



Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of Wentworth Shire Council will be held in the **WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SHORT STREET, WENTWORTH**, commencing at **7:00 PM**.

The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website. 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.

Councillors & staff are obligated to declare Conflicts of Interest as required under the Local Government Act 1993 and Councils adopted Code of Conduct.

Councillors are reminded of their Oath of Office whereby they have declared and affirmed that they will undertake the duties of the Office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Wentworth Shire and the Wentworth Shire Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

KEN ROSS
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

16 AUGUST 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	OPENING OF MEETING	1
2	PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY.....	1
3	APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	1
4	DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS	1
5	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	1
6	OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS	38
6.1	Outstanding Matters from Previous Meetings.....	38
6.2	Hardwaste Collection	41
7	MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS	43
7.1	Mayoral Report	43
8	REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES	44
8.1	Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee meeting report June 2023.....	44
9	REPORTS TO COUNCIL	60
9.1	General Managers Report.....	60
9.2	Murray Darling Association 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting	66
9.3	Variation to Tourism & Promotions Budget.....	71
9.4	Monthly Finance Report - July 2023.....	75
9.5	Monthly Investment Report - July 2023	78
9.6	Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report	90
9.7	June Quarterly Budget Review - Final Quarter 2022-2023	157
9.8	AF003 Requests for Financial Assistance	180
9.9	Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 - Minimum Lot Size Reduction from 5000sqm to 3000sqm of Lots 506, 551,719 & 822 DP 756961 Dareton	183
9.10	Project & Works Update - August 2023.....	222
10	NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE	237
	Nil	
11	CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION....	238
12	OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL	239

12.1	Purchase of land - 5 Wakefield Lane part Lot 17 DP 807828 Curlwaa .	239
13	CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING	240
	NEXT MEETING	240

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor requests that the General Manager makes announcements regarding the live-streaming of the meeting.

2 PRAYER OR 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 19 July 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 26 July 2023 be confirmed as circulated.



ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

19 JULY 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	OPENING OF MEETING	3
2	PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY.....	3
3	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE.....	3
4	DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS	3
5	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	3
6	OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS	4
6.1	Outstanding Matters from Previous Meetings.....	4
7	MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS	5
7.1	Mayoral Report	5
8	REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES	6
9	REPORTS TO COUNCIL	7
9.1	General Managers Report.....	7
9.2	Heritage & History Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest.....	8
9.3	Monthly Finance Report - June 2023	9
9.4	Monthly Investment Report - June 2023.....	10
9.5	TCorp Loan Acceptance	11
9.6	Planning Proposal Application Fee Waiver Request Lots 506, 551, 719 & 719 DP 756961 Dareton	12
9.7	Application for Modification S4.55/2023/021 10A Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1233515 Buronga.....	13
9.8	Delegated Authority Approvals as at end of June 2023	14
9.9	Update Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan.....	15
9.10	Project & Works Update - July 2023.....	16
10	NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE	17
11	CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION.....	19
12	OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL	21
12.1	Disposal of Council Chambers and Library Building	21
12.2	Plant Replacement - Approval of Tenders for Replacement of Plant 656 - Toyota Prado - VR2324/678.....	22
12.3	Plant Replacement - Approval of Tenders for Replacement of Plant - Multiple Vehicles - VR2324/659,661,667,668,669,672,673	23
12.4	PT2223/11 - Junction Island Bridge Demolition and Installation	24

	12.5 Heritage & History Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest (RPT/23/367)	25
13	CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING	26
	NEXT MEETING	26

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Steve Cooper
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Steve Heywood
Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Jane MacAllister
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda

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

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mayor Elstone on Leave of absence and will be returning on 11 August 2023.

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Nichols advised that she had a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.2 as an applicant is the Treasurer of a sporting club of which she is the president.

Councillor Nichols advised that he had a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 12.1 as she is Power of Attorney for a person who will buy into this establishment and to be transparent I may be seen to be voting an advantage for this person.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 28 June 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 28 June 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr. Heywood, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/23/443

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 20 June 2023.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 20 June 2023.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/370

Recommendation

That Council

- a) Receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report
- b) Resolves that Deputy Mayor Linklater be appointed Acting Mayor for the period 16 July 2023 to 18 August 2023 inclusive

Council Resolution

That Council

- a) Receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report
- b) Resolves that Deputy Mayor Linklater be appointed Acting Mayor for the period 16 July 2023 to 11 August 2023 inclusive

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayoral Minute

That Council propose the following motion to the Western Division of Councils meeting.

Motion: That the Western Division Group of Councils writes to the Minister for the Environment, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Minister for Regional & Western New South Wales requesting that the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 be amended in such a manner as to allow the recommencement of development of housing and industry in Regional NSW, unhindered by the devastating impacts of this Act.

Moved Acting Mayor Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Cr Nichols provided a verbal report from the Showground User group meeting.
Cr Rodda provided a verbal report regarding WRTI, the Botanical Gardens and the Pooncarie User Group.
Cr Beaumont provided a verbal report from the Wentworth Sporting complex User group meeting.

Council Resolution

That Council receive and note the reports from the Councillors.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/371

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

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
Circular 23-06
Circular 23-08
2. Meetings
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed
4. Other items of note

Recommendation

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At 7:19 pm Councillor Susan Nichols left the Council Chambers.

9.2 HERITAGE & HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

File Number: RPT/23/367

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Council Resolution

That Council consider the expressions of interest in the confidential section of the agenda.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Summary

By way of a Resolution at the 19 April 2023 Council meeting, Council adopted the terms of reference detailed in the Heritage & History Advisory Committee draft Charter, with endorsement of the objectives, composition of the Committee, and the membership nomination and selection process to enable establishment of the Committee. Cr MacAllister and Cr Nichols were nominated to be the Council delegates with Cr Beaumont to be the alternate representative.

The endorsed selection process for community representation was by way of Expressions of Interest addressing criteria set out therein, with applications closing 5.00 pm Friday 16 June 2023. Three formal applications were received by close of business 16 June 2023.

Four other parties indicated their interest Monday 19 June seeking approval for late submission: three submissions subsequently received. (Whilst one further submission was anticipated (from Barkindji Maraura Elders Environment Team Limited (BMEET) with reference to three representatives from that organisation) it has not been forthcoming.

Recommendation

That Council reviews the submissions received against the criteria described in advertisements for the Expression of Interest and select community representation for the Heritage & History Advisory Committee.

At 07:20 pm Councillor Susan Nichols returned to Council Chambers.

9.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - JUNE 2023

File Number: RPT/23/430

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 June 2023 were \$593,303.65. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 92.14%. For comparison purposes 91.56% of the levy had been collected at the end of June 2022. Council currently has \$51,203,070.63 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - JUNE 2023

File Number: RPT/23/433

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

Summary

As at 30 June 2023 Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$9,203,070.63 in other cash investments. Council received \$175,834.45 from its investments for the month of June 2023.

In June 2023 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.35% and it currently has \$8,020,023.99 of internal restrictions and \$39,508,489.08 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Moved Cr Cooper, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 TCORP LOAN ACCEPTANCE

File Number: RPT/23/432

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 Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

Summary

In February 2023 the Minister for Local Government gave approval for all NSW councils to be able to apply to TCorp for competitive low interest loans subject to TCorp's standard loan application process and lending criteria.

Council's Long Term Financial Plan and the recently approved 2023-2024 Operational Plan identified \$6,000,000 dollars of new loans to finance the following:

- \$4,000,000 to finance Council's commitment to the Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment (in October 2022 Council approved \$1,500,000 of loan savings from the Willow Bend Caravan Park project be reallocated to this project); and
- \$2,000,000 to finance new Stormwater Infrastructure projects (the major component of this is the Pink Lake project)

TCorp has approved Council's loan application and it is the recommendation of the reporting officer that Council accept the loan offer from TCorp and delegates authority to the Mayor and the General Manager to sign the loan agreement and affix the Common Seal.

Recommendation

That Council

- a) Accepts the Loan Offer from NSW TCorp.
- b) Delegates authority to the Mayor and the General Manager to sign loan documents and affix the Council Seal.

Council Resolution

That Council

- a) Accepts the Loan Offer from NSW TCorp.
- b) Delegates authority to the Mayor and the General Manager to sign loan documents and affix the Council Seal.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 PLANNING PROPOSAL APPLICATION FEE WAIVER REQUEST LOTS 506, 551, 719 & 719 DP 756961 DARETON

File Number: RPT/23/373

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Strategic Planning Officer

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

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

Summary

James Golsworthy Consulting, on behalf of their clients is seeking a waiver of the applicable fee for the lodgment of a planning proposal of \$7,885.90 – see Attachment 1.

Once lodged, the Planning Proposal aims to amend the Minimum Lot Size of Lots 506, 551, 719 & 822 DP 756962 (subject land) from 5000sqm to 3000sqm. This will be subject to a completed planning proposal document and report to Council at a later date.

Recommendation

That Council resolves to waive the LEP Amendment Fee by \$2,628.63, making the lodgement fee payable for the planning proposal \$5,257.26.

Council Resolution

That Council resolves to waive the LEP Amendment Fee by \$2,628.63, making the lodgement fee payable for the planning proposal \$5,257.26.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED

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

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Heywood, Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.***

Against the Motion: ***MacAllister***

9.7 APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION S4.55/2023/021 10A CARBONE COURT LOT 1 DP 1233515 BURONGA

File Number: RPT/23/375

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

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

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

Summary

Council has received an application for modification S4.55/2023/021 at 10A Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1233515 Buronga, seeking Council to approve the addition of the swimming pool to the Notice of Determination that was omitted from the previously approved DA2023/024 which granted consent for a dwelling.

Recommendation

That Council

- 1) Approve modification application s4.55/2023/021 for addition of swimming pool subject to conditions
- 2) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

That Council

- 1) Approve modification application s4.55/2023/021 for addition of swimming pool subject to conditions
- 2) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

For the Motion : ***Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Heywood, Linklater, MacAllister, Nichols and Rodda.***

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

9.8 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF JUNE 2023

File Number: RPT/23/436

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Carmel Giugno - Administration Officer

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

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

THIS ITEM WAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA**Summary**

For the month of June 2023, a total of ten (10) Development Applications and three (3) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined Development Applications was \$1,811,704.00. This brings the year to date total to sixty-seven (67) Development Applications and twenty-two (22) S4.55 applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$11,596,490.00.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the report for the Delegated Authority Approvals for the month of June 2023.
- b) Publicly notifies the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.

