,673.70
Bank of Queensland (8)	8/08/2019	4/02/2020	1.83%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 9,024.66
Bank of Queensland (9)	30/08/2019	26/02/2020	1.73%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 8,531.51
Bankwest	6/08/2019	3/02/2020	1.70%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 8,430.14
Bendigo Bank (9)	21/10/2019	21/02/2020	1.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 5,054.79
IMB Bank (2)	19/11/2019	19/02/2020	1.55%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 3,906.85
Members Equity Bank	26/08/2019	24/02/2020	1.75%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 8,726.03
<b>Total</b>						<b>\$ 52,347.68</b>

Interest received February 2020

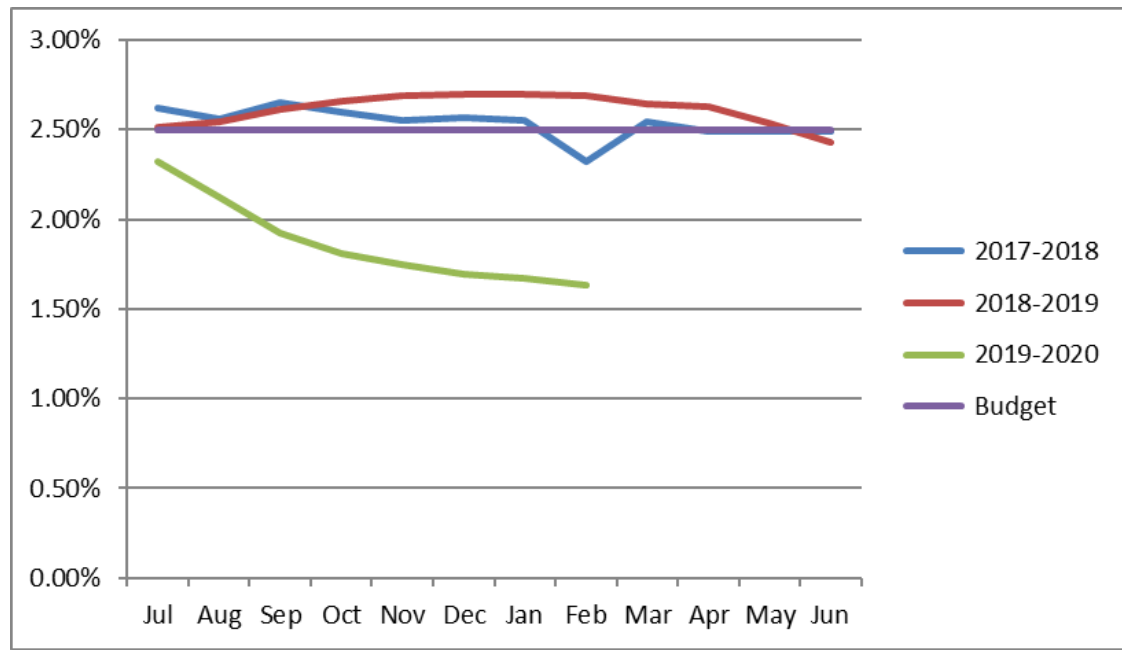


Total Interest received July 2019 – June 2020



For February 2020 Council's investments returned an effective average rate of 1.63%. Year to date the effective average rate has been 1.86%. The budget for 2019-2020 is 2.50%.

Effective average Interest Rate



Conclusion

The Director Finance and Policy certifies that all investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 and Council's investment policy.

Council is investing its funds prudently to optimise returns and reduce exposure to risk in accordance with legislation and its own investment policy.

Attachments

Nil

## 9.11 WORKS REPORT UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2020

File Number: RPT/20/121

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Allan Eastmond - Manager Works

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural assets

Strategy: 3.2 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure

### **Summary**

This report provides a summary of the major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Division which have been completed during the month of February 2020 and the planned works for March 2020.

### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the major works undertaken for February 2020 and the proposed works for March 2020.

### **Detailed Report**

During February, the Roads and Engineering Division were unable to perform maintenance grading due to the continued dry conditions.

Other projects:

Continued carting of water to property owners who do not have access to potable water continues until otherwise advised.

March will see major works continuing on the Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Electrical and process upgrade, Wentworth and Dareton Sewer Upgrades.

Works are continuing at the Barrett Pavilion and Curlwaa Hall.

Works continuing at the George Gordon Oval Netball Courts.

