



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 AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING** commencing at **10:00AM**.

The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website and a person's image and/or voice may be broadcast.

Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and/or voice being webcast.

All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing personal information about another individual without their consent.

Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments.

The meeting must not be recorded by others without prior written consent of the Council in accordance with the Council's code of meeting practice.

**KEN ROSS
GENERAL MANAGER**

ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA

15 SEPTEMBER 2021

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

THE MAYOR REQUESTS THAT THE GENERAL MANAGER MAKES
ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING THE LIVE-STREAMING OF THE MEETING.

2 PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 18 August 2021 be confirmed as
circulated.



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

18 AUGUST 2021

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 10AM

2 PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Susan Nichols (Mayor)
Councillor Tim Elstone (Deputy Mayor) VC
Councillor Greg Evans VC
Councillor Steve Heywood VC
Councillor Jane MacAllister VC
Councillor Don McKinnon VC
Councillor Peter Nunan VC
Councillor Bill Wheeldon OAM

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Matthew Carlin (Director Health and Planning) VC
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)
Samantha Wall (Administration Officer)

Mayor Nichols extended Council's sincere sympathy to Cr Don & Annette McKinnon and family on the passing of their son and also Cr Greg & Julia Evans and family on the passing of Greg's father.

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 21 July 2021 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 21 July 2021 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr. Wheeldon, Seconded Cr. McKinnon

CARRIED

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/21/471

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Chloe Horne - Business Support 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

The Outstanding Matters report provides details of activities raised at previous Council meetings that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding matters as at 11 August 2021.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the list of outstanding matters as at 11 August 2021.

Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. McKinnon

CARRIED

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/862

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. Nichols, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 INTERNAL AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

File Number: RPT/21/469

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 & Risk Management Committee was held on 29 July 2021. 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:

- Adopt the amended Investment Policy
- Adopt the revised Community Engagement Strategy
- Approve the variations to the 2020/21 Operational Plan

The Committee has also requested Council notes the:

- Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Adopt the amended Investment Policy
- b) Adopt the revised Community Engagement Strategy
- c) Approves the variations to the 2020/21 Operational Plan
- d) Notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Adopt the amended Investment Policy
- b) Adopt the revised Community Engagement Strategy
- c) Approves the variations to the 2020/21 Operational Plan
- d) Notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone

CARRIED

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File Number: RPT/20/854

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Chloe Horne - Business Support 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

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
Circulars 21-18 to 21-23
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.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

Moved Cr. McKinnon, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

9.2 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/473

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 July 2021 were \$739,265.05. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 8.27%. For comparison purposes 8.47% of the levy had been collected at the end of July 2020. Council currently has \$36,222,985.30 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Heywood

CARRIED

9.3 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/494

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

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 July 2021 Council had \$25 million invested in term deposits and \$11,222,985.30 in other cash investments. Council received \$9,970.71 from its investments for the month of June 2021.

In July 2021 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 0.38% and it currently has \$6,736,496.56 of internal restrictions and \$21,227,391.57 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council notes the monthly investment report.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the monthly investment report.

Moved Cr. McKinnon, Seconded Cr. Evans

CARRIED

9.4 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

File Number: RPT/21/487

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy
Responsible Division: Finance and Policy
Reporting Officer: Ricki Martin - Administration Officer Finance & 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 \$160,000.00 for the 2021/22 financial year for the consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance. In this financial year, \$101,890.00 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 \$0.00.

The total value of requests for this August 2021 funding application period totals \$19,750.00, which if granted in full, would leave a balance in the Donations, Contributions and Grants fund of \$38,360.00.

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.

Amendment

That Council endorse all the requests with the exception of the Wentworth Rifle Club.

LAPSED

Council Resolution

That Council endorses all the requests for financial assistance to be funded from the Donations, Contributions and Grants program.

Moved Cr. McKinnon, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon

CARRIED

Cr Wheeldon requested his vote against the endorsement of \$5000 funding to the Wentworth Rifle Club be recorded.

9.5 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF JUNE 2021

File Number: RPT/21/491

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Administration Officer

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 July 2021, a total of 17 Development Applications and four S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$1,892,838.00. This brings the year to date total to 88 Development Applications and 21 S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$13,528,179.00.

Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of July 2021.
- 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 July 2021.
- 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. McKinnon, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

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

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

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

9.6 REQUEST TO NAME THE MEETING ROOM IN THE NEW WENTWORTH SHOWGROUNDS COMPLEX COMMUNITY PAVILION

File Number: RPT/21/477

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 request has been forwarded to Council by the Wentworth Show Society asking that consideration be given to naming the Meeting/Mothers Rooms within the new Wentworth Showgrounds Complex Community Pavilion – “*The Dawes Family Rooms*”.

A questionnaire was subsequently forwarded to all Licenced User Groups of the Wentworth Showgrounds Complex in order to conduct consultation on the matter.

Recommendation

That Council name the Meeting/Mothers rooms within the new Wentworth Showgrounds Complex Community Pavilion – “*The Dawes Family Rooms*”.

Council Resolution

That Council name the Meeting/Mothers rooms within the new Wentworth Showgrounds Complex Community Pavilion – “*The Dawes Family Rooms*”.

Moved Cr. Heywood, Seconded Cr. McKinnon

CARRIED

9.7 WENTWORTH AERODROME UPGRADE - PROJECT UPDATE

File Number: RPT/21/490

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Coordinator Roads & Engineering

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

As part of the OLG Capital Expenditure Review, quarterly project update reports are required to be provided to Council.

The report includes overall progress of the project, identifies any budget variances that may impact on the project and also identifies any issues that may have an adverse impact on the works.

Council have undertaken a major upgrade of the Wentworth Aerodrome. The works include the construction of a new runway for Runway 08/26 and redevelopment of the existing 08/26 Runway to a parallel taxiway, plus upgrading and expansion of the existing apron area. The new runway and supporting infrastructure have been designed to Code 2B instrument, non-precision requirements in accordance with the Part 139 (Aerodrome) Manual of Standards 2019 (MOS).

NSW Treasury confirmed in May 2019 that Council was successful in securing \$8,420,000 in Restart funding through the Regional Growth: Economic Activation Fund – Growing Local Economies Program. With Council's contribution of \$700,000 the overall budget for the project equals \$9,120,000.

The expenditure to date has totaled \$7,727,703.89 with the agreed percentage apportionment of 92% Restart funding and 8% Council contribution.

The funding body, Restart NSW confirmed in June 2021 Council were successful with their change request to utilise project savings to undertake further scope of works being; carry out works on the partially constructed Runway 17/35 to complete a full length sealed pavement surface.

Recommendation

That Council notes the information contained in this report.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the information contained in this report.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Elstone

CARRIED

9.8 PROJECTS AND WORKS REPORT UPDATE - AUGUST 2021

File Number: RPT/21/472

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Coordinator Roads & Engineering

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 projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the month of July 2021.

Recommendation

That Council notes the major works undertaken for July and the scheduled works for August 2021.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the major works undertaken for July and the scheduled works for August 2021.

Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. Wheeldon

CARRIED

**9.9 CONTRACT OF SALE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF RIVERFRONT PARCEL
PART LOT 1 153 PITMAN AVENUE BURONGA**

File Number: RPT/21/516

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

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth is a vibrant, growing and thriving Shire
Strategy: 1.2 Encourage and support population growth and resident attraction

Summary

As part of the disposal of Riverfront Parcels Council has received a Contract of Sale for Part Lot 1, 153 Pitman Avenue Buronga. To finalise the disposal a resolution of Council is required to affix the Common Seal to the contract.

Recommendation

That Council admits the supplementary late report for consideration

Late Report

That Council admits for consideration a supplementary late report from the General Manager as the information contained in the report is deemed to be of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the Council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of Council.

Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

Council Resolution

That Council pursuant to Clause 400 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Council endorses the Contract of Sale for Part Lot 1, 153 Pitman Avenue Buronga and authorises the Mayor and General Manager to execute the contract and affix the seal of the Wentworth Shire Council.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, 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, Evans, Heywood, MacAllister, McKinnon, Nichols, Nunan and Wheeldon.***

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

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 RURAL LAND USE STUDY

Cr Bill Wheeldon requested Council approach the Minister to get action on Rural Land use.

The General Manager advised that the Planning team will do a report to Council with the chronological order of events in regard to the matter and seek a way forward.

10.2 BURONGA / GOL GOL FOOTPATHS

Cr Jane MacAllister requested information about the paths being laid in Buronga/Gol Gol. Are both sides of road going to have paths? Are there any more paths planned?

10.3 DUMPING OF GREEN WASTE

Cr Peter Nunan asked if there is any evidence of illegal dumping in the creek near the cemetery in Wentworth.

The General Manager advised the matter will be investigated.

10.4 MOTOR BIKES ON LEVEE

Cr Greg Evans advised there are motorbikes riding on the levee and asked if Council can check with Police that they are complying with the lockdown rules.

10.5 CARAVAN ON RESERVE

Cr Susan Nichols requested that the caravan on the reserve be checked and removed if it has been abandoned.

Cr Elstone commented that it was pleasing to see a positive response from the Water Minister, Minister Pavey regarding the 640/480GL rule and Council should continue to push for a change in this rule.

Council Resolution

That the item discussed in the pre-meeting briefing be moved into Closed Council.

Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

Despite the right of members of the public to attend meetings of a council, the council may choose to close to the public, parts of the meeting that involve the discussion or receipt of certain matters as prescribed under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act.

With the exception of matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (10A(2)(a)), matters involving the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer (10A(2)(b)) or matters that would disclose a trade secret (10A(2)(d)(iii)), council must be satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

The Act requires council to close the meeting for only so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security being protected. (section 10B(1)(a))

Section 10A(4) of the Act provides that a council may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Section 10B(4) of the Act stipulates that for the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:-

- (a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or
- (b) the discussion of the matter may -
 - (i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or
 - (ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

Recommendation

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from 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 Peregrine Mineral Sands Pty Ltd - Bemax Resources Pty Ltd - Cristal Mininf Australia Ltd - Imperial Mining (Aust) Pty Ltd - Probo Mining Pty Ltd - Court Costs. (RPT/21/520)

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 (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

Council Resolution

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from 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

Moved Cr. Nunan, Seconded Cr. MacAllister

CARRIED

Council moved into Closed Council at 10:44AM

Council reconvened into Open Council at 10:49AM

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL**12.1 PEREGRINE MINERAL SANDS PTY LTD - BEMAX RESOURCES PTY LTD - CRISTAL MININF AUSTRALIA LTD - IMPERIAL MINING (AUST) PTY LTD - PROBO MINING PTY LTD - COURT COSTS**

File Number: RPT/21/520

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

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 (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

The General Manager advised that Council resolved to authorise the General Manager to pursue legal avenues to ascertain the amount owing to Council for the court proceedings involving Peregrine Mineral Sands Pty Ltd - Bemax Resources Pty Ltd - Cristal Mining Australia Ltd - Imperial Mining (Aust) Pty Ltd - Probo Mining Pty Ltd and report to Council with a methodology to move this matter forward with an estimate of costs.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Meeting closed at 10:50AM

NEXT MEETING

15 September 2021

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/21/552

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Chloe Horne - Business Support 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

The Outstanding Matters report provides details of activities raised at previous Council meetings that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding matters as at 8 September 2021.

Additional Information

Nil

Attachments

1. Outstanding Action Report as at 8 September 2021 [↓](#)

Outstanding	Division: Committee: Ordinary Council Officer:	Date From: Date To: Printed: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 12:00:11 PM
Outstanding Action Items Report		
Ordinary Council 18/08/2021	10.5 Caravan on Reserve	Cr Susan Nichols requested that the caravan on the reserve be checked and removed if it has been abandoned. 8 Sep 2021 - 8:39 AM - Matthew Carlin Per the required notice period under the Impounding Act, the owner has until Friday 10 September 2020 to contact Council otherwise vehicles will be impounded.