9.9 UPDATE INTEGRATED WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT PLAN

File Number: RPT/23/403

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Scott Barnes - Manager Engineering Services

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

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

Summary

All Councils in NSW which are managing water and wastewater are in the process of preparing an Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy as part of the NSW Government's "Safe and Secure Water Program". The purpose of this program is to identify the high-risk projects and to provide the government support and funding in a timely manner. Every 4 years, the strategy will be reviewed and funding options explored.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the report.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - JULY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/404

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Jamie-Lee Kelly - Administration Officer

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

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

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 months of June 2023 and the planned activities for July 2023.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in June 2023 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in June 2023 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 REPLACEMENT OF QUEEN'S PHOTOS WITH THE KING

Cr Susan Nichols requested that the Queen Elizabeth 11 photos be replaced by the King Charles 111 and Cr MacAllister further requested that the painted portrait of Queen Elizabeth in the Chambers be valued.

10.2 MEDIA SPENDING

Cr Jo Rodda asked that in regard to advertising after speaking with various media outlets, can Council share the media budget around with various media outlets.

10.3 MILDURA WENTWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Cr Jo Rodda asked if there was money put aside in the budget for the Mildura Wentworth Country Music Festival.

The Director of Finance advised that there was money in the budget and also that the Bendigo Bank had provided money to Council toward this event as well.

10.4 DARETON COOMEALLA CENTENARY

Cr Peter Crisp requested if a clean up of the nature strips could occur for the event 25-28 April 2024. Also how can untidy vacant blocks be cleaned up for the event.

Director Health & Planning advised blocks are identified and then the process is commenced with an informal letter then action can be taken under the legislation.

Director Roads & Engineering failing the process that Planning go through Council can undertake a one off clean up in preparation for the event.

Council have offered support to the event for assistance what process is required.

The General Manager asked for an official letter requesting support to Council.

10.5 RISK REGISTER

Cr Brian Beaumont requested that management supply Councillors with a quarterly copy of the Risk Register.

The General Manager advised that he will establish a mechanism to achieve this request.

Council Resolution

That Council accept Cr MacAllister's motion into the formal business.

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That Council write to the Water Minister and cc the premier reminding them that despite recent floods state wide water quality still threatens the 250,000 odd head of stock, staff,

residents & communities including first nations cultural activities across the far west. if local government is to continue to provide safe drinkable water to its ratepayers, the NSW government must act more quickly to ensure water quality & equity

Moved Cr. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.6 NEW FLOOD EVENT

Cr Jo Rodda asked if there will be another flood event.

Cr Crisp advised there is a 40,000 – 50000 ML in the system however Wentworth shouldn't be effected and the volume is a long way from the 220,000ML of last year.

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 Disposal of Council Chambers and Library Building. (RPT/23/427)

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 (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. 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.

12.2 Plant Replacement - Approval of Tenders for Replacement of Plant 656 - Toyota Prado - VR2324/678. (RPT/23/429)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct)

business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

12.3 Plant Replacement - Approval of Tenders for Replacement of Plant - Multiple Vehicles - VR2324/659,661,667,668,669,672,673. (RPT/23/431)

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.

12.4 PT2223/11 - Junction Island Bridge Demolition and Installation. (RPT/23/440)

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.

12.5 Heritage & History Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest (RPT/23/367)

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 (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

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. MacAllister, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND LIBRARY BUILDING

File Number: RPT/23/427

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
Strategy: 2.2 Work together to solve a range of social and health issues
that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people

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 (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. 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 dispose of the Council Chambers and Library building Lot 2 Deposited Plan 1227871 by way of private sale to the adjoining land owners based on the Herron Todd White valuation of \$525,000 with the adjoining land owners being Murray House and authorise the Mayor and General Manager to attach the common seal of Council to the contract of sale.

12.2 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL OF TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 656 - TOYOTA PRADO - VR2324/678

File Number: RPT/23/429

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council approved the acceptance of the tender from Davison Ford for the supply of a Ford Everest Platinum that meets specification at the price of \$76,971.92 inc GST and accepted the trade price of \$67,000.00 inc GST for the Council owned 2019 Toyota Prado, Registration WSC404, with a total changeover price of \$9,971.92 inc GST

12.3 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL OF TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT - MULTIPLE VEHICLES - VR2324/659,661,667,668,669,672,673

File Number: RPT/23/431

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised

1. That Council accepted the tender from Auto Synergy for the supply of an Isuzu D-Max SX Crew Cab Ute 4x4 for the sum of \$57,096.49 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$27,000 inc GST for Council owned 2018 Ford Ranger, Registration WSC427, plant item 659 with a total changeover price of \$30,096.49 inc GST.
2. That Council accepted the tender from Davison Ford for the supply of a Ford Ranger XL Utility for the sum of \$56,965.50 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$15,000 inc GST for Council owned 2018 Holden Ute Registration WSC407, plant item 661 with a total changeover price of \$41,965.50 inc GST.
3. That Council accepted the tender from Davison Ford for the supply of a Ford Ranger XL Utility for the sum of \$84,716.42 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$22,000 inc GST for Council owned 2018 Ford Ranger, Registration WSC445, plant item 667 with a total changeover price of \$62,716.42 inc GST.
4. That Council accepted the tender from Davison Ford for the supply of a Ford Ranger XL Utility for the sum of \$84,716.42 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$22,000 inc GST for Council owned 2018 Ford Ranger, Registration WSC408, plant item 668 with a total changeover price of \$62,716.42 inc GST.
5. That Council accepted the tender from Davison Ford for the supply of a Ford Ranger XL Utility for the sum of \$84,716.42 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$32,000.00 inc GST for Council owned 2018 Ford Ranger, Registration WSC421, plant item 669 with a total changeover price of \$52,716.42 inc GST.
6. That Council accepted the tender from Auto Synergy for the supply of an Isuzu DMAX SX Crew Cab 4x4 Utility for the sum of \$69,736.21 inc GST, and accepted the trade price of \$20,000.00 inc GST for Council owned 2019 Holden Colorado, Registration WSC448, plant item 672 with a total changeover price of \$49,736.21 inc GST.
7. That Council accepted the tender from Auto Synergy for the supply of 3 x Isuzu SX 4x4 Utilities for the sum of \$171,289.47 inc GST.

12.4 PT2223/11 - JUNCTION ISLAND BRIDGE DEMOLITION AND INSTALLATION

File Number: RPT/23/440

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Michael Hilliard - Project Engineer

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

Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Section 178(1) (a) accepted the tender from Teleo Design Pty Ltd for demolition and installation of Junction Island Bridge in accordance with the Bored Pier alternative and subsequently authorized the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the seal for the recommended contractor to carry out all works specified for PT 2223/11 for \$253,482.73 exc GST.

**12.5 HERITAGE & HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(RPT/23/367)**

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 (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

The General Manager advised that the Heritage and History Advisory Committee comprise 5 Community members as well as 2 Councillors and an alternate, the General Manager and the Director of Health & Planning and Council will advise the applicants of the outcome.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 8:32pm

NEXT MEETING

16 August 2023

.....
CHAIR



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

26 JULY 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	OPENING OF MEETING	1
2	PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY.....	1
3	APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE.....	1
4	DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS	1
5	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	1
7	CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION.....	2
8	OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL	4
7.1	PT2223/14 - Wentworth Effluent Disposal Station Renewal	4
9	CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING	5
	NEXT MEETING	5

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 5:01 PM.

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**PRESENT:**

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Steve Cooper
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Steve Heywood
Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Jane MacAllister (Via Video Conference)
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda (Via Video Conference)

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

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mayor Elstone is on a leave of absence.

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

N/A

7 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:-

7.1 PT2223/14 - Wentworth Effluent Disposal Station Renewal. (RPT/23/441)

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.

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 Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

7.1 PT2223/14 - WENTWORTH EFFLUENT DISPOSAL STATION RENEWAL

File Number: RPT/23/441

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Taygun Saritoprak - Project Officer

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

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Section 178(1) (a) accepted the tender from Waters Excavations Pty Ltd, and subsequently authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the seal for the recommended contractor to carry out all works specified for PT2223/14 for \$1,226,526.57 GST Inclusive subject to additional funding.

9 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Meeting closed at 5:15pm

NEXT MEETING

16 August 2023

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/23/457

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 9 August 2023.

Attachments

1. Outstanding Actions as at 9 August 2023 [↓](#)

Division: Ordinary Council Committee: Officer:				Date From: Date To: Printed: Wednesday, 9 August 2023 9:01:02 AM
Outstanding Action Items Report				
Meeting	Item	Title	Item	Action Record (latest first)
Ordinary Council 20/07/2022	10.5	<i>Darling Street Pavers</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont asked if Council should be focussing on the issue raised on Facebook with the pavers in Darling Street	09 Aug 2023 8:54am Kelly, Jamie-Lee A report on available options and estimated costs delayed awaiting clarification on tree protection implications report to be submitted to September council meeting
Ordinary Council 16/11/2022	10.4	<i>GOL GOL Water Tower</i>	Cr Jo Rodda asked if the Gol Gol water tower could be used for a mural. The General Manager advised that it wasn't the first time a request had been made however there were some issues when it was investigated due to the tower location close to the highway and parking issues.	07 Aug 2023 4:51pm Marsden, Gayle Information being sought from several Councils on pros and cons of light projection and painted murals
Ordinary Council 16/11/2022	10.1	<i>PS RUBY</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont requested that the future of the PS Ruby be placed back on the outstanding action list to be discussed at a future meeting.	09 Aug 2023 9:00am Marsden, Gayle As a follow up from the Advisory meeting in July an application will be made to have PS Ruby registered as a State Heritage item and enquiries will be made with the Australian National Maritime Museum for the completion of a Vessel Management Plan.
Ordinary Council 17/05/2023	10.1	<i>Arthur Street Water Tanks Mural</i>	Cr Steve Cooper enquired if a mural could be painted on the water tanks at Arthur Street Wentworth and for the mural to represent Barkandji heritage.	07 Aug 2023 4:53pm Marsden, Gayle Information being sought from several Councils on pros and cons of light projection and painted murals
Ordinary Council 28/06/2023	10.6	<i>Dog Waste Stations</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont requested that the installation of dog waste stations be investigated.	08 Aug 2023 8:39am Carlin, Matthew Quotes have been received from one company for supply and delivery of dog waste stations.
Ordinary Council 28/06/2023	10.5	<i>Update On 40km Proposal For Wentworth township</i>	Cr Steve Heywood would like an update on the proposed 40km zone in Wentworth Township through TfNSW.	09 Aug 2023 8:55am Kelly, Jamie-Lee TfNSW to confirm final budget allocation on approved layout footprint the end of