### **Attachments**

1. Major Works Report - February 2020 [↓](#)



## Roads and Engineering

### Major Works Report – February 2020

Works completed February 2020	<p>Roads</p> <p><u>RMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Segment 95 Sturt Highway Rehabilitation Preconstruction works including submission of the Project Specific Plan, procurement planning request for quotations for materials and services for the works commencement on the 2 March 2020</li> <li>RMS R-Map submitted for Quarter 2 (October to December) of the Road Maintenance Council Contract</li> <li>Source quotations for culvert maintenance on the Silver City Highway</li> </ul> <p><u>Sealing Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake works to identify locations and commence patching prior to reseal works for stage 2 reseals within the local and regional roads network.</li> </ul> <p><u>Maintenance Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roads and Engineering undertook limited maintenance grading to remove known hazards but works were limited due to the continuing dry conditions.</li> </ul> <p>Projects</p> <p><u>Dareton Sewer Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearing of Golf Course Road vegetation for pump station power supply commenced</li> <li>Pump station security fence completed.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wentworth Sewer Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rising Main Pipeline Pooncarie Road 80% complete.</li> <li>PS1 Rising Main to commence early March</li> </ul> <p><u>Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Electrical and Process upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation of Switch Room construction</li> <li>Installation completed of rising main flow meter</li> <li>Modifications to Inlet works area 50% completed</li> </ul> <p><u>Curlwaa Boat Ramp</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed</li> </ul>
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	<p><u>Toilet Upgrades</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strother Park Fully Completed</li> <li>• All concrete works completed for Wentworth Sporting Complex, Strother Park, Gol Gol Cemetery &amp; Fotherby Park.</li> <li>• Works commenced on the James King Park toilet upgrade</li> <li>• Continuing with secondary tiling for the following toilet locations; O'Donnell Park, Wentworth Sporting Complex, Short Street, McLeod Oval, Pitman Ave and Lions Park.</li> </ul> <p><u>Emergency Water Carting to Property Owners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency water carting to property owners continues</li> <li>• Letter drafted requestion further funding</li> </ul> <p><u>George Gordon Netball Courts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slab was poured Monday 10 &amp; 11 February</li> <li>• Concrete foundation for lighting poles poured</li> <li>• Concrete to cure through February.</li> </ul> <p><u>Buronga EDS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pontoon slab to be poured early March</li> <li>• Site earthworks to commence.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wentworth Aerodrome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final design completed</li> <li>• Contract documentation completed for material supply and stabilisation works</li> <li>• Stock area prepared and secondary site access completed</li> <li>• Construction works water supply materials ordered and due for installation</li> <li>• Perimeter fencing commenced.</li> </ul> <p>Stronger Country Communities Grant Funded</p> <p><u>Wentworth Sporting Complex</u></p> <p>Earthworks commenced on new synthetic bowling green.</p> <p><u>Curlwaa Hall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stainless steel benches and splashbacks being installed</li> <li>• Electrical fit off completed and exit lights placed</li> <li>• Painting mostly completed with some areas awaiting other finishings</li> <li>• Vinyl flooring being placed</li> <li>• Gas bottles and gas range ordered for immediate installation</li> <li>• Quotes being arranged for landscaping works and informal car parking areas</li> <li>• Water tank on order and to be connected immediately on arrival.</li> </ul>
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	<p><u>Barrett Pavilion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-slab preparation completed and Geotechnical report received</li> <li>• Boxing commenced and plumbing set out progressing</li> </ul>
Works ongoing during March 2020	<p><u>Roads</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction on a 600m section on segment 95 Sturt Highway Rehabilitation site establishment commenced 2 March with the stabilisation of Sub Base programmed for Monday 9 March 2020</li> <li>• Realignment and sealing of the last bend on Pitman Avenue West to commence March.</li> </ul> <p><u>Projects</u></p> <p><u>Dareton Sewer Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed commencement of Golf Course Road power supply to pump station to commence</li> <li>• Repair of defective Namatjira Sewerage lagoon linings.</li> <li>• Installation of fourth sewerage lagoon lining, delayed until completion of repairs to lagoon linings.</li> <li>• Decommissioning of Dareton Sewerage Treatment works, delayed due to same reason as above.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wentworth Sewer Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin rising main installation at SPS1</li> <li>• Begin installation of new pumps and switchboard upgrade at SPS 1</li> <li>• Installation of rising main on Adelaide and Beverly street.</li> </ul> <p><u>Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Electrical and Process upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commenced modifications to Raw Water Pump Station switch room.</li> <li>• Commenced installation of balance tank drainage and telemetry mast.</li> <li>• Complete modifications to Inlet works area</li> </ul> <p><u>Hendy Road Sewer Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project completed, currently in Defect Liability period</li> </ul> <p><u>Buronga EDS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pontoon slab poured 2 March 2020</li> <li>• Site earthworks continuing with the clean-up of existing piles to commence.</li> </ul> <p><u>Emergency Water Carting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carting to continue to affected property owners.</li> </ul>