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/561

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 purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Nichols for the period of 9 August 2021 – 7 September 2021.

Recommendation

That Council notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

Detailed Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Nichols for the period of 9 August 2021 – 7 September 2021.

Date	Meeting	Location
10 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
11 Aug 2021	Lunch with Helen Dalton MP	Wentworth
13 Aug 2021	Retirement Farewell for Council Staff Member Peter Moylan	Wentworth
17 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
18 Aug 2021	Pre-Meeting Ordinary Council Briefing	Wentworth
18 Aug 2021	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
24 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
31 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Video Conference
7 Sept 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Video Conference

Attachments

Nil

9.2 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/521

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Chloe Horne - Business Support 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

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
Circulars 21-24 to 21-27
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.

Detailed Report

1. OLG Circulars

1.1 Circular 21-24

September 2021 Mayoral Elections

- Mayoral elections must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.
- Schedule 7 prescribes three methods of election of Mayors:
 - Open ballot (e.g. a show of hands);
 - Ordinary ballot; or
 - Preferential ballot.
- Open ballots can be undertaken remotely where a Council is conducting its meetings by audio visual link.
- Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and Councillors will need to attend the meeting in person if the election is to be held by way of an ordinary or preferential ballot.

1.2 Circular 21-25

Job Retention Allowance 2021-22

- The following documents are now available on OLG's website under COVID 19 – information and resources:
 - Guidelines for the Council Job Retention Allowance Subsidy (JRA Guidelines);
 - JRA Eligibility Criteria (Eligibility Criteria) 2021-22;
 - JRA Eligibility Return – Quarter 1 – 2021-22 (FSER); and
 - Council JRA subsidy variation template letter (JRA Variation).
- The JRA Guidelines, Eligibility Criteria and FSER provide detailed guidance to assist Councils to determine their eligibility for the JRA Subsidy for Q1.
- In order to apply for JRA Subsidy eligibility, Councils are required to:
 - 1. Submit an FSER return for assessment;
 - 2. Notify OLG by email when staff reach three weeks special leave to access funding; and
 - 3. Provide ongoing weekly reporting when staff are on JRA to OLG.
- OLG will inform Councils of the outcome of its assessment of the FSER.
- The JRA Variation template letter should be requested from OLG once Council has been deemed eligible. The variation refers to changes made to the original Funding Agreement Council signed in 2020 as part of the Economic Stimulus Package.

1.3 Circular 21-26

New Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework for Councils and Joint Organisations

- As of 4 June 2022, all Councils (including County Councils) and Joint Organisations must have an ARIC. As noted above, Councils and Joint Organisations may enter into arrangements to share ARICs.
- Most Councils already have an ARIC and will not need to take any further action to comply with section 428A.
- Councils or Joint Organisations that do not currently have an ARIC should take immediate steps to ensure they have one before 4 June 2022. This may include talking to a neighbouring Council or their Joint Organisation about entering into an arrangement to share an ARIC.
- Under the proposed Guidelines, Councils and Joint Organisations are not required to establish a risk management framework and internal audit function that complies with the Guidelines until 30 June 2024. However, Councils and Joint Organisations should start taking steps to establish a risk management framework and internal audit function or to transition their existing risk management and internal audit arrangements to comply with the Guidelines.
- The proposed Guidelines set out membership requirements for ARICs. Councils and Joint Organisations are not required to comply with these requirements until June 2027. This will allow Councils and Joint Organisations five years to transition the membership of their existing ARICs to comply with the new requirements.
- The proposed Guidelines are available on OLG's website. Information about the changes to the original model proposed in the discussion paper is also available on OLG's website.
- OLG is seeking the views of Councils and others on the proposed Guidelines. Councils should inform their ARICs about the draft Guidelines to give ARIC members the opportunity to provide comment or to have input into the Council's comment on the draft Guidelines.

- Submissions may be made to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au, labelled 'Draft Risk Management and Internal Audit Guidelines' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before COB 26 November 2021.

1.4 Circular 21-27

Review of the Tendering Provisions of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*

- OLG is inviting submissions from Councils and other stakeholders on the discussion paper.
- Submissions may be made online, in writing or by completing the form accompanying the discussion paper. Written submissions may be made to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au, marked to the attention of the Council Governance Team and labelled "Tendering Regulation Review".
- Submissions are due COB **Friday 15 October 2021**.

2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 9 August 2021 – 6 September 2021.

Date	Meeting	Location
9 Aug 2021	West Darling Arts Update	Wentworth
9 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
10 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
11 Aug 2021	Meeting with Inspector Barrier Police District	Wentworth
11 Aug 2021	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Wentworth
11 Aug 2021	Border LGA Business Meeting	Video Conference
12 Aug 2021	Far West Joint Organisation Destination Management Plan Meeting	Video Conference
12 Aug 2021	COVID Stay at Home Order Update	Video Conference
12 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
15 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
16 Aug 2021	Local Emergency Management Committee Review Meeting	Video Conference
16 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
17 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
17 Aug 2021	COVID-19 Update for Councils	Video Conference
17 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
18 Aug 2021	Pre-Meeting Ordinary Council Briefing	Wentworth & Video Conference
18 Aug 2021	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth & Video Conference
19 Aug 2021	TransGrid EnergyConnect Update	Video Conference

19 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
19 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
20 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
21 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
22 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
23 Aug 2021	Murray Regional Water Strategy Update	Video Conference
23 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
23 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
24 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
25 Aug 2021	Project EnergyConnect Presentation	Video Conference
25 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
26 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
27 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
27 Aug 2021	Far West Joint Organisation Board Meeting	Video Conference
30 Aug 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
30 Aug 2021	Loddon Mallee Region IMT Meeting	Video Conference
30 Aug 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
31 Aug 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Video Conference
31 Aug 2021	OLG COVID-19 Webinar	Video Conference
31 Aug 2021	Loddon Mallee Region IMT Meeting	Video Conference
1 Sept 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
1 Sept 2021	Loddon Mallee Region IMT Meeting	Video Conference
2 Sept 2021	VIC/NSW Cross Border Commissioner Update	Video Conference
3 Sept 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference
6 Sept 2021	Joint Wentworth & Balranald Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Video Conference

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
16 Sept 2021	Child & Youth Focused Wentworth	Cr Jane MacAllister	Buronga

	Shire Health Interagency Meeting		
21 Sept 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & General Manager	Wentworth
24 Sept 2021	Far West Joint Organisation General Managers Meeting	General Manager	Video Conference
28 Sept 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & General Manager	Wentworth
5 Oct 2021	Mayoral Meeting	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & General Manager	Wentworth

4. Other items of note

Nil

Attachments

1. OLG Circular 21-24 [↓](#)
2. OLG Circular 21-25 [↓](#)
3. OLG Circular 21-26 [↓](#)
4. OLG Circular 21-27 [↓](#)



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	21-24 / 13 August 2021 / A784280
Previous Circular	21-20 Postponement of the local government elections to 4 December 2021
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Governance staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100/ olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Council to Implement

September 2021 mayoral elections

What's new or changing

- Mayoral elections must be held in September 2021 for mayors elected in September 2019 when their two year-terms expire (see sections 230(1) and 290(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*).
- Mayors elected in September 2020 will continue to hold office until council elections are held on 4 December 2021.
- The civic offices of all mayors elected by councillors will expire on election day on 4 December 2021.
- Deputy mayors hold their office for the term specified by the council's resolution. If a deputy mayor's term expires before election day on 4 December 2021, an election may need to be held for deputy mayor. It should be noted however, that councils are not required to have a deputy mayor.

What this will mean for your council

- Mayoral elections must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.
- Schedule 7 prescribes three methods of election of mayors:
 - open ballot (eg a show of hands)
 - ordinary ballot, or
 - preferential ballot.
- Open ballots can be undertaken remotely where a council is conducting its meetings by audio visual link.
- Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and councillors will need to attend the meeting in person if the election is to be held by way of an ordinary or preferential ballot.

Key points

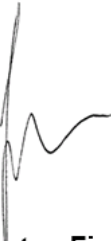
- In deciding which voting method to use for the mayoral election, councils should consider the personal circumstances of their councillors to ensure that all councillors can participate in the mayoral election.
- Councillors may attend council meetings in person under the *Public Health (COVID-19 Gathering Restrictions) Order (No 2) 2021* and the *Public Health (COVID-19 Additional Restrictions for Delta Outbreak) Order 2021* (Public Health Orders) for the purposes of participating in a mayoral election and staff may attend for the purposes of conducting the election.

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- In areas subject to stay at home restrictions under the Public Health Orders a person may leave their home for the purpose of undertaking any legal obligations and a person engaged in local government elections is an “authorised worker” for the purpose of the Public Health Orders.
- Councils must comply with the Public Health Orders when holding a Mayoral election and should observe appropriate social distancing and take any other steps necessary to minimise the risk of infection by the COVID-19 virus and to ensure the health and safety of all attendees.

Where to go for further information

- The Office of Local Government has issued a fact sheet on conducting mayoral elections which is available [here](#).
- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.



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Coordinator General, Planning Delivery and Local Government

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Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	21-25 / 20 August 2021 / A782524
Previous Circular	20-30
Who should read this	General Managers and Responsible Accounting Officer
Contact	Performance Team and Council Engagement Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information / Council to Implement

Job Retention Allowance 2021-22

What's new or changing

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has released updated resources that will assist councils to apply for the *Council Job Retention Allowance Subsidy* for the first quarter 2021-22 (Q1).

What this will mean for your council

- The following documents are now available on OLG's website under COVID 19 – information and resources:
 - Guidelines for the Council Job Retention Allowance Subsidy (JRA Guidelines)
 - JRA Eligibility Criteria (Eligibility Criteria) 2021-22;
 - JRA Eligibility Return – Quarter 1 – 2021-22 (FSER), and
 - Council JRA subsidy variation template letter (JRA Variation)
- The JRA Guidelines, Eligibility Criteria and FSER provide detailed guidance to assist councils determine their eligibility for the JRA Subsidy for Q1.
- In order to apply for JRA Subsidy eligibility, Councils are required to:
 - 1. Submit an FSER return for assessment;
 - 2. Notify OLG by email (olg@olg.nsw.gov.au Attn: Stephen Walker Manager, Program Delivery) when staff reach three weeks special leave to access funding; and
 - 3. Provide ongoing weekly reporting when staff are on JRA to same email.
- OLG will inform councils of the outcome of its assessment of the FSER.
- The JRA Variation template letter should be requested from OLG once Council has been deemed eligible. The variation refers to changes made to original Funding Agreement Council signed in 2020 as part of the Economic Stimulus Package.

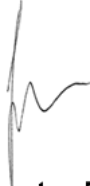
Key points

- All councils are required to submit the JRA Variation to original funding agreement to benefit from the JRA Subsidy.
- The JRA Guidelines, Eligibility Criteria and FSER are available for download from the COVID-19 page on OLG's website and the Council Portal page.
- A council's FSER and the Demand Management section in the JRA Guidelines will be the two application components for the JRA Subsidy.
- The FSER should be completed and emailed to FSER@olg.nsw.gov.au by 10 September 2021. Late submissions will be considered but may delay payment of the JRA Subsidy.
- Councils who do not wish to access the JRA do not need to submit a FSER.

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Where to go for further information

- Councils should contact OLG's Performance Team about the Eligibility Criteria and the FSER, and their Council Engagement Manager about the JRA Subsidy Package or in relation to other COVID-19 matters.