Division: Committee: Officer:		Date From: Date To: Printed: Wednesday, 9 August 2023 9:01:02 AM	
Outstanding Action Items Report			

		August. Anticipated timing of proposed works November 2023.	
Ordinary Council 28/06/2023	10.2	Transportable Buildings	Cr Susan Nichols asked if the transportable buildings not being used by Council for the waste stations could be disposed of. The General Manager advised he will organise appropriate disposal.
Ordinary Council 19/07/2023	10.1	Replacement of Queen's Photos with the King	Cr Susan Nichols requested that the Queen Elizabeth 11 photos be replaced by the King Charles 111 and Cr MacAllister further requested that the painted portrait of Queen Elizabeth in the Chambers be valued.
		08 Aug 2023 4:54pm Marsden, Gayle Transportable buildings will be included in an online public auction.	
		03 Aug 2023 4:10pm Marsden, Gayle Contacted Federal member's office who advised that an official portrait has not yet been provided to them. Council is on a waiting list to be sent the portraits when they arrive. Completed	

6.2 HARDWASTE COLLECTION

File Number: RPT/23/483

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
 Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

Summary

Historically Council has been offering a hard rubbish collection for its residents and ratepayers every 3 years for more than a decade.

At the March Council Meeting the issue of whether Council could look at making the hard rubbish collection a more permanent service instead of every 3 years was raised.

Research has been conducted across a variety of Councils in NSW, Victoria and South Australia which has indicated that Councils are moving away from the practice of a fixed date arrangement to a system where residents and ratepayers contact the Council to book/request a collection with each property being eligible for one collection per year.

Recommendation

That Council endorse a trial of Option 2 – Booking a collection through Council for the hardwaste collection.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to report back to Council in regards to Hardwaste Collection options.

Background

At the March Council Meeting the issue of whether Council could look at making the hard rubbish collection a more permanent service instead of every 3 years was raised.

The contents of this report will focus on two hardwaste collection options

Option 1 – Fixed date collection services

Option 2 – Booking a collection through Council

Report Detail

Historically Council has been offering a hard rubbish collection for its residents and ratepayers every 3 years for more than a decade.

Council's has previously offered the collection as fixed date collection service. While this has worked well in the past Council officers regularly get feedback from ratepayers and residents who for a variety of reasons were unable to participate. The last time the collection was undertaken in 2021, 122 properties were involved.

Council staff consulted with a wide range of councils across three (3) States (New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia).

The feedback received from those councils indicated that councils were moving away from fixed date hardwaste collections in favour of a booking system where residents and ratepayers contact Council to book a hardwaste collection pickup with each property being eligible for one collection per year.

\$25,000 has been budgeted in 2023/2024 financial year to undertake a hardwaste collection. Should Option 2 be endorsed Option 2, Council will need to consider whether it stays within that allocated amount which would mean that should that amount be fully expended before the end of the financial year than the option would have to stop until such time as a decision is made about the preferred option going forward unless Council is prepared to approve a budget variation at some stage during the financial year to allow this option to continue to 30 June 2024.

Based on the above it is recommended that Council undertake a trial during the 2023/2024 financial year of the alternate booking option to determine how it is received by the community. This will allow Council to determine of the effectiveness of this option compared to the historic fixed date option and to determine a preferred option going forward.

Conclusion

The contents of this report were workshopped with Councillors at the advisory meeting held on 26 August where it was requested that a formal report be brought to Council for a decision.

Attachments

Nil

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/455

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Elstone for the period of 20 July 2023 – 16 August 2023 and to appoint the Deputy Mayor as Acting Mayor during the Mayor's leave of absence.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report

Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Elstone for the period of 20 July 2023 – 16 August 2023

Date	Meeting	Location
26 July 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
26 July 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
31 July 2023	MDA Region 4 meeting	Mildura
7 Aug 2023	MDA Region 4 meeting	Video Conference
8 Aug 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
15 Aug 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
16 Aug 2023	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
16 Aug 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

Mayor Elstone had an approved leave of absence from 16 July 2023 to 11 August 2023 inclusive. Deputy Mayor Linklater has been the Acting Mayor in Mayor Elstone's absence.

Attachments

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 WILLANDRA LAKES REGION WORLD HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT JUNE 2023

File Number: RPT/23/461

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

Cr MacAllister is the Local Government representative for the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee. The following report is provided for the June 2023 meeting of the committee.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report from the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee meeting June 2023.

Attachments

1. Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee June meeting report [↓](#)



Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Report: June 2023

What is the Advisory Committee

The Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee (The Committee) is a Ministerial appointed advisory body. The Committee provides advice to the NSW Minister for Environment and the Australian Government Minister for the Environment. It also provides advice to all the relevant agencies responsible for the Willandra Lakes Region via the Intergovernmental Management Committee (Management Committee) - on the protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the World Heritage values of the Willandra Lakes Region.





Meeting Report: 20-21 June 2023



On the 20-21 June 2023, the Advisory Committee met at the Willandra Lakes Research and Learning Centre, at the Leaghur Homestead Precinct on Mungo National Park. The Committee heard from all agencies responsible for managing the World Heritage site. The Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW), NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), and NSW Crown Lands. NSW Local Lands Service -Western, also attended and provided an overview of the final amendments to the revised Rabbit Management Plan. The Committee also spent time finalising its 3-year work plan and shortlisting some key priorities.

Project Updates



Development Proposals



During the updates, the Committee was briefed on proposed developments adjacent to the World Heritage boundary: two wind farms and a sand mine. The Committee discussed potential impacts of the proposals, particularly impacts to the night sky and expansive horizon. DCCEEW gave advice on how the Committee can register to be consulted on these projects.

NSW National Trust Award



On the 12th May the National Trust Awards were held in Sydney, where the adaptive reuse of the Leaghur Homestead as an On-Country Research and Learning Centre was given the accolade of Highly Commended. The Committee gave a round of applause to the Historic and World Heritage Team, Lower Darling Team for all their work on the successful adaptation.

Research Prospectus



The Research Prospectus has now been endorsed by all managing agencies. The Committee reviewed the first graphic designed version which will be finalised before the next meeting. Once finalised, the prospectus will be sent out to key research institutions around Australia. The Key Themes of the Research Prospectus are: Changing Cultural and Natural Landscapes, Enhancing the continuity of connection to Country, Sustaining the health of Country and its cultural and natural values, Sharing and archiving information, Changing cultural and natural landscapes.

Research Summary



The Committee also saw the first draft of the Research Summary which is close to completion. The summary synthesises all research carried out in the Willandra, along with one-page summaries of around 50 research projects that have either started or finished since 2015. The Summary aims to address gaps in public knowledge on the extent and breadth of research that occurs in the Willandra.

National Indigenous Australians Agency Indigenous Ranger Program
(NIAA-IRP)



The Advisory Committee received an overview of the National Indigenous Australians Agency – Indigenous Ranger Programs (NIAA-IRP). The IRP has been running since 2013 and currently has funds to employ two Indigenous Rangers, with an operational budget for two vehicles. Over the last ten years the IRP has funded multiple roles to support the management of the World Heritage site. Some of the tasks and roles include:

- Land Liaison with pastoral stations;
- Drone Monitoring, mapping and photography;
- Site conservation;
- Support filming projects;
- Support research projects;
- Support AAG/FPCG and Advisory Committee meetings;
- Support the attendance of community members to meetings, events, workshops etc.;
- Coordinate and run special events such as women's camps, NAIDOC events;
- Support NPWS Operational staff on major projects such as the driving loop and fossil trackway conservation works.

One of the notable contributions the program has made in the past five years, is its support for the *National Landcare Program 2 (NLP2): Willandra Rabbit Control Program*. The IRP funded Rangers supported the program by assessing rabbit warrens for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage to identify and mitigate any impacts. Over the course of the project the IRP funded Rangers have assessed over 10,000 rabbit warrens, recorded over 2000 rabbit warrens, and recorded over 1,000 Aboriginal sites of significance that have been registered in the NSW Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).

The Advisory Committee agreed to support the NIAA-IRP in applying for any additional funding to supplement its operational budget.

The Advisory Committee thanked all presenters and NPWS for organising the meeting.

Contact Us



For more information contact the Willandra Lake Region World Heritage Executive Officer at:

npws.willandalakes@environment.nsw.gov.au

For more information on the Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage property and Advisory Committees:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/types-of-protected-areas/world-heritage-listed-areas/willandra-lakes-region

www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/willandra

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/types-of-protected-areas/world-heritage-listed-areas/world-heritage-area-advisory-committees

[All online meeting reports can be found here](#)







9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/456

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

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
Circular 23-09
2. Meetings
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed
4. Other items of note

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

1. Circulars

23-09 September 2023 Mayoral Elections

What's new or changing

- Councils that elect their mayors are required under section 290(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to hold mid-term mayoral elections in September 2023.
- Mayors elected in September 2023 will hold their office until council elections are held on 14 September 2024.
- Deputy mayors hold their office for the term specified by the council's resolution. An election for deputy mayor should be held when the deputy mayor's term expires.

What this will mean for your council

- Mayoral elections must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- Schedule 7 prescribes three methods of election of mayors:

- open ballot (eg a show of hands)
- ordinary ballot, or
- preferential ballot.
- Councillors can participate in mayoral elections using an open ballot by audio visual link but not where the other two methods of election are used.
- Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and councillors will need to attend the meeting in person to vote if the mayoral election is held using either of these methods.