	<p><u>Toilet Upgrades</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand dryer installation only Short St remains, plumbing and secondary tiling works to be completed by end of April 2020.</li> <li>• James King Park to be completed by Easter.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wentworth Aerodrome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update consultation with users including; RDFS, CASA, Wentworth Aeroclub and Mildura Airport.</li> <li>• Supply and delivery of runway materials to commence</li> <li>• Preparation of electrical upgrade, runway and flood lighting tender documentation.</li> <li>• Perimeter fencing continuing</li> <li>• Commence delivery of drainage and electrical duct materials.</li> </ul> <p>Stronger Country Communities Grant Funded Projects</p> <p><u>Curlwaa Hall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stainless steel benches and splashbacks being installed</li> <li>• Electrical fit off to be completed and exit lights placed</li> <li>• Painting will be completed with some areas awaiting other finishings</li> <li>• Vinyl flooring to be placed</li> <li>• Minor flashings to be completed to internal gable end</li> <li>• Gas bottles and gas range ordered for immediate installation</li> <li>• Quotes being arranged for landscaping works and informal car parking areas</li> <li>• Water tank on order and to be connected immediately on arrival.</li> </ul> <p><u>Barrett Pavilion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First slab pour with footings programmed for Friday, 6 March 2020</li> <li>• Second set out and slab / footing pour proposed for 12 March 2020</li> <li>• Shed fully manufactured and ready for supply after concrete slab curing period of 7-days.</li> </ul> <p><u>George Gordon Netball Courts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erection of light towers.</li> </ul>
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**9.12 POLICY REVIEW - FENCING AND GRIDS POLICY**

File Number: RPT/20/144

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Paula Mastrippolito - Manager Organisational Support

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.6 Collaborate with others to achieve desired outcomes for the local community

**Summary**

The Fencing and Grids Policy was last adopted by council on 28 June 2017. It is proposed to amend the policy to enable the increasing of the co-contribution paid by council under section 6.4 of the policy.

**Recommendation**

- 1) That Council endorses the revised Fencing and Grids Policy.
- 2) That Council amends the Roads and Engineering Support section of the 2019/20 Annual Fees and Charges to reflect a co-contribution towards fencing of up to \$2,500.00 per km of fencing for a maximum of 5km per grid.

**Detailed Report****Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek councils endorsement of an amendment to the current Fencing and Grids Policy and the 2019/20 Annual Fees and Charges document.

This matter has been brought direct to council rather than via the Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee due to there being a current request for a co-contribution towards fencing.

**Background**

The Fencing and Grids policy was originally adopted by Council in 2007 (CP53 Ramps and Grids).

The policy was amended in 2010 and it is in this amendment where a co-contribution amount of \$1,500 per km of fencing was first introduced.

The current policy was last endorsed by council on 28 June 2017, however the dollar amount of the co-contribution remained at \$1,500.00 per km (refer section 6.4 of the policy).

**Report Detail**

The current Fencing and Grids policy (section 6.4) nominates a fixed dollar amount for council's co-contribution to fencing when a grid is removed.

*6.4 Council will provide a financial contribution to boundary fencing only when combined with the removal of a grid from Council's asset base. Council will provide a financial contribution when Council's grid removal policy has been agreed to in writing and the agreed fencing works has been completed.*

*Council will make a financial contribution of up to \$1,500.00 per km of fencing for a maximum of 5 km per grid. If there were extenuating circumstances whereby additional contribution is required, the matter shall be brought forward to the Council's Roads Committee for direction.*

It is proposed to remove the nominated amount for the co-contribution from the policy, and include the co-contribution in council's Annual Fees and Charges.

This approach enables council to undertake an annual review of the amount of the co-contribution, without needing to amend the policy each time.

**Conclusion**

The removal of the fixed dollar amount nominated in the policy combined with adding the amount of the co-contribution into the Annual Fees and Charges will enable council to review and adjust the amount of its contribution on an annual basis.

**Attachments**

1. Working Document - Council Policy - Fencing and Grids Policy PR012[↓](#)
2. Proposed amendment to 2019/20 Annual Fees and Charges[↓](#)



## DOCUMENT SUMMARY

This Official Council Policy deals with the replacement, maintenance, removal and fencing of grids within the Shire of Wentworth.

### 1. STATEMENT OF POLICY INTENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure clear guide lines for the replacement and/or maintenance of grids, including the removal of grids and the fencing of adjacent property.

### 2. POLICY SCOPE

This policy is application to apply to grid access gates and associated fencing.

### 3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS (used in this policy)

This table summarises the main definitions and abbreviations contained within this policy

Grid	Stock Grid
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### 4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Nil.

### 5. POLICY

It is the policy of this Council that:-

- 5.1 Council will consider an application for the installation of a replacement grid only when the identified grid has a Road Safety and/or Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) related concerns. Grid replacement will be at Council's cost.
- 5.2 Council's responsibility for grid maintenance will be confined to Road Safety and/or WHS related issues for the maintenance of the grid and attached wings. Maintenance of grid access gates, associated fencing and cleaning out of the grid and temporary traffic management during such maintenance works in accordance with relevant legislation and regulations will be the responsibility of the adjoining land holders.
- 5.3 Council will consider the application for the removal of grids only upon receipt of a signed written agreement from all adjoining land holder/s to supply, erect and adequately fence out all adjacent property boundaries, within 12 months of acceptance by Council.  
  