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Coordinator General – Planning Delivery and Local Government

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Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	21-26 / 24 August 2021 / A572161
Previous Circular	19-20 A new internal audit and risk management framework for local councils in NSW – release of discussion paper
Who should read this	General Managers / Councillors / Council governance staff / Audit, risk and improvement committee members and internal audit personnel
Contact	Council Governance / (02) 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Response to OLG

New risk management and internal audit framework for councils and joint organisations

What's new or changing

- Sections 428A and 428B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) have been commenced. Under section 428A, all councils (including county councils) and joint organisations are required to have an audit risk and improvement committee (ARIC). Councils and joint organisations are permitted under section 428B to enter into arrangements with other councils or joint organisations to share ARICs.
- Under the transitional provisions of the Act, all councils (including county councils) and joint organisations must have either appointed an ARIC or entered into an arrangement with another council or joint organisation to share an ARIC before **4 June 2022**.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) will be issuing *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Councils in NSW* to guide the operations of ARICs and to require councils to have a risk management framework and internal audit function to support and inform their operations.
- OLG has issued a draft of the Guidelines for a three-month consultation period. These have been developed based on the feedback received in response to OLG's *New Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework for Local Councils in NSW* discussion paper issued in September 2019.
- Councils, ARIC members and internal audit practitioners are encouraged to provide comment on the draft Guidelines.

What this will mean for your council

- As of **4 June 2022**, all councils (including county councils) and joint organisations must have an ARIC. As noted above, councils and joint organisations may enter into arrangements to share ARICs.
- Most councils already have an ARIC and will not need to take any further action to comply with section 428A.
- Councils or joint organisations that do not currently have an ARIC should take immediate steps to ensure they have one before 4 June 2022. This may include talking to a neighbouring council or their joint organisation about entering into an arrangement to share an ARIC.

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- Under the proposed Guidelines, councils and joint organisations are not required to establish a risk management framework and internal audit function that complies with the Guidelines until 30 June 2024. However, councils and joint organisations should start taking steps to establish a risk management framework and internal audit function or to transition their existing risk management and internal audit arrangements to comply with the Guidelines.
- The proposed Guidelines set out membership requirements for ARICs. Councils and joint organisations are not required to comply with these requirements until June 2027. This will allow councils and joint organisations five years to transition the membership of their existing ARICs to comply with the new requirements.
- The proposed Guidelines are available on OLG's website at [here](#). Information about the changes to the original model proposed in the discussion paper is also available on OLG's website.
- OLG is seeking the views of councils and others on the proposed Guidelines. Councils should inform their ARICs about the draft Guidelines to give ARIC members the opportunity to provide comment or to have input into the council's comment on the draft Guidelines.
- Submissions may be made to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au, labelled 'Draft risk management and internal audit guidelines' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before COB **26 November 2021**.

Key points

- Under section 428A of the Act, councils and joint organisations must appoint an ARIC to keep under review the following aspects of their operations:
 - compliance,
 - risk management,
 - fraud control,
 - financial management,
 - governance,
 - implementation of the community strategic plan, delivery program and strategies,
 - service reviews,
 - collection of performance measurement data by the council,
 - any other matters prescribed by the regulations.
- ARICs must also provide information to councils and joint organisations for the purpose of improving their performance.

Where to go for further information

- The draft Guidelines and a summary of the changes to the previously proposed model are available on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.
- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.


Kiersten Fishburn
Coordinator-General
Planning Delivery and Local Government

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Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	21-27 / 2 September 2021 / A765843
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Governance and Procurement Staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Response to OLG

Review of the tendering provisions of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*

What's new or changing

- In response to recommendations by the Audit Office, the Office of Local Government (OLG) has undertaken a review of the tendering provisions of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (the Regulation) to identify possible amendments that would support councils to make better use of technology when tendering and to achieve greater efficiencies.
- OLG has issued a discussion paper to consult with councils and others on the proposed amendments.
- While OLG's review is limited to the tendering provisions of the Regulation, councils are also invited to make submissions on possible future reform opportunities in relation to council procurement.

What this will mean for your council

- OLG is inviting submissions from councils and other stakeholders on the discussion paper.
- Submissions may be made online at www.olg.nsw.gov.au, in writing or by completing the form accompanying the discussion paper. Written submissions may be made to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au, marked to the attention of the Council Governance Team and labelled "tendering regulation review".
- Submissions are due COB **Friday 15 October 2021**.

Key points

- As a result of its performance audit on Procurement Management in Local Government, the Audit Office has recommended that the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) review and update the tendering provisions of the Regulation to reflect the increasing use of electronic tender submissions rather than paper copies by June 2022.
- The Audit Office has also recommended that DPIE publish comprehensive and updated guidance on effective procurement practices including electronic tender submissions and procurements below the tender threshold. This guidance will be developed in consultation with the local government sector after the Regulations have been amended.

Where to go for further information

- The discussion paper is available on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.
- For further information please contact the Council Governance team on 02 4428 4100.

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Coordinator General, Planning Delivery and Local Government

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9.3 WENTWORTH REGIONAL TOURISM INC. - REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PRODUCTION OF WENTWORTH SHIRE AND OUTBACK VISITOR INFORMATION GUIDE

File Number: RPT/21/523

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Chloe Horne - Business Support Officer

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 support to Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. for the production of the updated Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide. The Guide is produced on a biennial basis and is due for updating in early 2022.

Recommendation

That Council consider the request to financially support the production of the updated Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide, by choosing one of the following options:

- a) Provide financial support of the requested value of \$27,750;
- b) Provide financial support to a different monetary value; or
- c) Not provide any financial support.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a request for financial support from Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. for the production of the updated Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide.

Background

Council is in receipt of a request from Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. for the production of the updated Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide, a copy of the correspondence is attached for reference.

Due to current economic instability as a result of COVID-19 restrictions and border closures, local businesses are struggling. It has been found that some local businesses have been required to permanently close and seek employment elsewhere, and a portion of businesses have opted to temporarily close due to low foot traffic.

Many local businesses rely on the Wentworth Shire Outback Visitor Information Guide to promote their business to the community and tourists. It has been anticipated that due to the current COVID-19 restrictions and border closures, small businesses will be unable to provide their contribution funding for the Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide, therefore missing out on an opportunity to advertise their businesses for the next two years.

Considering the unprecedented situation, the Shire's business people find themselves in, it has been requested that Council provide financial support which would in essence provide all

small businesses within the Wentworth Shire and Outback area an opportunity to promote their business in the Visitor Information Guide.

Matters under consideration

Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. have proposed that Council significantly subsidise the cost of production, printing, promotion and distribution of the 2022 Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide. This would:

- Be in accord with other NSW municipalities;
- Fit with the intent of the Council Strategic Plan 2020- 2024 – “Grow Tourism”; and
- Indicate a genuine interest in support of tourism and related businesses.

Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. have provided an estimated quote from the printers of \$27,750. The total cost of production, printing, promotion and distribution of the Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide is estimated as upward of \$40,000. With financial support from Council, Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. would be responsible for a contribution of \$12,250.

Options

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

- a) Provide financial support of the requested value of \$27,750;
- b) Provide financial support to a different monetary value; or
- c) Not provide any financial support.

Conclusion

The Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide is due to be updated in early 2022. A request for financial support has been made by Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. If supported this item could be fully funded within the Tourism and Promotion operational budget without the need for variation.

Attachments

1. Letter from Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc. - Request for Financial Assistance for Production of Wentworth Shire and Outback Visitor Information Guide [1](#)



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PO Box 285, WENTWORTH NSW 2648

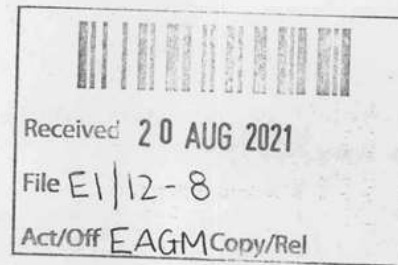
Ken Ross

General Manager

Wentworth Shire Council

Adelaide Street

WENTWORTH NSW 2648



Subject: Visitor Information Guide - Wentworth Shire and Darling Outback

You will no doubt be familiar with the Wentworth Shire and Darling Outback Visitor Information Guide produced and published by Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc (WRTI). This document is produced on a biennial basis and is due for refreshing and reproduction in early 2022. WRTI has always been appreciative of AVIC input and Shire contribution in the past however due to current circumstances re Covid and business vulnerability we would like Wentworth Shire Council to consider the following request.

With border closures, conflicting rules and restrictions between states small to medium businesses particularly hospitality and tourism, within the Wentworth Shire are struggling. The majority of our tourism and hospitality operators rely on the travelling public and visitors from Victoria to survive and thrive. We have already seen businesses in Wentworth close permanently whilst others have elected to close (temporarily) due to restrictions and border closures. These decisions are not made light heartedly with businesses and employers being very anxious about their futures and the welfare of their employees.

With the current economic volatility and spasmodic ability to operate within the tourism and hospitality industry it is obvious most businesses are in financial distress. Some owners are seeking paid employment themselves merely to maintain the operational viability of their own business.

As an industry based group WRTI (although being a membership based, voluntary not for profit group) are seeking and searching for ways to assist our membership and tourism / hospitality in general. Whilst the cost of production of the OVG is based on cost recovery we fear the majority of our tourism and hospitality operators will not be able to afford their contribution therefore placing a future edition in jeopardy. As a result we request Wentworth Shire Council consider the following proposal for the good of small business and the Wentworth community at large. After all our small to medium businesses provide employment for many Wentworth Shire residents and contribute significantly to our visitor experience.

Celebrating the Rivers. The People. The Outback.




Proposal: Wentworth Shire Council significantly subsidise the cost of production, printing, promotion and distribution of the 2022 OVG. This would;

- be in accord with other NSW municipalities.
- fit with the intent of the WSC Strategic Plan 2020 -2040 - 'Grow Tourism'
- indicate a genuine interest in support of tourism and related business.

The 52 page booklet is estimated (by printers) to be \$27750.

The total cost of production, printing, promotion and distribution of the OVG is estimated as upward of \$40,000. We are requesting \$27750 from WSC. WRTI through membership fees and use of 'in hand' funds would contribute the balance (\$12250).

This proposal is forwarded for favourable consideration.



Yours Sincerely

Brian Beaumont

President, WRTI

17th August 2021

Celebrating the Rivers. The People. The Outback.

9.4 UNION PICNIC DAY

File Number: RPT/21/525

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Glen Norris - Manager Human Resources

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

Union Picnic Day is an entitlement under the Local Government (State) Award for employees who are financial members of Union(s) only. Council is required to determine which day shall be regarded as the Union Picnic Day and whether non-union members are required to work on the allocated day.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Approve Tuesday 2 November 2021 as the Award holiday known as Union Picnic Day for those employees who are financial members of the United Services Union;
- b) Requires Non-union members to apply for leave should they want to take the 2 November 2021 off.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the provisions under the Award to enable a resolution of Council to be made regarding the Union Picnic Day.

Background

Under section 21B of the Local Government (State) Award 2020:

- I. Union Picnic Day shall for the purposes of this Award be regarded as a holiday for employees who are financial members of the union(s). The Union Picnic Day shall be on such day as is agreed between the employer and the union(s).
- II. The union(s) shall advise the employer of financial members as at the time of the Union Picnic Day. Such advice must be given at least two weeks prior to the Union Picnic Day.
- III. Employees who are not financial members of the union(s) and who are required to work on Union Picnic Day, shall be paid ordinary pay for their normal working day.
- IV. Employees who are not financial members of the union(s) and who are not required to work on Union Picnic Day, may apply to the employer to take annual leave, long service leave, time off in lieu of overtime, leave without pay, such other leave as may be approved by the employer, or may be required by the employer to make up time.