Key Points

- Mayors elected by councillors normally hold their office for two years (unless a casual vacancy occurs). Because of the postponement of the last ordinary council elections to 4 December 2021, mayors elected by councillors during this term will have a shorter term than the usual two years.
- Councils that elect their mayors are required under the Act to hold mid-term mayoral elections in the month of September. This means that the mid-term mayoral elections will need to be held in September 2023.
- The term of office of mayors elected in September 2023 will automatically expire on 14 September 2024, when their term as a councillor expires.

2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 20 July 2023 – 16 August 2023.

Date	Meeting	Location
20 July 2023	Community Safety Precinct Meeting	Buronga
20 July 2023	Drought Resilience Meeting	Video Conference
25 July 2023	Balranald / Wentworth Shire Councils Economic Development Strategy Planning Meeting	Euston
25 July 2023	Western Functional Economic Regions Industry Forum Planning Session	Euston
26 July 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
26 July 2023	Extraordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
26 July 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
28 July 2023	Collaborative Care Program Evaluation	Video Conference
31 July 2023	Bendigo Bank Agency Review	Wentworth
1 Aug 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
1 Aug 2023	Maraura Elder – Rex Smith	Wentworth
3 Aug 2023	Exercise Ballet Planning	Wentworth
3 Aug 2023	Wentworth / Balranald Shire Councils Drought	Video Conference

	Resilience Plan Project Control Group Meeting	
3 Aug 2023	Wentworth Military Museum meeting	Wentworth
8 Aug 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
9-11 Aug 2023	Western Division of Councils Conference	Cobar
16 Aug 2023	Exercise Ballet - Aerodrome	Wentworth
16 Aug 2023	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Wentworth
16 Aug 2023	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
16 Aug 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

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 from 17 August 2023 – 20 September 2023.

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
17 Aug 2023	Wentworth Shire Interagency Group	Cr MacAllister, Cr Rodda	Buronga
17 Aug 2023	T-Corp Visit	General Manager and Director Finance & Policy	Wentworth
21 Aug 2023	MDA Region 4	Cr Elstone, Cr Linklater & Cr Heywood	Video Conference
23 Aug 2023	Citizenship Ceremony	Councillors and General Manager	Wentworth
23 Aug 2023	Advisory Meeting	Councillors and General Manager	Wentworth
28 Aug 2023	Transgrid Camp Site & Tour	Councillors and General Manager	Buronga
4 Sept 2023	Wentworth Regional Tourism Meeting	Cr Rodda	Wentworth
12 Sept 2023	Australian Inland Botanic Gardens Meeting	Cr Rodda	Mildura
13 Sept 2023	Joint Mildura Rural City Council & Wentworth Shire Council Meeting	Councillors and Senior Staff	Wentworth
20 Sept 2023	Grants Commission Visit	Councillors and Senior Staff	Wentworth
20 Sept 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Councillors and Senior Staff	Wentworth

4. Other items of note

Tourism Officers Report

Update on Events

The Smoke Show

- The Smoke Show was held at the Wentworth Showgrounds on Saturday 8 July from 12.00pm – 7.00pm.
- The event attracted a huge amount of people, with around 5000 people through the gates. Not only community members from within the Shire, but people from Mildura plus outside the region including Bendigo, Riverland, Adelaide, Melbourne and other surrounding places.
- Six smoked meat options were available: OMG BBQ from Bendigo, Low n Slow from Adelaide and Events Fire Food, Ottoman Grill, Enjoy Catering and GTS BBQ from the Sunraysia region.
- Other food options included Scads Cruisin Café, Verdict selling coffee and desserts, Hot Donuts ran by the Pooncarie Isolated Childrens Association, The Old Lolly Shop (from Murray Bridge) and Berri North Meat Store.
- There were 10 stallholders selling a variety of items including outdoor gear, knives, whips, fresh meat, rubs, condiments etc.
- The Wentworth Rowing Club ran the main bar out of the Pavilion and Fosseys & Enjoy Wine had a wine & gin bar run out of the old Show bar.
- Kids activities included two face painting stalls, zoo riders and a mechanical bull.
- Live entertainment played throughout the day, with some whip cracking demonstrations in between.
- Smoking demonstrations were scheduled however didn't go ahead due to OMG BBQ coping with the influx of people to feed.
- Many feedback forms were received with feedback taken on board if the event is to go ahead in the future.

Wentworth Winter Art Fest

- The Wentworth Winter Art Fest was held on Darling Street on Sunday 30 July from 10.00 – 2.00pm. The event was proudly funded by West Darling Arts.
- The event was very successful with around 1000 people attending the event over the course of the day. The perfect weather definitely played a huge part in the overall success.
- Some great food options were offered by Enjoy Catering, Verdict Catering, Scad's Cruisin Café, The Van, the Wentworth Public School P&C Sausage Sizzle and the many other local businesses open throughout the day.
- Fantastic entertainment was provided with cultural performances, Stray Notes and the Sunraysia Community Choir, dance performances by Sunraysia Dance Academy as well as an acoustic set by Nev n Toni.
- The Recycled Runway Fashion Show was a new addition to the event and was very popular. It attracted a huge crowd with participants making outfits from corrugated iron, mesh, wire, cans, cardboard, old fabric and more.
- Fun was had by all ages with kids activities including balloon animals, face painting, lego building, caricature drawings, a scavenger hunt, amazing sidewalk

chalk drawings by Dee Craig and free art classes run by Steve and Anne Hederics – plus some fun for the adults with the free Paint + Sip sessions held at Lock 10 & Weir Restaurant.

Wentworth Show Saturday Night Street Party

- The Wentworth Show Saturday Night Street party is to be held on Saturday 26 August from 4.00pm – 8.00pm, in Darling Street.
- Advertising of the event has commenced and has been well received by the community.
- Live music, security, kids activities, outdoor dining and a shuttle bus from the Showgrounds has been organised.

Country Music Festival Twilight Event

- The Country Music Festival Twilight Event will be held on Friday 29 September from 3.30pm – 7.30pm, in Darling Street.
- Expression of Interest registrations are now open for market stallholders.
- Advertising will commence for the event within the next week.

Attachments

1. Circular 23-09 [1](#)



Circular Details	23-09 / 01 August 2023 / A869189
Previous Circular	21-24 September 2021 Mayoral elections
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 2023 mayoral elections

What's new or changing

- Councils that elect their mayors are required under section 290(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to hold mid-term mayoral elections in September 2023.
- Mayors elected in September 2023 will hold their office until council elections are held on 14 September 2024.
- Deputy mayors hold their office for the term specified by the council's resolution. An election for deputy mayor should be held when the deputy mayor's term expires.

What this will mean for your council

- Mayoral elections must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- Schedule 7 prescribes three methods of election of mayors:
 - open ballot (eg a show of hands)
 - ordinary ballot, or
 - preferential ballot.
- Councillors can participate in mayoral elections using an open ballot by audio visual link but not where the other two methods of election are used.
- Ordinary and preferential ballots are secret ballots and councillors will need to attend the meeting in person to vote if the mayoral election is held using either of these methods.

Key points

- Mayors elected by councillors normally hold their office for two years (unless a casual vacancy occurs). Because of the postponement of the last ordinary council elections to 4 December 2021, mayors elected by councillors during this term will have a shorter term than the usual two years.
- Councils that elect their mayors are required under the Act to hold mid-term mayoral elections in the month of September. This means that the mid-term mayoral elections will need to be held in September 2023.
- The term of office of mayors elected in September 2023 will automatically expire on 14 September 2024, when their term as a councillor expires.

9.2 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION 79TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

File Number: RPT/23/458

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
 Strategy: 3.3 Minimise the impact on the natural environment

Summary

The Murray Darling Association's 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting is being held from the 25-28 September 2023 in Murray Bridge. The focus of the Conference is, "*Partnership through collaboration across the Basin*". Traditionally Council nominates its Murray Darling Association representatives to attend the Conference and Annual General Meeting.

Recommendation

That Council nominates the Murray Darling Association representatives to attend the Murray Darling Association's 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting from 25-28 September 2023.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider who should attend the Murray Darling Association's 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting. Council's representatives for the Murray Darling Association are Mayor Elstone, Cr Linklater and Cr Heywood.

Report

The Murray Darling Association's 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting is being held from 25-28 September 2023 in Murray Bridge. The Conference will bring together heads of Industry, Irrigation, Local Government, State Government, and Education to discuss "*Partnership through collaboration across the Basin*", and will explore many themes such as Natural Disaster Recovery, Water Security, The Circular Economy, Preparing for Drought and Water scarcity, and Climate Change.

Traditionally Council nominates its Murray Darling Association representatives to attend the Conference. The cost of conference attendance is \$750 which includes a Civic Reception, Study Tour of Lower Lakes and across the Barrages, Gala Dinner and the two day conference, plus accommodation.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council nominates Council's Murray Darling Association representatives to the Murray Darling Association's 79th National Conference and Annual General Meeting from 25 -28 September 2023.

Attachments

1. MDA Conference Program 2023 [↓](#)

2023 National Conference



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2023 HOST



Summary of Events

25 September 2023

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Early Registration	Murray Bridge Rowing Club, Sturt Reserve Rd, Murray Bridge, SA.
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Civic Reception	Be welcomed and network at the historic Murray Bridge Rowing Club. Situated on the banks of the beautiful and historic Murray River, escape the hustle and bustle of Murray Bridge and enjoy the ambience of one of South Australia's oldest and most successful rowing clubs.

26 September 2023

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
8:00am - 5:00pm	Study Tour	Departing from the Murray Bridge Town Hall, circumnavigate the Lower Lakes and across the Barrages.

27 September 2023

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
8:00am - 9:00am	Registrations Open	Murray Bridge Town Hall, 17 Bridge St, Murray Bridge SA 5253
9:00am - 9:25am	Welcome to Country	
	Event MC	Mark Lamb, CEO Murray Darling Association
	Welcome to Murray Bridge	Rural City of Murray Bridge
	Welcome to Conference	Cr David Thurley, National President Murray Darling Association
9:35am - 5:00pm	Conference Speakers Day 1	Panel Sessions and Speakers addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon Tanya Plibersek MP State Water Ministers, State of the River, Flood Impacts, Water Security, Water Resource Management, Irrigators, River Users
6:30pm - 9:30pm	Gala Dinner	Celebrate and socialise at the magnificent Bridgeport Hotel overlooking the famous Murray River. The Bridgeport is a perfect location for visitors and locals to eat, drink, play & stay.