Removal of identified grids will be carried out upon the completion of all agreed fencing. Grid removal and road reconstruction will be carried out by and at Council's cost.
- 5.4 Council will provide a financial contribution to boundary fencing only when combined with the removal of a grid from Council's asset base.  
  
Council will provide a financial contribution when Council's grid removal policy has been agreed to in writing and the agreed fencing works has been completed.

The amount of contribution paid by Council will be determined on an annual basis in the Annual Fees and Charges. If there were extenuating circumstances whereby additional contribution is required, the matter shall be brought forward to the Council's Road and Road Safety Committee for direction.

5.5 The following matters are to be taken into consideration before granting an approval under this policy: -

- a) Relative condition and maintenance costs of the grid/s.
- b) Consequence of failure of the grid/s
- c) Length of fencing and cost to Council to enable removal of the grid/s
- d) Traffic volume and type on the road concerned
- e) Level of maintenance of the road and difficulty caused by the grid/s
- f) Location of the grid/s regarding road alignment.
- g) The availability of Council budgeted funds.

## 6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

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Approved by Council and signed by  
General Manager of Wentworth Shire Council

Signed & Dated

**Roads & Engineering Support**

Service	Fee (Including GST)	GST
<b>Road Opening Permits</b>		
Permit	\$147.00	0%
Refundable deposits (note 1):		
Road opening fee	\$525.00	0%
For works in a constructed nature strip with concrete footpath	\$368.00	0%
For works in an unpaved constructed nature strip	\$210.00	0%
New works which may affect Council assets such as footpaths, sewer, drainage & water supply	\$1,418.00	0%
<b>Traffic Management Plans</b>		
Plan Preparation Fee	\$147.00	10%
Plan Assessment Fee	\$134.00	0%
Hire Fee per day - Signs / Bollards / Traffic Cones	\$28.00	10%
Refundable Deposit (note 2)		
Hire of Signs / Bollards / Traffic Cones	\$210.00	0%
<b>Bins</b>		
Bin Hire (per bin, per day - includes 1 emptying/cleaning)	\$22.00	10%
Each additional empty/clean (per bin)	\$22.00	10%
Replacement of Mobile Garbage Bin	\$98.00	10%
<b>Misc. services</b>		
Hire of barbeque - per day	\$176.00	10%
Access permits - Heavy Vehicle National Law	\$90.00	10%
<b>Weeds Inspections</b>		
Inspections within the built up horticultural areas (i.e. Wentworth to Monak)	\$166.00	10%
Inspections in rural areas (travel is calculated to and from the property)	\$166/hr plus \$55/hr after the first 2 hours + .85c per km	10%
<b>Grid Replacement (refer Fencing and Grid Policy) added 18/03/2020</b>		
Co-contribution towards fencing when removal of a grid has been agreed to in writing.	Up to \$2,500 per km of fencing for a maximum amount of 5km per grid.	Incl.

*Notes:*

(1) On completion of the job, the deposit will be refunded, less the restoration charges and any additional costs which may be required to restore the trench.

(2) The restoration charges covers sealing and relaying of concrete surfaces and the top surface for gravel and earth. Any additional works are an extra charge. If the costs are greater than the deposit, a charge will be made.

## **10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

### **10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR WHEELDON**

File Number: RPT/20/140

Councillor Wheeldon has indicated his intention to move the following motion:


#### **Motion**

That we take legal action against the Audit Office of NSW and the Audit firms that have audited Wentworth Shire Council's financial statements over the past three years, having failed to mention the costs awarded to the Wentworth Shire Council by the Court which could amount up to \$500,000 – having failed to correctly report the assets of our Council – the work these firms have been paid to do.

#### **Attachments**

1. Notice of Motion - Legal action against the Audit Office and two Audit firms [↓](#)

NOTICE OF MOTION

	
Received - 4 MAR 2020	
File	PT1415/03
Act/Off	EAGM Copy/Rel MOS

HD

I, Councillor Bill Wheeldon OAM JP wish to submit the following Notice of Motion:-

That we take legal action against the Audit Office of NSW and the two Audit firms that have audited Wentworth Shire Council's financial statements over the past three years, having failed to mention the costs awarded to the Wentworth Shire Council by the Court which could amount up to \$500,000 – having failed to correctly report the assets of our Council – the work these firms have been paid to do.

  
Councillor William J Wheeldon OAM JP

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

## **11 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

### **NEXT MEETING**

22 April 2020