Council is requested to make a determination about which day is granted as the Union Picnic Day. Historically, Melbourne Cup Day has been the nominated day to fall in line with the Victorian Public Holiday and the Wentworth Races.

Historically, the office has been closed and all staff have been granted the holiday by Council.

The United Services Union have respectfully requested that Council abide by Clause 21B of the Local Government (State) Award 2020 and ask Council to require non-union members to apply for leave if they wish to have the Union Picnic Day off.

Matters under consideration

As required by the Award, the Union is to advise management of the staff who are entitled this day.

Options

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

- 1) Resolve that Tuesday 2 November 2021 is approved as the Union Picnic Day for financial members of the United Services Union.
- 2) Determine whether non-union members are to be awarded the same day (as has been the case previously), or whether they will be required to work their normal hours or apply for leave if they wish to avail of the Union Picnic Day.

Implications

The decision item has the following implications for Council:

- A decision to award all staff the Union Picnic Day holiday will result in the office (indoor and outdoor) being closed on Tuesday 2 November 2021.
- A decision not to grant all staff the holiday will result in non-union members needing to attend work or apply to take annual leave, time off in lieu or leave without pay. With staff being accustomed to having this day off, it is anticipated that a large number will still want to take the day off, which may result in an inability to provide an adequate level of service across the organisation.

Conclusion

Union members have traditionally nominated Melbourne Cup Day as the preferred day for Union Picnic Day. Previously Melbourne Cup Day has been granted to all staff as a holiday and that the office and depot is closed on that day. This report provides the opportunity for Council to consider its position on this matter.

Attachments

1. Letter United Services Union [↓](#)

2 June 2021

In reply quote: **WENT 2/25**
Contact: **Brian Harrington**

By your side



The General Manager
Mr Ken Ross
Wentworth Shire Council
PO BOX 81
Wentworth NSW 2648

Also by Email: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir,

Re: Union Picnic Day

We write to you on behalf of our members employed at Wentworth Shire Council, who have advised us that WSC currently grant the Union Picnic Day to all staff. This causes much angst for our members as they feel as we do that the granting of the picnic day is against the spirit of the Award.

The Unions negotiated on behalf of financial members of the Unions' for the granting of the picnic day and to grant this day off to non-union members' causes divisions amongst your workforce.

The Union Picnic day is clearly intended to be granted for financial members of Union(s) only.

We respectfully request that Council abide by the **Clause 21(B) Local Government (State) Award 2020** (Annexure A) that ask Council's to require their non-Union member staff to apply for leave if they wish to have the Union Picnic Day off.

In the interest of fairness to the financial members of the Unions' employed at Council we ask that for future Union Picnic Days Council require non-members to apply for a day of leave if they wish to have the Union Picnic Day off as is written above.

We look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Graeme Kelly OAM
General Secretary
BH:tk

Per:

UNITED SERVICES UNION

NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CLERICAL,
ADMINISTRATIVE, ENERGY, AIRLINES
AND UTILITIES UNION

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Wollongong

Satellite Offices
Bathurst, Canberra, Dubbo,
Grafton, Hay, Port Macquarie,
Tamworth, Wagga Wagga

Annexure A

21. Holidays

B. UNION PICNIC DAY

(i) Union Picnic Day shall for the purposes of this Award be regarded as a holiday for employees who are financial members of the Union(s). The Union Picnic Day shall be on such day as is agreed between the employer and the Union(s).

(ii) The Union(s) shall advise the employer of financial members as at the time of the Union Picnic Day. Such advice must be given at least two weeks prior to the Union Picnic Day.

(iii) Employees who are not financial members of the Union(s) and who are required to work on Union Picnic Day, shall be paid ordinary pay for their normal working day.

(iv) Employees who are not financial members of the Union(s) and who are not required to work on Union Picnic Day, may apply to the employer to take annual leave, long service leave, time off in lieu of overtime, leave without pay, such other leave as may be approved by the employer, or may be required by the employer to make up time.

9.5 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/537

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 August 2021 were \$2,807,512.29. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 33.58%. For comparison purposes 34.73% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2020. Council currently has \$38,455,152.93 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 31 August 2021

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 31 August 2021.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 August 2021	\$ 2,188,344.41
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 31 August 2021 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	\$ 7,822,286.24
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 31 August 2021 Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 6,592,283.32
Cash Balance at at 31 August 2021	\$ 3,418,347.33
Investments	
Total Investments as at 31 August 2021	\$ 35,036,805.60
TOTAL	\$ 38,455,152.93

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of August 2021 were \$ 2,807,512.29. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 33.58%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 31 August 2021 is as follows.

	Rates and Charges	
Levies		
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2021 - Rates / Water	957,794.11	
Rates and Charges Levied 20 July 2021	9,545,527.09	\$ 10,503,321.20
+ Additional Water Charges	572,424.80	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	7,056.89	
+ Additional Charges	5,597.48	
- Credit Adjustments	3,486.66	
- Abandonments	616.32	\$ 11,084,297.39
Deductions		
- Payments	3,546,777.34	
- Less Refunds of Payments	0.00	\$ 3,546,777.34
		\$ 7,537,520.05
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	96,641.03	
Council Subsidy	79,069.93	\$ 175,710.96
Total Rates/Water Charges Outstanding		\$ 7,361,809.09

Note: For comparison purposes 34.73% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2020.

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

No Rates and charges were written off under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of August 2021.

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	\$ 385,305.78	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.470% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 658,869.98	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,657,585.67	28/04/2023
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.290% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,299,125.47	12/05/2037
CFWC31 0604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00	4/06/2031
CFWC31 0624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,250,000.00	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	Fixed 2.2%	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	25/01/2027
				TOTAL	\$ 7,500,886.90	

Overtime and Travelling

Month: August		Pay Periods	3&4	
Overtime				
	Time and a Half		Double Time	
Department	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount
Animal Services	13.00	\$ 603.90	27.00	\$ 1,680.35
Civil Works	5.50	\$ 255.37	10.00	\$ 660.28
Governance	10.50	\$ 760.38	2.00	\$ 193.11
Library	2.00	\$ 90.99		
Parks & Gardens	12.00	\$ 531.83	24.00	\$ 1,483.72
Roads - Council	84.50	\$ 3,752.30	21.00	\$ 1,437.33
Roads - RMS	116.25	\$ 5,355.15	69.50	\$ 4,231.26
Roads & Engineering Indoor	26.50	\$ 1,844.37	15.50	\$ 1,569.43
Waste Management	4.00	\$ 224.44	9.00	\$ 673.33
Water & Waste Water	53.50	\$ 2,478.16	108.50	\$ 6,817.28
Total	327.75	\$ 15,896.89	286.50	\$ 18,746.09
Travel Allowance				
Department	Kms	Amount		
Health & Planning	540.00	\$ 421.20		
Roads & Engineering Indoor	1,306.00	\$ 1,018.68		
Total	1846.00	\$ 1,439.88		

Conclusion

The report indicates to Council that its finances are in a favourable position.

Attachments

Nil

9.6 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

File Number: RPT/21/543

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

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 August 2021 Council had \$26 million invested in term deposits and \$12,455,152.93 in other cash investments. Council received \$7,035.62 from its investments for the month of August 2021.

In August 2021 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 0.38% and it currently has \$6,736,496.56 of internal restrictions and \$21,442,895.34 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 31 August 2021 Council had \$38,455,152.93 invested with ten (10) financial institutions.

Breakdown of Total Funds Available

Financial Institution	Amount	Percentage of Available Funds
AMP	\$ 2,017,723.82	5.25%
Bank of Queensland	\$ 1,000,000.00	2.60%
Bendigo Bank	\$ 5,418,347.33	14.09%
Commonwealth Bank	\$ 6,000,000.00	15.60%
IMB Bank	\$ 1,000,000.00	2.60%
Macquarie Bank	\$ 7,013,628.06	18.24%
Members Equity Bank	\$ 3,005,453.72	7.82%
National Australia Bank	\$ 5,000,000.00	13.00%
Westpac	\$ 5,000,000.00	13.00%
Suncorp	\$ 3,000,000.00	7.80%
TOTAL	\$38,455,152.93	100.00%

Investments on Hand as at 31 August 2021

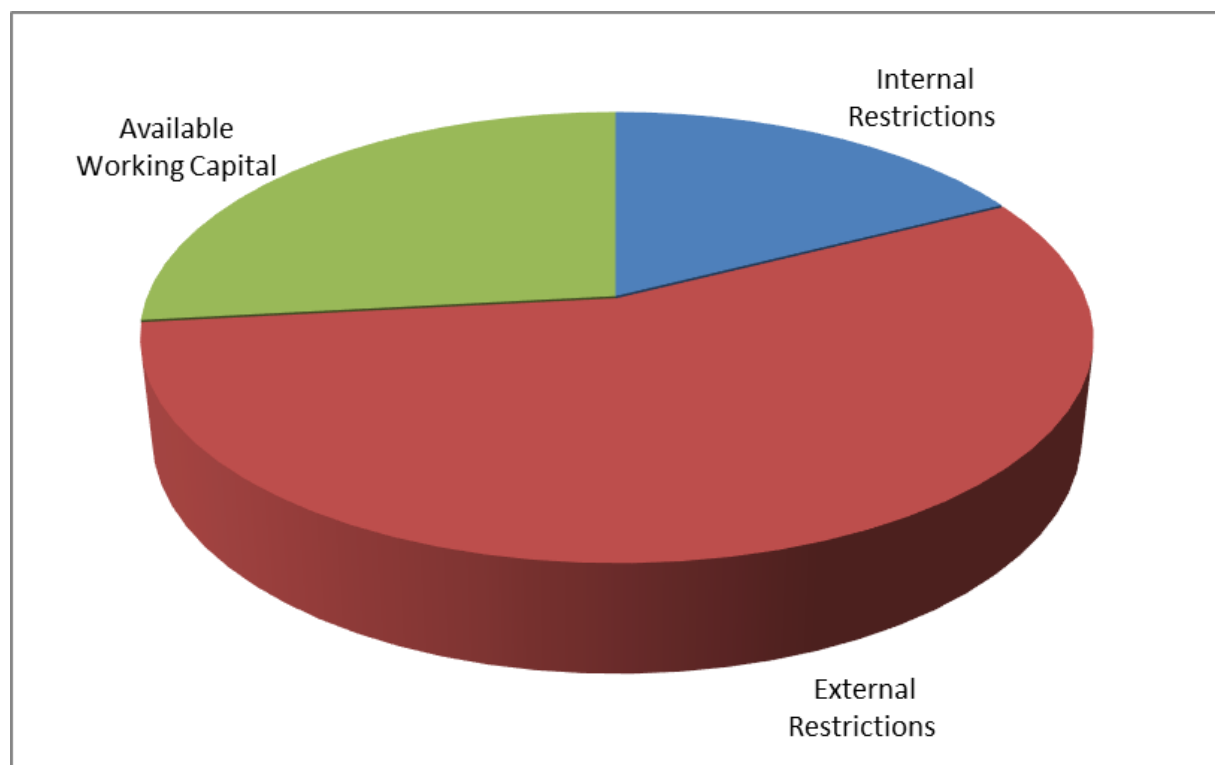
Investments on Hand as at 31st August 2021						
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Investment Type	Amount Invested	Rating
Bank of Queensland	9/06/2021	7/12/2021	0.40%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank	29/03/2021	27/09/2021	0.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Bendigo Bank	24/05/2021	24/02/2022	0.35%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB+
Commonwealth Bank	11/08/2021	8/04/2022	0.32%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Commonwealth Bank	29/01/2021	26/10/2021	0.40%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Commonwealth Bank	20/05/2021	20/05/2022	0.39%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Commonwealth Bank	15/06/2021	15/06/2022	0.40%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Commonwealth Bank	14/07/2021	14/07/2022	0.46%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Commonwealth Bank	27/08/2021	27/05/2022	0.37%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
IMB Bank	9/06/2021	9/09/2021	0.97%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
Macquarie Bank	8/04/2021	7/10/2021	0.35%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1/A+
Macquarie Bank	10/06/2021	10/03/2022	0.40%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1/A+
Members Equity Bank	9/06/2021	9/03/2022	0.45%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A2/BBB
National Australia Bank	18/08/2021	19/04/2022	0.32%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank	26/04/2021	22/11/2021	0.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank	23/02/2021	19/01/2022	0.35%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank	25/02/2021	21/01/2022	0.35%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
National Australia Bank	28/06/2021	25/03/2022	0.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Suncorp Bank	13/05/2021	9/12/2021	0.32%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1/A+
Suncorp Bank	10/06/2021	10/06/2022	0.33%	Term Deposit	\$ 2,000,000.00	A1/A+
Westpac Banking Corporation	8/03/2021	8/11/2021	0.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	24/02/2021	24/11/2021	0.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	3/03/2021	3/12/2021	0.32%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	25/03/2021	25/02/2022	0.33%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	28/05/2021	28/02/2022	0.32%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A1+/AA-
Total					\$ 26,000,000.00	
Other Cash Investments						
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Rating	
Bendigo Bank - Operating A/c	N/A	Ongoing		\$ 3,418,347.33	A2/BBB+	
AMP (11)	23/10/2020	Ongoing	0.55%	\$ 2,017,723.82	A2/BBB+	
Macquarie Bank (4) - Ongoing	3/12/2020	Ongoing	0.35%	\$ 5,013,628.06	A1/A+	
Members Equity Bank - Ongoing (5)	1/12/2020	Ongoing	0.40%	\$ 2,005,453.72	A2/BBB	
Total Funds Available					\$ 38,455,152.93	