Summary of Events

28 September 2023

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
9:00am	Opening Address	Mark Lamb, CEO Murray Darling Association
9:10am - 3:00pm	Conference Speakers Day 2	Panel Sessions and Speakers addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Perin Davey MDBA CEO, Irrigators, and River Users, NRAR, and PLATINUM Sponsor PSTR Group. • Explore themes such as Water updates, Science and Technology, Impacts of the floods.
3:00pm - 5:00pm	MDA Annual General Meeting	Mark Lamb, CEO Murray Darling Association Delegates will consider a range of motion to set the agenda of the Murray Darling Association for the years ahead.

This is your Opportunity

Murray Bridge is a thriving regional centre on the banks of the Murray River and an attractive destination in the Murraylands of South Australia.

A Region filled with natural beauty and unique experiences makes the Rural City of Murray Bridge a destination of choice for travelers, adventurers and those who just want to spend lazy days by the river. The MDA's 79th National Conference & AGM is your opportunity to be part of the solution – to join the conversation, to inform future policy, and to engage with the innovators, scientists, educators, and leaders of our time.

Join us in Murray Bridge, where local, technical, and political leaders will come together to tackle the big issues of the Basin and forge a future for councils, catchments, and communities.

Early Bird tickets Available until 31 July 2023



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2023 HOST



Guest Speakers

NAME	AFFILIATION
Hon Tanya Plibersek MP	Federal Minister for the Environment and Water
Senator Perin Davey	Shadow Minister for Water Shadow Minister for Emergency Management
Daniel Blacker	Deputy Inspector-General for Water Compliance
Ms Stephanie Cooke MP	NSW Shadow Minister for Water
Hon Rose Jackson MLC <i>INVITED</i>	NSW Minister for Water
CEO Andrew McConville <i>INVITED</i>	Murray-Darling Basin Authority
Dr David Post	CSIRO - Surface water Hydrology
Dr Jacki Schirmer	University of Canberra Member of Climate Change Adaptation Resilience and Recovery Network

NAME	AFFILIATION
Dr Simon Banks	Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
CEO Claire Miller	NSW Irrigators Council
Alex Zimmermann <i>INVITED</i>	South Australia Flood Recovery Coordinator
Dr Nadine Kelly	South Australia Department for Environment and Water
Prof. Mike Stewardson	One Basin CRC
Speaker TBC	Department for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Speaker TBC	Public Safety Training and Response Group PL
Speaker TBC <i>INVITED</i>	Bureau of Meteorology
Keeley Reynolds	Natural Resources Access Regulator

Early Bird tickets **Available until 31 July 2023**



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2023 HOST



9.3 VARIATION TO TOURISM & PROMOTIONS BUDGET

File Number: RPT/23/467

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Lexi Stockman - Manager Tourism and Promotion

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region
 Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

Summary

It has been recognised that the current Tourism & Promotion budget allocation is no longer sufficient to cater for the level of activity that is required for providing an adequate amount of Shire promotion and marketing and continue to host a range of community events. Further to this, the extra cost to sufficiently stock the Visitor Information Centre with an adequate amount of souvenir items.

Previously, the Tourism & Promotion budget was underutilised due to the absence of a Manager Tourism & Promotion and money was often re-allocated to other departments. After receiving a large amount of funding throughout 2022, the Tourism & Promotion budget needs to be reassessed to continue to maintain the current level of tourism and event activity being undertaken.

A variation to the Tourism & Promotion budget is required with the amounts recommended by the Manager Tourism & Promotion and extended Visitor Information Centre team, taking into consideration the increased costs necessary for each budget category, moving forward.

This report recommends approving the proposed Tourism & Promotion budget, with variations made to the yearly budget moving forward, as well as various one-off inclusions to assist with the final stages of re-branding and the purchasing of additional stock to prepare to move into a bigger Visitor Information Centre space.

Recommendation

That Council approves the following variations:

- a) Increase in tourism expenditure budget - \$219,700
- b) Increase in tourism revenue budget - \$100,000
- c) Decrease in Wages budget - \$119,700

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request a variation in the Tourism & Promotion budget.

Background

The Tourism and Promotion unit within Wentworth Shire Council is responsible for marketing of the region as a tourism destination, the promotion and communication of Council services and the operations of the Wentworth Accredited Visitor Information Centre, which plays a vital role in servicing the needs of visitors, local businesses and community groups.

Within 2021 and 2022, almost \$400,000 was received in funding which was dedicated to the recovery of the tourism industry due to the impacts of COVID and border closures. The majority of this funding was allocated to running community events, while the remainder was used to rebrand the tourism component of Council. The Wentworth Shire community

responded well to the increased focus on tourism and events and therefore it has been recognised that the work in this area needs to continue into the future.

In regards to the Visitor Information Centre, there has been a noticeable return of travellers to the region which has seen an increase in the sale of souvenir stocks and also a change in the direction of stock that is carried. With the change in tourism branding within the last 12 months and the rising cost of goods, an allowance will also need to be made to increase the budget to ensure the visitor experience is enhanced.

The increased cost of goods and services has also impacted the learning experiences for staff within the tourism team. Throughout the year, there are various opportunities for staff members to attend regional forums, tourism conferences and familiarisation tours. This enables the team to network with other visitor destination teams, take part in more learning opportunities and increase their knowledge on surroundings areas to pass on to visitors.

Report Detail

The following recommendations have been made for each category within the Tourism & Promotion budget, to be modified permanently, moving forward.

CATEGORY	CURRENT AMOUNT	NEW AMOUNT	PROPOSED
<i>Events</i>			
The Smoke Show	\$0	\$120,000	
Wentworth Show Saturday Night Street Party	\$0	\$20,000	
Christmas Event	\$0	\$20,000	
Junction Rally	\$5,000	\$15,000	
<i>An increase to the current approved amount of \$10,000 cash and \$5,000 in-kind support. The current budget does not reflect this.</i>			
Country Music Festival	\$20,000	\$25,000	
<i>A slight increase to cater for the main event to move to Darling Street, as requested at the community consultation.</i>			
Markets	\$0	\$40,000	
<i>Markets refers to various markets held in various locations throughout the year.</i>			
Event Sponsorship	\$0	\$90,000	
<i>Event Sponsorship refers to Council's current contribution to other local events hosted by external committees i.e. Safari Rally, Ted Hurley Ski Race, Desert Dash etc.</i>			
Other Events	\$10,000	\$10,000	
<i>Other Events refers to site fees at external events i.e. Wentworth Show stall fees</i>			
<i>Tourism</i>			
Regional Forums	\$100	\$4,000	
Murray Regional Tourism Membership	\$14,820	\$16,700	
<i>To be increased at a more realistic market rate.</i>			
Other tourism memberships	\$0	\$10,000	

<i>To cover Darling River Run membership</i>		
Tourism Website Expenses	\$0	\$5,000
Industry Famils	\$600	\$2,000
Tourism Promotion Materials	\$3,000	\$10,000
Shire Promotion & PR	\$250,000	\$80,000
<i>Shire Promotion & PR to be used for Tourism Campaigns only i.e. Why Not Winter in Wentworth? All remaining funds to be reallocated into specific job cost codes.</i>		
Tourism Office Equipment and Stationary	\$2,500	\$3,500
Gift Cards – Wentworth Shopping Cards	\$0	\$2,000
Tourism – Sundry Expenses	\$2,000	\$3,500
Tourism – Souvenirs	\$5,000	\$8,000
<i>Corporate</i>		
Promotion and Marketing	\$11,500	\$15,000
Corporate Promotional Materials	\$0	\$5,000
<i>Any promotional materials using the corporate logo i.e. banners, flags</i>		

The below requests have been made as a one-off amendment to the FY23/24 budget.

CATEGORY	NEW PROPOSED AMOUNT
Corporate Rebranding	\$50,000
<i>To cover costs of corporate signage, uniform, rebranding of vehicles etc.</i>	
Souvenir Rebranding	\$12,000
<i>To cover costs of rebranding all souvenir items plus an increased order to prepare to move into a bigger space.</i>	
Audio Guide	\$12,000
<i>To cover costs of introducing an audio guide to capture prominent locals' stories on the history and heritage of Wentworth.</i>	

The existing tourism budget as approved by Council is \$359,000. The above variation requests totals \$578,700 leaving a budget shortfall of \$219,700. In order to fund this shortfall, it is also recommended that the following additional budget variations be approved:

Event Revenue: \$100,000
Operational Savings: \$119,700
Total \$219,700

Going forward Council expects to generate up to \$100,000 in revenue in relation to the smoke show. During the course of the year savings will also occur within Council's wages budget as there is always a percentage of positions that are vacant. The identified \$119,700 in savings accounts for approximately 1% of the total wages budget for the year.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council approve the budget variation of \$219,700 to be able to enable the provision of the current level of promotional activity for both corporate and tourism components of Council as well as the increased amount of community events, to continue to drive visitation to the region and in turn provide a strong economic impact to the local community.

The requested budget increase is essential for the tourism and promotion unit to continue to provide and maintain an outstanding visitor experience and a high level of service and continued sales within the Visitor Information Centre.

Attachments

Nil

9.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - JULY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/466

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 2023 were \$935,259.95. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 9.34%. For comparison purposes 6.95% of the levy had been collected at the end of July 2022. Council currently has \$49,209,683.77 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and 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 July 2023

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 31 July 2023.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 July 2023	\$ 4,325,130.89
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 31 July 2023	\$ 2,526,893.68
Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 31 July 2023	
Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 4,534,264.95
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 31 July 2023	\$ 2,317,759.62
Trust Fund Balance	\$ 758,562.12
Investments	
Total Investments as at 31 July 2023	\$ 46,133,362.03
TOTAL	\$ 49,209,683.77

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of July 2023 were \$935,259.95. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 9.34%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 31 July 2023 is as follows:

	Rates and Charges	
Levies		
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2023 - Rates / Water	975,306.94	
Rates and Charges Levied 21 July 2023	10,341,585.36	\$ 11,316,892.30
+ Additional Water Charges	493,637.63	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	3,151.37	
+ Additional Charges	4,566.58	
- Credit Adjustments	7,097.55	
- Abandonments	32.40	\$ 11,811,117.93
Deductions		
- Payments	935,260.05	
- Less Refunds of Payments	1,075.00	\$ 934,185.05
		\$ 10,876,932.88
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	92,978.47	
Council Subsidy	76,073.30	\$ 169,051.77
Total Rates/Water Charges Outstanding		\$ 10,707,881.11

Note: For comparison purposes 6.95% of the levy had been collected at the end of July 2022.

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

Rates and charges that have been written off or adjustments made under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of June / July 2023.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
Rates			
2319.2	28/06/2023	2.00	Write off interest - Ratepayer made payment into water account instead of rate account
1826	23/06/2023	2000.00	Real Estate charge was added to property for sale twice in error
1368	21/07/2023	301.50	Sewerage Charge adjusted to vacant land charge
1158-1	20/07/2023	1691.18	Credit water usage account - Incorrect water reading entered
369-15	14/07/2023	366.13	Cancelled Licence 473604 (slipway on southern bank of Murray River)
662-01	17/07/2023	12.82	Credit Interest - Payment made to rates and should have been water

Council Loans Report

Name	Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding	Due Date
Loan 201	National Australia Bank	Buronga Landfill	4.55% Fixed	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 188,082.04	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 568,253.06	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,412,426.04	1/06/2033
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,192,443.18	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 618,316.52	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,009,905.32	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,419,095.00	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 665,869.85	25/09/2028
				TOTAL	\$ 7,074,391.01	

Overtime and Travelling

Month	July	Pay Periods	1 & 2		
Overtime from 24 June 2023 to 21 July 2023					
Overtime					
	Time and a Half		Double Time		Total
Department	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount	
Animal Services	9.50	476.49	19.50	\$ 1,323.37	\$ 1,799.86
Assets					
Building Maintenance	2.50	159.54	0.00	\$ -	\$ 159.54
Civil	4.00	187.22	0.00	\$ -	\$ 187.22
Finance	6.00	439.00	0.00	\$ -	\$ 439.00
GM's Office	2.00	90.55	1.00	\$ 60.37	\$ 150.92
Indoor Engineers	17.50	1,325.85	7.00	\$ 681.64	\$ 2,007.49
Landfill Transfer Stations	2.00	126.35	2.00	\$ 168.47	\$ 294.82
Library	2.00	139.85	6.50	\$ 606.02	\$ 745.87
Parks & Gardens	2.00	88.13	3.00	\$ 176.26	\$ 264.39
Roads - Council	184.50	8,549.91	114.00	\$ 7,375.22	\$ 15,925.13
Roads - RMS	12.50	577.90	18.25	\$ 1,123.00	\$ 1,700.90
Tourism & Promotion	16.50	738.45	42.50	\$ 2,517.01	\$ 3,255.46
Water & Waste Water	44.00	2,449.88	64.00	\$ 4,778.10	\$ 7,227.98
Workshop Manager	2.00	103.59	0.00	\$ -	\$ 103.59
Workshop/Mechanics	3.50	209.33	1.00	\$ 69.06	\$ 278.39
Total	310.50	15,662.04	278.75	18,878.52	\$ 34,540.56
Travel Allowance					
Department	Kms	Amount			
Total	0	0			
Grand Total		\$ 34,540.56			

Conclusion

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

Attachments

Nil

9.5 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - JULY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/469

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

Summary

As at 31 July 2023 Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$7,209,683.77 in other cash investments. Council received \$56,901.84 from its investments for the month of July 2023.

In July 2023 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.38% and it currently has \$7,982,662.92 of internal restrictions and \$31,967,224.16 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the current status of its investments as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the associated regulation.

Matters under consideration

As at 31 July 2023 Council had \$49,209,683.77 invested with Nine (9) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation. This is a decrease of \$1,993,386.86 from the previous month.

The investment of surplus funds remains in line with Council's Investment Policy. This ensures sufficient working capital is retained and restrictions are supported by cash and investments that are easily converted into cash.

Interest Received from Cash Investments in July 2023

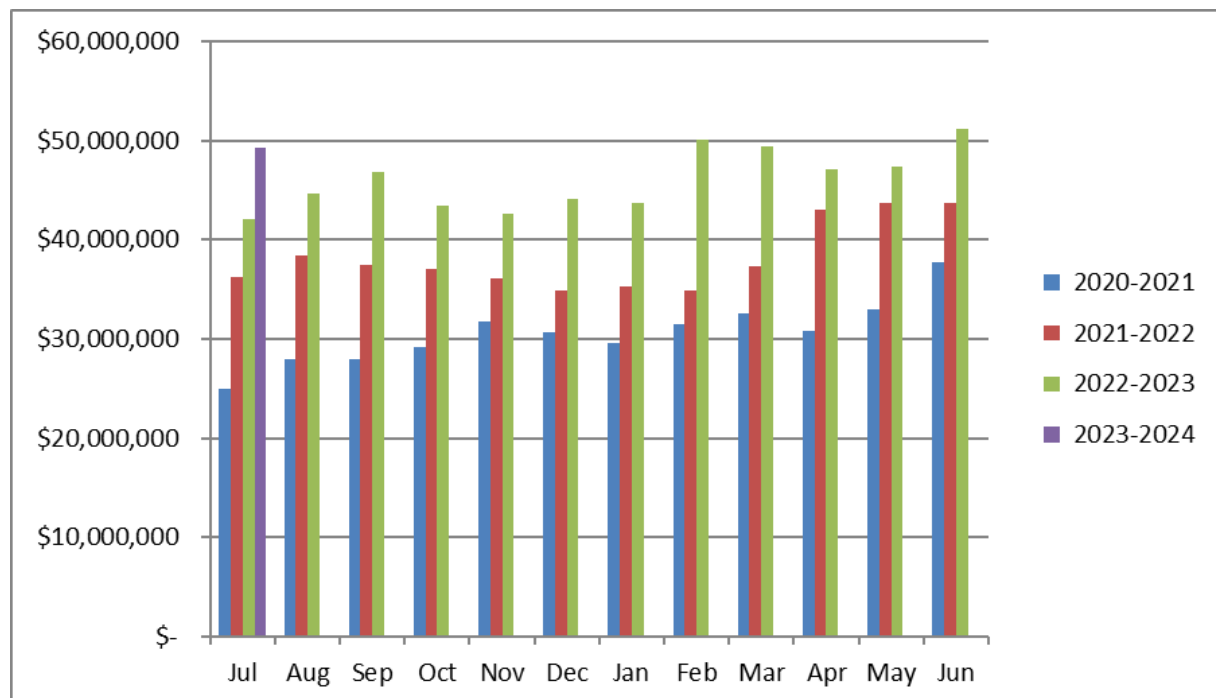
Two (2) deposits and One (1) other account matured or provided interest in July earning Council \$56,901.84 in interest. The budget for June was \$125,000. Year to date Council has received \$56,901.84 in interest based on cash accounting. Expired investments are now shown in the attached report along with a summary of accrued interest. The budget for the financial year was set at \$1,500,000. As shown in the attached report Council's investments are on track to return \$1,815,252.60 for the financial year.

**note the difference in interest received between this report and the Yield Hub report is from Council's at-call cash account which is paid monthly.*

Restrictions

Internal Restrictions		
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,294,469.28	
- Doubtful Debts	\$115,011.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$1,076,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$799,106.32	
- Caravan Park Loan Facility	\$1,197,859.12	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$7,982,662.92
External Restrictions		
- Water Fund	\$11,491,055.33	
- Sewer Fund	\$5,442,472.80	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$509,066.93	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$962,882.55	
- Unexpended Grants	\$12,791,071.20	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$213,700.14	
- Loan Guarantee Reserve	\$3,460.91	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$553,514.30	\$31,967,224.16
Day to Day Liquidity		\$9,259,796.69
Total Funds Available		\$49,209,683.77

Total Funds Invested



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 31 July 2023

Grant	Amount
Library Infrastructure Grant	\$71,984.20
SCCF Wentworth Rowing Club	\$47,293.47
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Astronomy Park	\$656,000.21
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Pooncarie Racecourse	\$3,200.00
EDS Grant	\$46,555.86
Fixing Local Roads Grants - Stage 3	\$211,529.51
Fixing Local Roads Grants - Stage 4	\$41,872.22
Murray Darling Basin Upstairs Area	\$150,684.03
Resources for Regions Round 8	\$682,491.10
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 3	\$160,086.50
Pooncarie Menindee Road	\$2,399,307.17
Transport for NSW Pothole Repair Program	\$633,508.70
Resources for Regions Round 9	\$2,576,973.69
Rural Local Road Repair Program	\$3,482,665.52
NSW Office of Local Government Flood Grants	\$969,547.81
Strong Start Cadetship Program Grant	\$25,000.00
JEV Mosquito Eradication Grant	\$22,013.56
Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5	\$485,357.65
Regional Drought Resilience Funding	\$50,000.00
Regional Leakage Reduction Program - Local Water Utility	\$75,000.00
Total	\$12,791,071.20

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 2021 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