Note: Ratings provided are from Moody's and Standard & Poors Rating Agencies

Restrictions

Internal Restrictions		
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,376,437.00	
- Doubtful Debts	\$ 115,367.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$1,113,213.94	
- Trust Account	\$ 631,478.62	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$6,736,496.56
External Restrictions		
- Water Fund	\$9,422,178.87	
- Sewer Fund	\$3,674,470.88	
- T-Corp Stormwater	\$1,413,892.49	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$ 639,646.61	
- Unexpended Grants	\$5,457,681.18	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$ 289,128.84	
- Loan Guarantee Reserve	\$ 3,162.86	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$ 542,733.61	\$21,442,895.34
Day to Day Liquidity		\$10,275,761.03
Total Funds Available		\$38,455,152.93

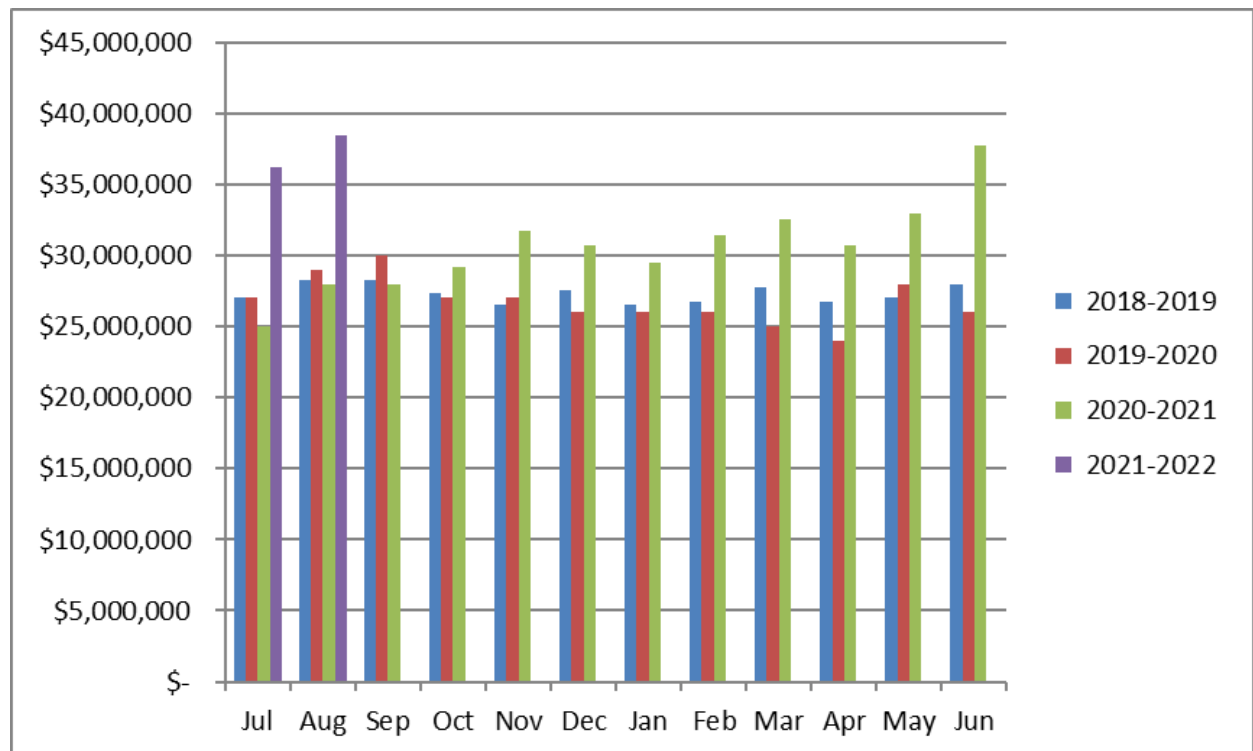
Breakdown



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 31 August 2021

Grant	Amount
Block Grant	\$ 821,192.75
Roads to Recovery	\$ 230,192.18
CMA - Pooncarie Weir	\$ 77,746.00
State Library Infrastructure Grant	\$ 250,791.27
Crown Reserve WW Caravan Park	\$ 1,000,000.00
Crown Reserve Astronomy Park	\$ 679,316.00
Crown Reserve Pooncarie Race Track	\$ 29,700.00
Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Upgrade	\$ 338,895.38
NSW Fixing Local Roads	\$ 710,379.52
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	\$ 378,547.50
Drought Communities Extension Fund	\$ 102,257.34
Resources for Regions Junction Island Bridge	\$ 168,728.97
Resources for Regions VIC Relocation	\$ 470,511.50
Stronger Country Communities WW Rowing Club Grant	\$ 77,702.63
Stronger Country Communities WW Extended Daycare	\$ 121,720.14
Total	\$ 5,457,681.18

Total Funds Invested



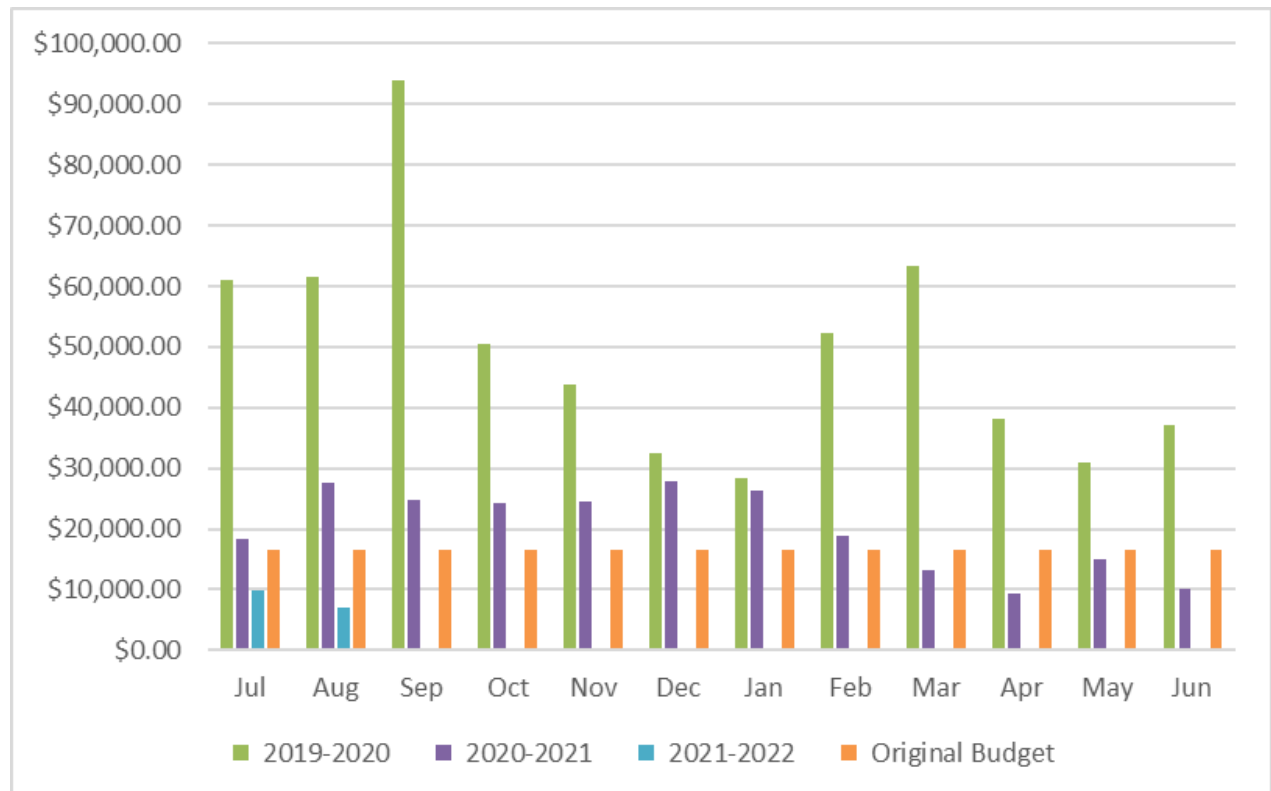
Two (2) term deposits and three (3) other accounts matured or provided interest in July earning Council \$7,035.62 in interest. The budget for August was \$16,666.67. Year to date Council has received \$17,006.33 in interest. The budget for the new financial year is currently set at \$200,000.00.

Currently on the back of the new investment order approval council is restructuring their investments into longer term deposits, bonds and managed investments from which we hope to see increased returns by end of financial year 2022.

Investment Revenue in August 2021

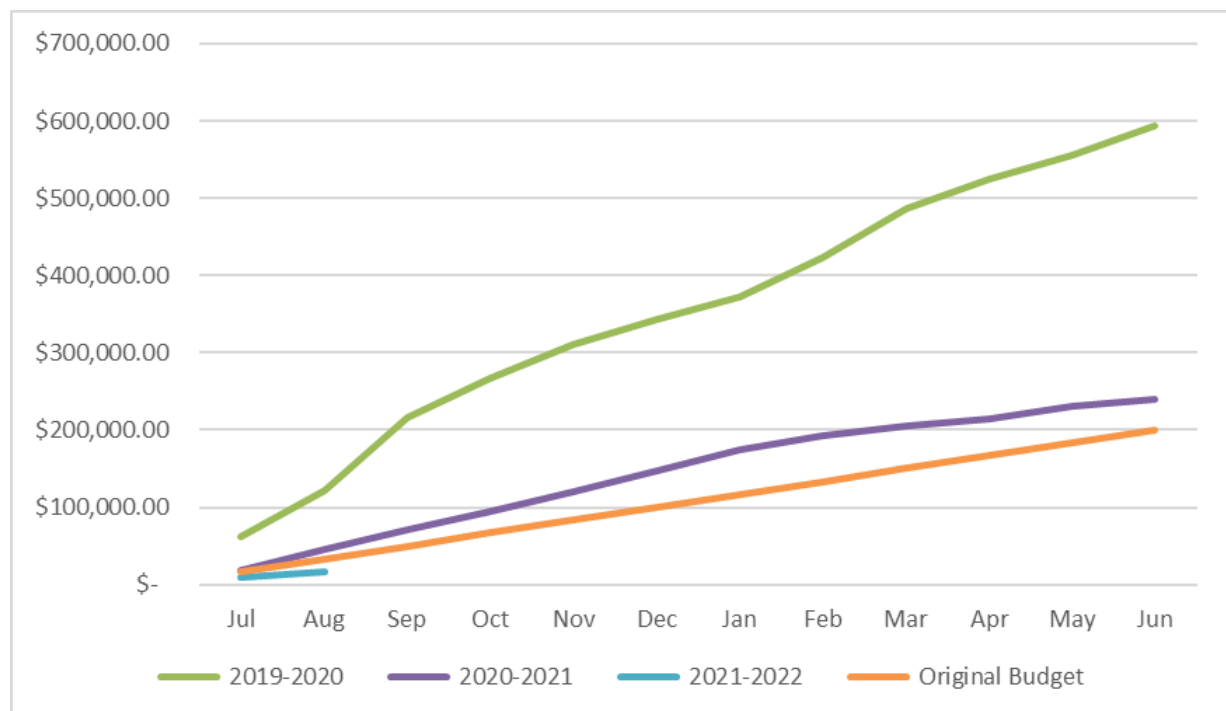
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
Term Deposits					
National Australia Bank (2)	9/02/2021	9/08/2021	0.35%	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,735.62
Commonwealth Bank (4)	11/02/2021	10/08/2021	0.35%	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,726.30
Other Cash Investments					
AMP (11)	23/10/2020	Ongoing	0.55%	\$2,017,723.82	\$1,408.99
Macquarie Bank (4) - Ongoing	3/12/2020	Ongoing	0.35%	\$5,013,628.06	\$1,702.79
Members Equity Bank - Ongoing (5)	1/12/2020	Ongoing	0.40%	\$2,005,453.72	\$461.92
Total					\$7,035.62

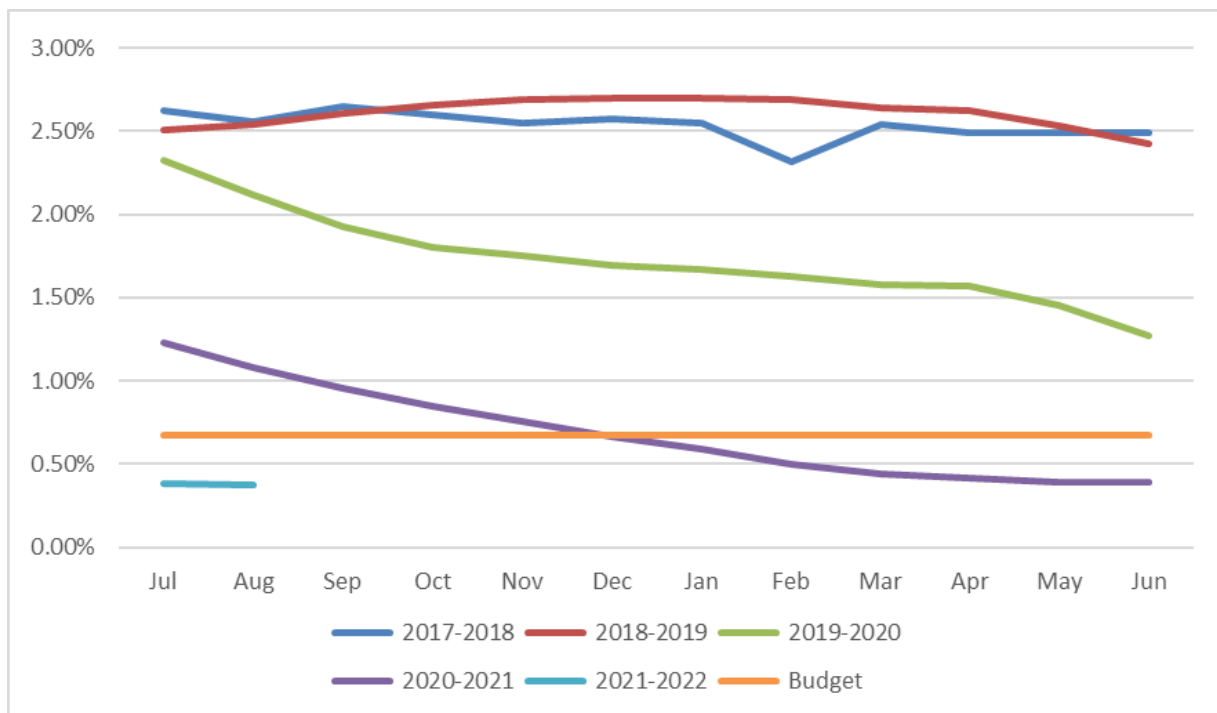
Investment Revenue received August 2021



Total Interest received July 2021 – June 2022

For August 2021 Council's investments returned an effective average rate of 0.38%. Year to date the effective average rate has been 0.38%. The budget for 2021-2022 was set at 0.67%.





Conclusion

The Director Finance & 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

9.7 ANNUAL DISCLOSURES OF DESIGNATED PERSONS

File Number: RPT/21/538

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy
 Responsible Division: Finance and Policy
 Reporting Officer: Ricki Martin - Administration Officer Finance & 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

The Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW, requires Councillors and designated persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available returns of interests.

The annual returns are required to be lodged within 3 months of 30 June and must be tabled no later than the first available Council meeting in October.

As required by the Office of Local Government and the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)* the returns will be made publicly available on Council's website after they have been noted by Council.

Recommendation

That Council notes the tabling of the Disclosure Returns for Councillors and Designated persons for the period 01/07/2020 to 30/06/2021.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to table the annual disclosure returns for Councillors and designated persons as required by the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*

Report Detail

The following table details the Disclosure Returns that have been received for the period 01/07/2020 to 30/06/2021.

Councillor/Designated Person	Returned lodged and tabled
Cr Tim Elstone	Yes
Cr Greg Evans	Yes
Cr Steve Heywood	Yes
Cr Jane MacAllister	Yes
Cr Don McKinnon	Yes
Cr Susan Nichols	Yes
Cr Peter Nunan	Yes
Cr Bill Wheeldon	Yes
Ken Ross – General Manager	Yes
Simon Rule – Director Finance & Policy	Yes

Matthew Carlin – Director Health & Planning	Yes
Geoff Gunn – Director Roads & Engineering	Yes
Allan Eastmond – Manager Works	Yes
Hodi Beauliv – Manager Finance	Yes
Glen Norris – Manager Human Resources	Yes
Richard Waters – Manager Technology Services	Yes

Conclusion

Council has met its compliance obligations as required by the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*

Attachments

1. Disclosures by Councillors Return (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
2. Disclosures by Designated Persons (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)

9.8 UPDATE ON STATUS OF THE RURAL LAND STRATEGY

File Number: RPT/21/529

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: 1.1 Grow the potential for business and industry to develop and expand

Summary

This report provides Council and the community with a chronological history of the Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategy project and how it has evolved in to a Review of Rural Land Planning Controls paper.

The report also explains the process of how the new Review of Rural Land Planning Controls paper will, through a forth coming planning proposal, effect amendments to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011.

Recommendation

That Council notes the content of the report.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a detailed chronological history of the Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategy project, why the project came to a halt, how it evolved in to a Review of Rural Land Planning Controls paper and what the process from here involves for Wentworth Shire Council and the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011.

Background

September 2013 – Project was commenced by newly appointed consultants.

June 2014 – Initial findings and proposed recommendations were presented to the Planning Liaison Committee. The Councillors directed the consultants to make changes to the draft document and the recommendations, particularly relating to the following issues:

1. Natural Resource Mapping inaccuracy
2. Grandfather Clause
3. Proposed minimum lot size for dwelling entitlement
4. Riverfront setback
5. Tourism permissibility
6. Heritage items

September 2014 – The consultants presented the draft documents to the Councillors in a workshop forum. The Councillors advised that several issues, particularly those listed above, had not been adequately addressed. The consultants requested that all required changes be listed and forwarded to them for consideration.

October 2014 – A Council workshop was held to discuss the draft strategy and the issues that had not been satisfactorily addressed. A Table of Outcomes was prepared and endorsed

by Council at its Ordinary Council Meeting in October 2014. This was referred to the consultants for their consideration.

April 2015 - the Agricultural Land Strategy Final Report and a revised draft of the Rural Land Use and Rural Residential Strategy was presented to Council by the consultants. Councillors requested further changes to be made to the draft strategy.

July 2015 – A Council workshop was held to discuss the changes as requested by the Councillors in April and the outcome of those requests as they appeared in the final draft Strategy.

August 2015 - A letter was sent to the Honourable Paul Toole MP (then Minister for Local Government) declaring that all Councillors had a conflict of interest with endorsing the draft strategy and requested a pecuniary interest exemption.

May 2016 – The response from Minister Toole advised that the Council would not have their pecuniary interest disability removed. The letter advised that Council delegate its powers to the Western Joint Regional Planning Panel to finalise the strategy.

June 2016 – Council sought advice from the Department of Planning – Western Region regarding the process of delegating its powers to the WJRPP.

November 2016 – A workshop was held to inform new Councillors of the project and provide the history and background information of the project. Councillors reviewed the recommendations and requested that three recommendations be reviewed and a report be prepared detailing these changes.

February 2017 – Negotiations commenced with the project consultants to obtain amendments to the three recommendations as identified and requested in November 2016.

June 2017 – Council sought legal advice as to the legalities, mechanism and process to terminate the Contractor Agreement with the project consultants.

August 2017 – Advice was received as to the legalities, mechanism and process to terminate the Contractor Agreement with the project consultants.

February 2018 – Councillors resolved to terminate the Contractor Agreement with the appointed consultants.

May 2018 – Councillors resolved to delegate their decision-making powers to the WJRPP for the finalisation of the Rural Land Use Strategy.

July 2018 – A verbal request was received from the Chair of WJRPP for updated land use maps for Pomona and Curlwaa.

October 2018 – Updated land use maps for Pomona and Curlwaa were sent to WJRPP.

November 2018 – Advice received from Department of Planning, Industry & Environment and WJRPP required that the document was to be updated and reworked to have the final strategy endorsed by the Department.

February 2019 – Members of the WJRPP visited Wentworth to discuss the project, the current draft strategies and visit key sites that required further investigation.

February – September 2019 – Health & Planning staff conducted a thorough review of the document and updated the statistics and data, including policy and legislation references where there had been changes.

September 2019 – The updated draft strategy was referred to the WJRPP for their consideration.

December 2019 – A meeting was held with members of the WJRPP to discuss and review the full document and discuss the updated data, legislation and policy changes.

February 2020 – The WJRPP provided mark ups to the draft document for Council staff to continue preparing a revised document.

February 2020 - DPIE and WJRPP requested that the Agricultural Land Strategy data and policy/legislation references be updated as that Strategy directly fed in to and informed the Rural Land Use Strategy. Discussions around the two documents resolved that the Agricultural Land Strategy, Rural Land Use & Rural Residential Strategy should be a consolidated document.

March 2020 – A review of the Agricultural Land Strategy was conducted for inclusion in the Rural Land Use Strategy.