1. Yield Hub Monthly Investment Report - July 2023 [↓](#)

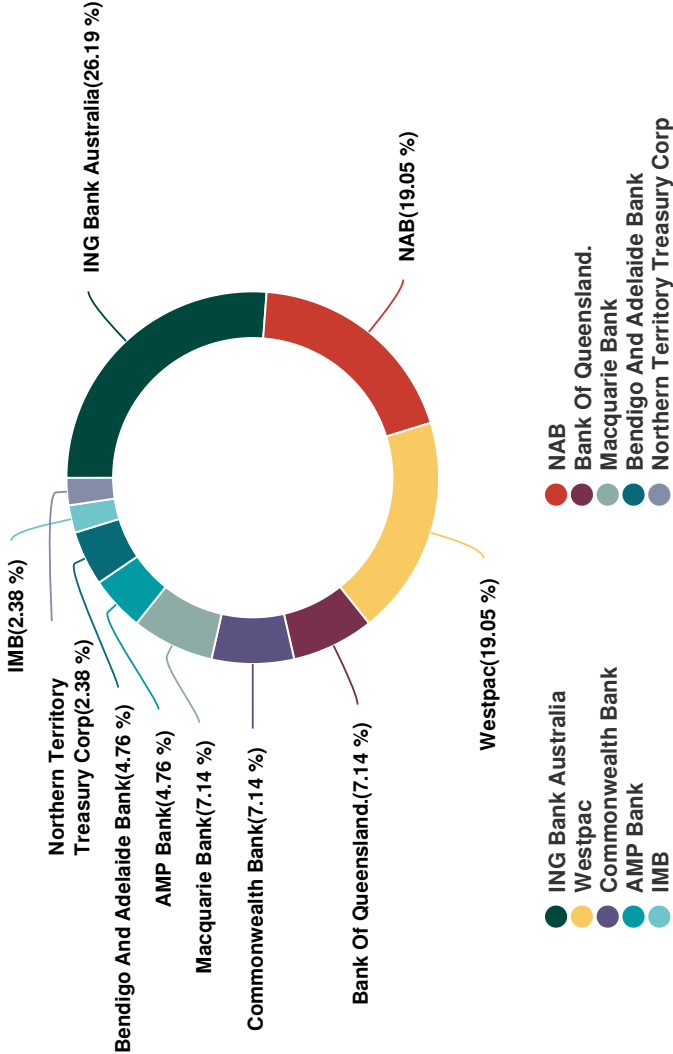


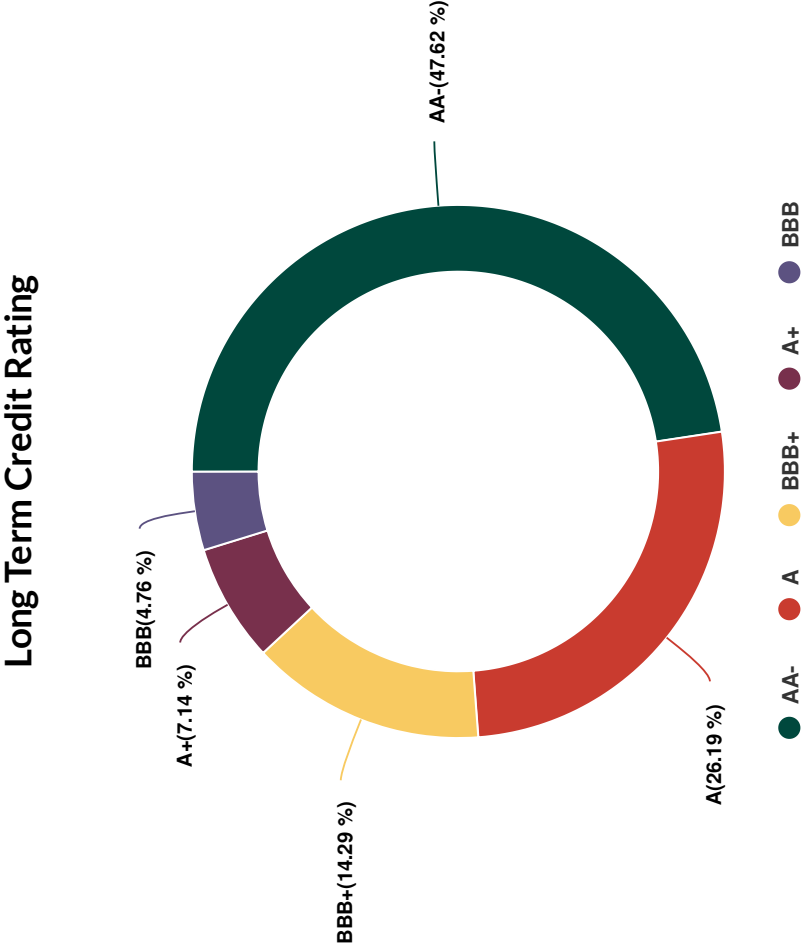
31 July 2023
Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Summary

Total Cost	\$42,000,000.00
Total Portfolio Value	\$42,876,976.47
Weighted Average Term	205
Weighted Average Yield	4.38 %
90 day BBSW	4.26 %
Total Monthly Accrued Interest	\$150,459.19
Total Interest Received this month	\$42,953.43
Total Interest Received this FY	\$42,953.43
Total Interest Expected this FY	\$1,815,252.60
Interest Payments this month	2
Matured Investments this month	2
Total Funds Matured this month	\$2,000,000.00
Investments this month	2
Total Funds Invested this month	\$2,000,000.00
Compliant Portfolio	Yes

Counterparty





Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 July 2023

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	24/08/2022	24/08/2023	365	4.12 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	24/08/2022	24/08/2023	365	4.12 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	AMP Bank	\$1,000,000	05/09/2022	05/09/2023	365	4.300 %	A-2	BBB
Term Deposit	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	06/09/2022	06/09/2023	365	4.09 %	A-1	A+
Term Deposit	IMB	\$1,000,000	06/06/2023	10/09/2023	96	5.16 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	AMP Bank	\$1,000,000	23/09/2022	25/09/2023	367	4.500 %	A-2	BBB
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	06/04/2023	03/10/2023	180	4.75 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	04/10/2022	04/10/2023	365	4.500 %	A-1	A+
Term Deposit	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	05/10/2022	05/10/2023	365	4.500 %	A-1	A+
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	18/10/2022	18/10/2023	365	4.300 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	02/11/2022	02/11/2023	365	4.44 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	02/11/2022	02/11/2023	365	4.44 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	25/11/2022	27/11/2023	367	4.43 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	15/12/2022	15/12/2023	365	4.35 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/12/2022	19/12/2023	365	4.500 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	22/12/2022	22/12/2023	365	4.300 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	03/01/2023	03/01/2024	365	4.500 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	27/02/2023	23/01/2024	330	4.92 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	30/01/2023	30/01/2024	365	4.69 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	09/02/2023	09/02/2024	365	4.700 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	09/02/2023	09/02/2024	365	4.600 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	20/02/2023	20/02/2024	365	4.85 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	24/02/2023	23/02/2024	364	4.700 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	27/02/2023	27/02/2024	365	5.0 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/02/2023	27/02/2024	365	4.98 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	11/03/2022	11/03/2024	731	1.85 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	11/03/2022	11/03/2024	731	1.92 %	A-1+	AA-

Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 July 2023

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	15/03/2023	14/03/2024	365	4.45 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	20/03/2023	19/03/2024	365	4.45 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	23/03/2023	22/03/2024	365	4.600 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	31/03/2023	02/04/2024	368	4.68 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$2,000,000	05/04/2023	04/04/2024	365	4.68 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/04/2022	19/04/2024	731	3.09 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	18/05/2023	17/05/2024	365	4.900 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	26/05/2023	27/05/2024	367	4.94 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	06/06/2023	06/06/2024	366	5.04 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$2,000,000	28/06/2023	27/06/2024	365	5.62 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	26/07/2023	26/07/2024	366	5.25 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/07/2023	29/07/2024	368	3.27 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,000,000	16/09/2021	15/12/2026	1,916	1.35 %	NR	NR
		\$42,000,000						

Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 July 2023

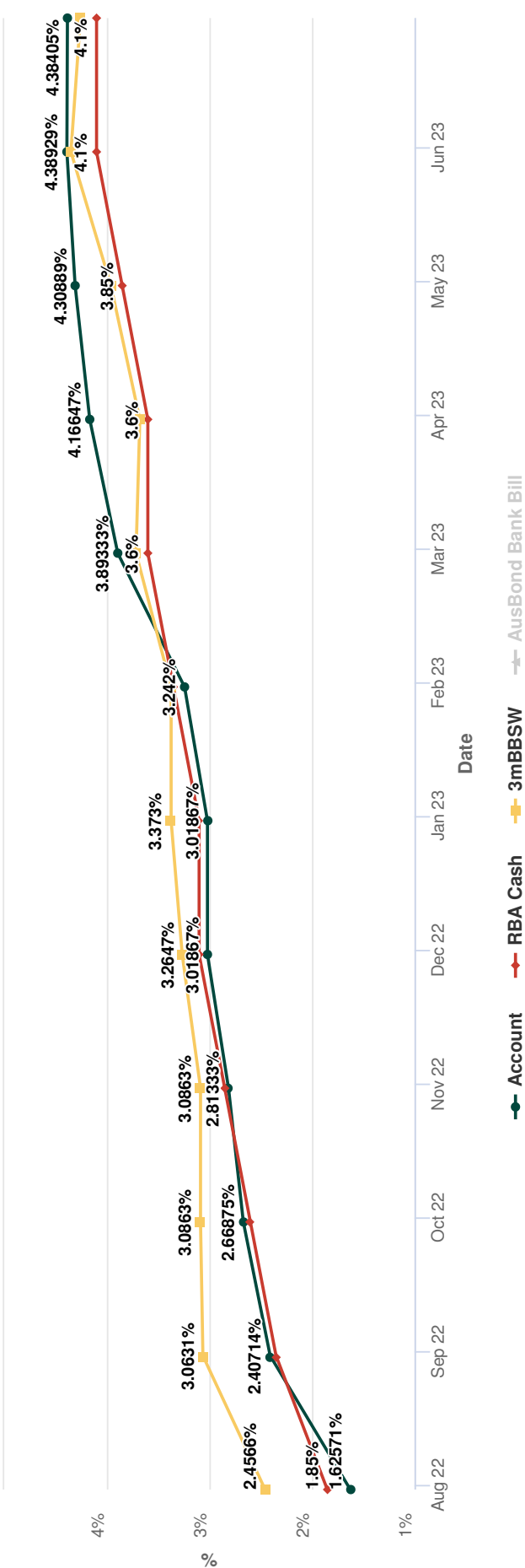
Transaction Date	Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Type	Amount	Credit/Debit	Long Term Rating	Designation	Comments	Maturity Date
27/07/2023	065622	Westpac	Interest	\$18,328.77	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		27/07/2023
26/07/2023	065621	Westpac	Interest	\$24,624.66	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		26/07/2023
Total				\$42,953.43					