May 2020 – The reviewed draft strategy with completed WJRPP mark ups was referred to DPIE for review, to provide guidance with the consolidation of the three strategies.

June 2020 – a thorough review of the draft strategy was conducted by both the WJRPP and DPIE – Western Region. Due the continual reviews and reconstruction of the draft strategy, it was determined by all parties involved that the final document was distorted and failing to flow efficiently.

July 2020 – a new, updated and refreshed strategy was commenced by the Health and Planning team.

August 2020 – Updated agricultural data as prepared by RMCGroup was included in the new document being prepared by H&P.

October 2020 – The first revised draft was submitted to DPIE for review and comment.

December 2020 – A formal letter was received from DPIE advising that the strategy needed considerably more information, significant investigation and a higher level of justification to support the numerous proposed amendments to the WLEP.

February/March 2021 – ongoing discussions and workshops with DPIE were held with the aim to improve the structure and quality of the document.

March 2021 – since the commencement of the original project back in 2013 the benchmark and background work required for the preparation of a full shire wide rural land use strategy has increased dramatically. Reviewing the work done by other NSW regional councils, this level of work, including investigation and consultation generally takes up to 3 years to complete. It was now determined that a new approach was required to address and resolve the major issues related to rural land.

March/April 2021 – discussions were held with DPIE Western Regions team to determine the specific, required outcomes sought by Wentworth Shire Council. It was decided that the specific outcomes that Council wanted to achieve as a result of the project, could be supported and justified through a policy paper or a rural land planning controls review document.

Report Detail

April 2021 – The preparation of a new document commenced reviewing the current land use planning controls, discussing the issues that were a consequence of those controls, proposing amendments to the WLEP to resolve the issues and providing justification for those amendments.

July 2021 – the first draft Review of Rural Land Planning Controls (RLPC) was submitted to DPIE for initial review and comment.

August 2021 – Following receipt of positive comments and feedback from DPIE some minor modifications were made to the draft document.

The RLPC has now been forwarded to DPI Agriculture for review and comment. It is necessary to undertake early consultation with DPI Agriculture as this agency will be the most influential agency in supporting or objecting to the proposed amendments. DPI Agriculture were requested to provide comments and feedback by the 15 September 2021.

Preparation of the planning proposal to amend the WLEP has been commenced, to enact the recommendations of the RLPC.

PROCESS & TIMEFRAME GOING FORWARD

September 2021 – A review of the comments provided by DPI Agriculture will be undertaken and any adjustments to the RLPC will be made, if warranted.

October 2021 – It is anticipated that this month a report to Council will be presented at the Ordinary Meeting. The report will seek a resolution to submit the planning proposal to the Minister for Planning requesting a gateway determination to proceed. The planning proposal will include the full RLPC document.

A request to the DPIE mapping team will also be submitted seeking assistance with the preparation of the amendment LEP mapping on behalf of Council.

November 2021 – Submission of the planning proposal to DPIE requesting a gateway determination to proceed.

December 2021 – Anticipate receiving the Gateway Determination to proceed.

January/February 2022 – Conduct public exhibition of the planning proposal and consultation with state agencies. Due to the Christmas/New Year period, exhibition would commence mid-January and run through to end of February.

March/April 2022 – Review the submissions, prepare a submissions table for reporting and make minor amendments to the planning proposal, if required. Should there be significant amendments to the planning proposal as a consequence of the submissions, the planning proposal will need to be re-exhibited, including additional consultation with state agencies.

This timeframe will also depend on the number of submissions received and if any of those submissions are objections to any element of the planning proposal.

May 2022 – Consult with Parliamentary Counsel regarding an Opinion (this is required when amending the written content in an LEP). A request will also be made to the DPIE mapping team to prepare the final LEP mapping.

June 2022 – Council report will be presented to the Ordinary Meeting, seeking a resolution to submit a request to DPIE to assist with approving, finalising and notification of the amendments to the WELP.

July/August 2022 – notification of amendment to WLEP 2011 on the legislative website.

It should be noted that the above timeframes do not include potential delays as a result of objections received from state agencies. While Council will attempt to resolve any objections received prior to submitting the final planning proposal for finalisation and notification, if they are maintained, the final approval and finalisation of the planning proposal will be delayed.

It should also be noted that this document focusses solely on rural land use controls and not rural living land. A separate extensive rural living strategy will need to identify, investigate and assess potential rural living development sites.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO THE WLEP IN THE RLPC

1. Amend the 10,000 hectare MLS to 5,000 hectares for pastoral and cropping land.
2. Amend the 10,000 hectare MLS to 20 hectares outside of existing irrigation districts south of the Sturt Highway between Wentworth through to Monak/Paringi.
3. Amend the 10,000 hectare MLS to 40 hectares outside of existing irrigation districts north of the Sturt Highway between Anabran South, up to Ellerslie and across to Monak/Paringi.
4. Amend the RU1 Primary Production zone land use table to permit additional uses in the zone. Including tourism development and secondary dwellings among other compatible uses.

5. Introduce the boundary adjustments clause to permit boundary re-alignments of allotments that do not meet the minimum lot size requirements.
6. Amend clauses where previous provisions have expired.

Conclusion

Wentworth Shire Council now has a way forward to address the ongoing major land use planning issues for rural land through the Review of Rural Land Planning Controls paper and to resolve these by an amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 as a consequence of the recommendations of that paper.

Attachments

Nil

9.9 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF AUGUST 2021

File Number: RPT/21/544

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Administration Officer

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 August 2021, a total of 29 Development Applications and two S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$4,940,339.00. This brings the year to date total to 117 Development Applications and 23 S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$18,468,518.00.

Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of August 2021.
- 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 the Attachment, determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning for the month of August 2021, 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 \$4,940,339.00 for the month of August 2021. The average determination time was 54 days.

Attachments

1. Delegated Authority Report August 2021 [↓](#)

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2021

FILE NUMBER	OWNER	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	VALUE (EX GST)	DETERMINATION DATE	ACTIVE DAYS
DA2021/056	Desiree Alexander	72 Armstrong Avenue Lot 128 DP 756994 Wentworth 74-80 Armstrong Avenue Lot 125 DP 756994 Wentworth 82-90 Armstrong Avenue Lot 124 DP 756994 Wentworth	Boundary realignment	\$0.00	2/08/2021	70
DA2021/074	Simon & Sarah Cox	18 Riverview Rise Lot 7 DP 865438 Gol Gol	Swimming pool, safety barriers & decking	\$90,000.00	2/08/2021	36
DA2021/078	Vanessa & Simon Lock	258 Creek Road Lot 1 DP 1224990 Curlwaa	Demolition of existing dwelling	\$5,000.00	2/08/2021	31
DA2021/083	Brian, Beverley & Adam Ferry	34 Bernarra Road Lot 1211 DP 822098 Coomealla	Farm shed	\$94,400.00	2/08/2021	29
DA2021/076	Giuseppe Simonetta	39 Gol Gol North Road Lot 83 & Lot 90 DP 756946 Gol Gol	Extension to existing packing shed	\$320,000.00	3/08/2021	37
DA2021/080	Bradley & Jennie Alderton	116 Wood Street Lot 12 DP 700342 Gol Gol	Shade sail	\$4,479.00	3/08/2021	30
DA2021/084	Jackson Forster & Meranda Adair	354 Gol Gol North Road Lot 140 DP 756946 Gol Gol	Storage Shed	\$17,500.00	3/08/2021	30
DA2021/089	Nathan & Samantha Hedley	22 Drings Way Lot 36 DP 1069595 Gol Gol	Garage/shed	\$19,000.00	3/08/2021	26
DA2021/088	Jake Dickinson & Amanda Davey	18 Livingstone Drive Lot 35 DP 1229757 Gol Gol	Storage shed	\$19,500.00	4/08/2021	28

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2021

DA2021/086	Susan Vernon	81 William Street Lot 2 DP 586338 Gol Gol	Carparks x 2	\$51,760.00	5/08/2021	29
S4-55/2021/016	Vincent Littore	464A River Road Lot 851 DP 756961 Coomealla	Modify DA2020/106 Demolition & replacement of existing dwelling	\$0.00	5/08/2021	33
S4-55/2021/018	WSC Trustee	Arumpo Road Lot 1 DP 1037845 Buronga	Modify DA2021/021 carport adjoined to existing ATCO hut	\$0.00	5/08/2021	8
DA2021/096	Jacob & Sarah Beaton	48 Crane Drive Lot 24 DP 830876 Buronga	Demolition of existing garage & carport for new storage shed	\$30,000.00	12/08/2021	31
DA2021/097	Rodney & Darlene Watts	40 Murray Street Lot F DP 4056 Wentworth	Extension to existing dwelling	\$150,000.00	12/08/2021	31
DA2021/099	Robert & Wendy Whitworth	Carramar Drive Lot 2 DP 1093795 Gol Gol	Dwelling, garage & storage shed	\$450,000.00	12/08/2021	43
DA2021/077	Elizabeth & Adrian Woodhead	Waratah Court Lot 9 DP 1248641 Gol Gol	Dwelling with garage	\$329,300.00	13/08/2021	46
DA2021/095	Thomas & Tegan Douglas & Julie & Sholto Douglas	2704 & 2704B Low Darling Road Lots 2 & 3 DP 1089252 Wentworth	Temporary events up to 150 people	\$0.00	13/08/2021	45
DA2021/101	Parris Linklater	21 Morrison Court Lot 22 DP 1274486 Gol Gol	Dwelling	\$285,400.00	18/08/2021	37
DA2021/085	Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club Pty Ltd	2-8 Matong Street Lot 1 DP 758338 Dareton	New Lawn Bowls Club Room & Shade structure	\$1,760,000.00	19/08/2021	57
DA2021/104	Alinga Grove Pty Ltd	Morrison Court Lot 17 DP 1274486 Gol Gol	Dwelling with garage & storage shed	\$290,000.00	19/08/2021	36
DA2021/105	Joseph Azzarelli	19 Livingstone Drive Lot 51 DP 1229757 Gol Gol	Dwelling with garage	\$400,000.00	19/08/2021	36

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2021

DA2020/183	Garry Davison Holdings Pty Ltd	Pine Road Lot 1 DP 874274 & Lot 198 DP 756946 Gol Gol	Subdivision 64 Lots – stage 1 (19 Lot Subdivision)	\$0.00	20/08/2021	218
DA2021/058	S&D Cummins P/L & Janric Investments P/L	5 Modica Crescent Lot 13 DP 1118464 Buronga	Office & warehouse	\$450,000.00	25/08/2021	121
DA2021/092	Ashley Beechey	70 William Street Lot 2 DP 758456 Gol Gol	Renovations & additions to existing dwelling	\$49,000.00	25/08/2021	57
DA2021/005	Carlo Morello Gail Morello Angelo Morello Joe Morello	16 River Drive Lot 438 DP 756961 Buronga 18 River Drive Lot 974 DP 756961 Buronga	Boundary realignment and 2 Lot subdivision	\$0.00	26/08/2021	171
DA2021/100	Buis Financial Investments Pty Ltd	150 Hendy Road Lot 234 DP 822003 Buronga	Storage shed & garaport	\$20,000.00	26/08/2021	52
DA2021/055	Marco Cielo	26 Gol Gol North Road Lot 216 & Lot 217 DP 756946 Lot A DP 402812 Gol Gol	21 Lot residential subdivision	\$0.00	27/08/2021	126
DA2021/106	Adam Bambrick	14 Waratah Court Lot 5 DP 1248641 Gol Gol	Storage shed	\$20,000.00	27/08/2021	43
DA2021/107	Maxwell & Beverly Giles	153 Pitman Avenue West Lot 2 DP 786951 Buronga	Farm shed	\$35,000.00	27/08/2021	42
DA2021/108	Matthew Bell & Alesha Rowe	Gol Gol North Road Lot 16 DP 1248641 Gol Gol	Storage shed	\$20,000.00	27/08/2021	39
DA2021/090	Craig & Joanne Chappell	398 Gol Gol North Road Lot 145 DP 756946 Gol Gol	Rural workers dwelling	\$30,000.00	30/08/2021	63

9.10 PROJECTS AND WORKS REPORT UPDATE - AUGUST 2021

File Number: RPT/21/540

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Coordinator Roads & Engineering

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 projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the month of August 2021 and planned activities scheduled for September 2021..

Recommendation

That Council notes the major works undertaken for August and the scheduled works for following months.

Detailed Report

Refer to below for updates of the works completed in August and planned activities scheduled for September 2021.

Projects and Works Update for August 2021

Roads

- Major reconstruction works for TFNSW on a 1.5km section of highway near the Mallee Fowl Rest Area. Council has completed the first 1.5km section, with works commencing on next stage (Stage 2) late October.
- Milpara Road – construction works complete, road side furniture to be installed by the 10 September which will complete the project.

Maintenance Grading

- Planned maintenance grading was undertaken on the following roads throughout August: Arumpo, Rufus River, Renmark and Gol Gol Road.

Traffic Monitoring Program

With the appointment of the Assets Coordinator, Council have implemented an updated traffic monitoring schedule across the road network. Mainly targeting Council's local roads, this schedule has been set up for the next twelve months to paint a clearer picture of the utilisation of the road network.

Currently traffic surveys are conducted on a monthly schedule with an aim to increase to every 2 months after the data gap has been reduced. They are conducted for a variety of reasons, including;

- Capital works design purposes
- Seal designs (reseal program)
- Traffic management
- Road safety concerns/campaigns
- Demand management (developments)
- Strategic asset management purposes.

Locations monitored in August

- Boat Ramp Road, tied to entrance sign (80m from Cadell St)
- Log Bridge Road, tied to sign (60m from end of seal)
- Silver City Highway, rest Area sign (500m south of 7 Trees rest area)
- Arumpo Road, tied to sign (550m from Silver City Hwy)
- Arumpo Road, tied to sign (120m north of Buronga Landfill intersection)
- Arumpo Road, tied to sign (Approx 5.2km from Silver City Hwy)
- Arumpo Road, sign at end of seal (Approx 33km from Silver City Highway)
- Arumpo Road, grid at shire boundary (40m east of Prungle Marma Rd)
- Arumpo Road (20m east from bentonite mine intersection)
- Dareton Sandbar Road (120m from River Rd)
- Devenport Street (40m east of Neilpo St intersection)
- Native Ridge Lane T-int sign (100m from Sturt Hwy)
- Punt Road (50m from Sturt Hwy)
- Sturt Highway (50m south of Native Ridge Ln intersection)
- Sturt Highway (30m south of water treatment entrance intersection)

Projects Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade

- Planning works continuing on runway 17/35.
- Survey works on 17/35 completed.
- Request for quotations received for the lime stabilisation works for runway 17/35, to be reviewed.
- The evaluation and tender assessment completed for supply and delivery of road base material PT2122/01 and submitted to the September Council meeting for review and approval.
- NOTAM submitted for full closure of runway 17/35 to allow for works to begin, runway 08/26 will remain open with periodic closure to accommodate the works being undertaken on 17/35.

Buronga Effluent Disposal System (EDS)

- Stress tests using river water undertaken.
- River vessel tests undertaken post river water tests.
- Opening September.

Buronga Pump Track

- Contractors to commence works post lockdown – pending travel clearances with COVID.

Buronga Riverfront

- Project completed.

Carramar Drive Oval Fencing Extension – completion 30 September

- Contract has been awarded.
- Works commenced Monday 7 September.

Dareton Travellers Rest - completion 30 September

- Structural steel works for the pergola are completed.
- The contractor is waiting on materials to arrive, scheduled to arrive 20 September.

Gol Gol Heights Culvert Headwalls

- Works to commence upon delivery of headwalls to contractor.

Gol Gol School Shared Path

- Final path bay installed late August.

Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant

- Council officer finalising the project defects list, to be sent to electrical contractor.
- The defect liability period has commenced and will be in place for a 12 month period.
- The Project Finalisation Report for the funding body Restart NSW has been completed and submitted.

Mourquong Water Main Extension – completion November 2021

- Construction commenced, with under road bore works completed 11 August.
- Approximately 160m of pipe has been laid.

Namatjira Sewer Lagoons Wildlife Control Fence (part of Sewer Rationalisation Project)

- New fence has been completed.
- Old fence removed, stockpiling of old fence still pending.

Buronga and Gol Gol Shared Paths

- Wood Street works completed.
- Final alignment of Summer Drive section discussed with residents.

Sewerage Rationalisation Scheme - Wentworth

- Construction of the switchboard is under way by the electrical sub-contractor.
- Reviewing functional description – Ongoing 80% complete.
- Final commissioning scheduled for September, with contractor.
- Awaiting confirmation of project schedule by contractor.

Streetlight LED Upgrade

- Essential Energy's contractor 'Ultegra', commenced LED streetlight bulk upgrade program on 24 August, with 387 of the 699 light fittings upgraded at end of August.
- 19 sites were unable to be completed efficiently and will be issued to local Essential Energy staff to complete.

Wentworth All Day Care Centre

- Following the Council resolution, initial discussions have been undertaken with suitable contractors to progress to the construction of the All Day Care Centre.
- Investigation continuing in reducing the construction risk on the builder. eg. No children present while construction in process.

Wentworth Riverfront BBQ and Nature Play Area

- Additional bins installed late August.
- Site cleaned and top-dressed mid-August.

Wentworth Rowing and Houseboat Mooring

- Sheet piling continuing along the water edge.
- Final treatment to the top of the rowing club section agreed with the

Rowing Club.

- Works delay to the rowing section expected due the rise in River levels. House boat mooring section can continue.

Wentworth Rowing Club Extension

- Final draft plans received and agreed to by the Rowing Club.
- Final plans received to progress a Construction Certificate.

Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Upgrade – completion December 2021

- Plans have been reviewed.
- Tender documents to be finalised by 18 September.

Wentworth Showgrounds Tower & Shade Structures

- Shades structure and tower ordered, awaiting installation.
- Shade structure has been delivered to contractors' depot with construction planned to commence mid-September.
- Tower construction to commence in October.

Willow Bend Caravan Park Upgrade

- Detailed design documentation including technical specification completed late August.
- Advertising for tender closing 1 October

Projects and Works scheduled for September 2021

Roads

- High Darling Road and Milpara Road, completion of clean-up has been delayed due to rain.
- Milpara Road- Road signage and furniture to be installed mid-September to complete project.
- Bunnerungee Bridge – works have commenced on the removal of the temporary side track. Council, on behalf of TFNSW, will have a fence and signage installed with a pavement upgrade under the bridge to link up to the rest area.

Maintenance Grading

- Planned maintenance grading will be undertaken on the following roads throughout September: Popio, Springwood, Pine Camp and Nulla Road.

Traffic Monitoring Program

Locations in September

- Ski Reserve Road, 40m west of pump station access
- Abbotsford Road, 40m south of Creek Rd intersection
- Sporting Complex S/R, 80m from Beverley St
- Fotherby Park parking bay, 15m from Silver City Hwy
- Burns Street, 40m from Wood St
- Wood Street, 60m east of Burns St intersection
- Wood Street, 15m west of Burns St intersection
- Bridge Road, 70m from Pitman Ave West
- Bridge Road, 130m from West Rd
- Wilga Road, 140m from Sturt Highway
- Wilga Road, 50m east of Moontongue Dr intersection
- Moontongue Drive, 50m from Wilga Rd
- Drovers Drive, 60m west of Gol Gol Nth Rd intersection
- Drovers Drive, 80m from Gol Gol Nth Rd intersection
- Cemetery Road, 70m from Pooncarie Rd
- Cemetery Road, 40m west of Boat Ramp Rd intersection
- Boat Ramp Road, 130m from Cemetery Rd
- Ellerslie Road, 90m from Pooncarie Rd
- Ellerslie Road, 120m from Ellerslie Nth Rd
- Beverley Street, 45m south from Sandwyck St intersection

Projects

Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade – completion February 2021

- Design consultants finalising construction drawings.
- Earthworks to commenced 6 September on site.
- Contract documentation for the supply and delivery material (PT2122/01), being prepared so is ready to be issued once Council has awarded Tender at the September meeting.
- The supply and installation of Lighting (PT2122/02) closed 6 September, the tender assessment and evaluation to be completed and submitted to the October Council meeting for review and approval.

Buronga Effluent Disposal System (EDS)

- Site to be cleaned in preparation for opening early September.

Buronga Pump Track

- Contractors to commence works post lockdown – pending travel

clearances with COVID.

Gol Gol School Shared Path – completion early October 2021

- Pedestrian island to be installed along Tapio St near Highway intersection early October.

Mourquong Water Main Extension completion October 2021

- Works continuing.

Buronga and Gol Gol Shared Paths

- Summer Drive section of works to commence mid-September and be completed early October.

Streetlight LED Upgrade

- Contractor to complete installation of the outstanding LED streetlights, with any sites not completed issued to the local Essential Energy crews to finalise completion.
- A time line will be provided from Essential Energy to Council regarding the forecast completion dates for the outstanding lights to be installed.

Sewerage Rationalisation Scheme - Wentworth

- Council officer inspected works at SPS#2 Friday 3 September.
- WSC to hold contractor to amended / reconfirmed project timeline dates.

Wentworth Riverfront BBQ and Nature Play Area

- Playground audit and works to be undertaken once interstate travel restrictions have eased.
- Softfall to be installed post final playground works.
- Project completion to be determined post COVID restrictions.

Wentworth Showgrounds Tower and Shade Structure

- Shade structure installation planned to commence mid-September.
- Tower footing construction planned to commence mid-September.
- Estimated completion date January 2022.

Wentworth Showground Sewer Upgrade – completion December 2021

- Progressing with preparation of tender documentation.

Willow Bend Caravan Park Upgrade

- Call for tenders currently available with tenders closing 1 October 2021.

Attachments

1. Attachment 1 - Projects and Works Photo Update [↓](#)



LED Streetlight Upgrade – 1 September



**Dareton Travellers Rest
Pergola steel frame - 10 August**



Mourquong Water Main Extension

**Encasement pipe being installed
under the highway - 12 August**

**Mourquong Water Main Extension Pipe
being laid - 26 August**



10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11 **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Despite the right of members of the public to attend meetings of a council, the council may choose to close to the public, parts of the meeting that involve the discussion or receipt of certain matters as prescribed under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act.

With the exception of matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (10A(2)(a)), matters involving the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer (10A(2)(b)) or matters that would disclose a trade secret (10A(2)(d)(iii)), council must be satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

The Act requires council to close the meeting for only so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security being protected. (section 10B(1)(a))

Section 10A(4) of the Act provides that a council may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Section 10B(4) of the Act stipulates that for the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:-

- (a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or
- (b) the discussion of the matter may -
 - (i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or
 - (ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

Recommendation

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from 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 Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade - Stage 3 Runway 17/35 - Supply VIC Roads Class 3 Road Base Material - PT2122/01. (RPT/21/542)

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 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 WENTWORTH AERODROME UPGRADE - STAGE 3 RUNWAY 17/35 - SUPPLY VIC ROADS CLASS 3 ROAD BASE MATERIAL - PT2122/01

File Number: RPT/21/542

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Tarryn Kampman - Coordinator Roads & Engineering

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.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

20 October 2021