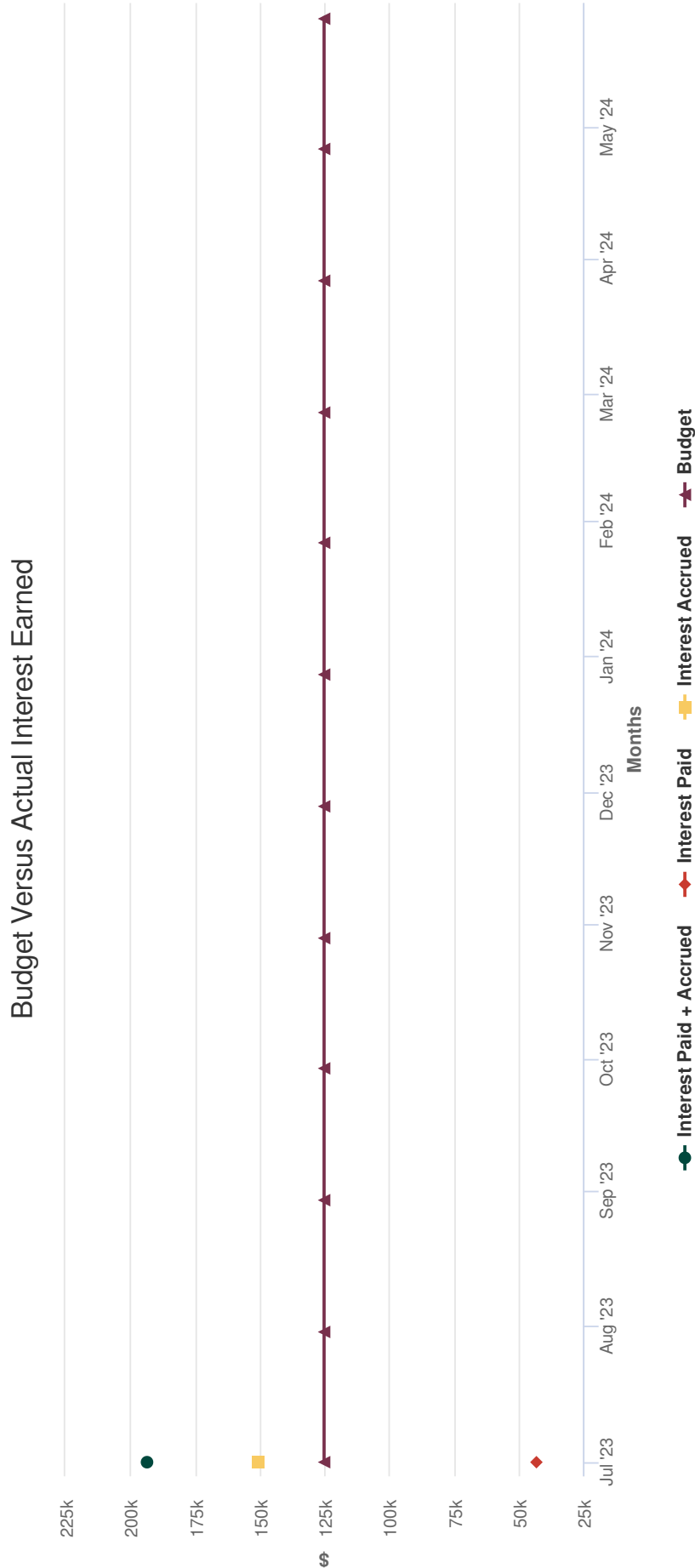


Account vs RBA Cash vs 3m BBSW vs Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index

Term	Account	RBA Cash	3m BBSW	Outperformance	AusBond Bank Bill	Outperformance
1m	4.39 %	4.10 %	4.31 %	0.29 %	4.16 %	0.23 %
3m	4.31 %	4.02 %	4.16 %	0.29 %	4.09 %	0.22 %
6m	3.94 %	3.74 %	3.85 %	0.20 %	3.81 %	0.14 %
12m	3.22 %	3.23 %	3.36 %	-0.01 %	3.36 %	-0.14 %

Month End Performance





9.6 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/463

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Report Author: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council develops a four year Delivery Program and a one year Operational Plan which details the actions to be undertaken by Council to implement the strategies established in the Community Strategic Plan.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that progress is reported to Council with respect to the principal actions detailed in its Operational Plan at least every six months. To better align with the Quarterly Budget Review Process, the Operational Plan progress report is also compiled on a quarterly basis.

New Actions added in the 4th Quarter:

- 2.3.11 – Para Fire Station
- 3.2.31 – Carramar Sporting Complex Cricket Nets
- 3.2.32 – Buronga Pump Track Stage 2
- 3.2.33 – Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Project – Arumpo Road Upgrade
- 3.2.34 – Wentworth Aerodrome additional facility upgrade
- 3.4.17 – Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Drainage & Fencing
- 3.5.16 – Woorlong Drive Drainage Basin

78 actions were completed during the quarter.

Of the 56 progressing actions 34 Actions have already been reprogrammed into the new financial year. An assessment of the other will be undertaken and included in the 2023-2024 first quarter progress report.

Other highlights for the quarter include the following:

- Ongoing clean up and flood recovery efforts continued during the quarter. Major works to reconstruct River Road and Boeill Creek Road commenced and where completed in early July.
- Flood waters coming down the Anabranh receded enough by mid-June to allow Council staff to commence assessing the damage. Ongoing clean up and recovery works will continue into the new financial year

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the report
- b) Approves the seven new actions added to the Operational Plan during the 4th Quarter.

Detailed Report

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to detail Council's progress on implementing the 2022-2023 Operational Plan.

Report Detail

In accordance with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council develops a Four Year Delivery Program and a One Year Operational Plan which details the actions to be undertaken by Council to implement the strategies established in the Community Strategic Plan.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that progress is reported to Council with respect to the principal actions detailed in its Operational Plan at least every six months. To better align with the Quarterly Budget Review Process, the Operational Plan progress report is also compiled on a quarterly basis.

Council's 2022-2023 Operational Plan commenced with 122 actions aligned with the four themes of:

- A vibrant, growing and thriving region
- A great place to live
- A community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
- Is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner.

Each action has been allocated to a Department who is accountable for its progress. The responsible officer is required to assess the status of the action as follows:

Status Option	Definition	Legend
Completed	Action completed for the year	
Progressing	Action underway and is progressing as planned	
Stalled	There is an issue that has delayed progress with this action	
Not due to start	Action not scheduled to start until later in the year	
Deferred	Action will not happen this year	

The Wentworth Shire Council's Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report (refer attachment 1) the progress for the period April to June 2023 is as follows:

Status Option	Action Status – 1 st Quarter	Action Status – 2 nd Quarter	Action Status – 3 rd Quarter	Action Status – 4 th Quarter
Completed	9	15	18	96
Progressing	101	92	124	56
Stalled	8	27	7	4
Not due to Start	24	4	1	0
Deferred	0	5	5	6

Actions added during the quarter: 7

All Actions



Strategic Direction

Our Economy



Our Community



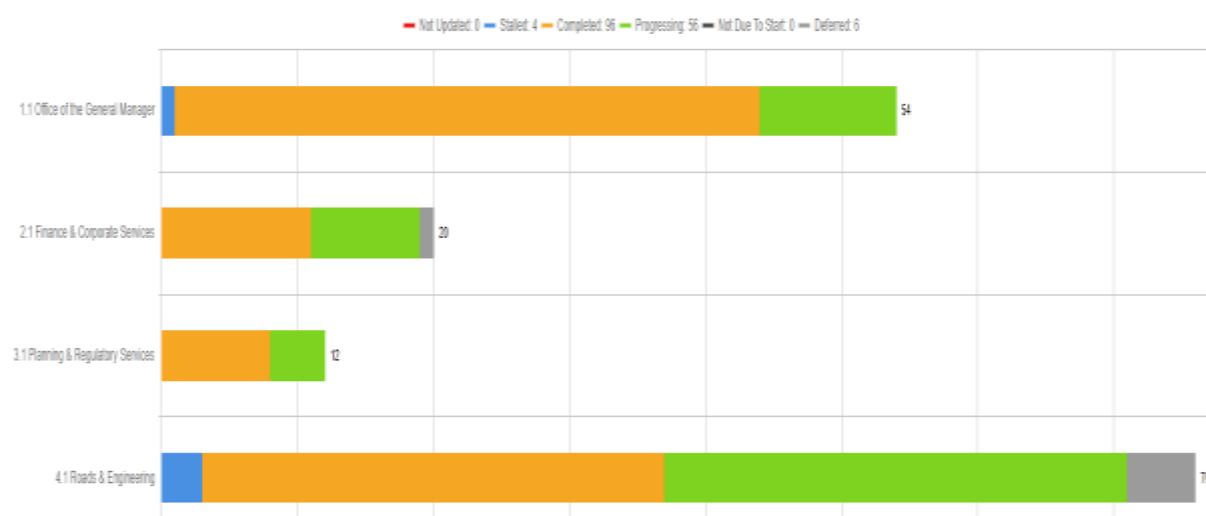
Our Environment



Our Leadership



Department



Quarterly Highlights

33 Actions have been added during the first three quarters. An additional 7 Actions have been added during the 4th Quarter:

- 2.3.11 – Para Fire Station
- 3.2.31 – Carramar Sporting Complex Cricket Nets
- 3.2.32 – Buronga Pump Track Stage 2
- 3.2.33 – Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Project – Arumpo Road Upgrade
- 3.2.34 – Wentworth Aerodrome additional facility upgrade
- 3.4.17 – Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Drainage & Fencing
- 3.5.16 – Woorlong Drive Drainage Basin

78 Actions have been completed in this quarter, some of the highlights include:

- Wentworth Sewer Upgrade
- Sewer Pump Station #5 rehabilitation
- Woorlong Drive and Midway Stormwater installations

Other highlights for the quarter include the following:

- Ongoing clean up and flood recovery efforts continued during the quarter. Major works to reconstruct River Road and Boeill Creek Road commenced and where completed in early July.
- Flood waters coming down the Anabranh receded enough by mid June to allow Council staff to commence assessing the damage. Ongoing clean up and recovery works will continue into the new financial year
- The Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment continued to progress at a rapid rate and is on track to be completed by the scheduled completion time of June 2024.
- Unfortunately, the Willow Bend Caravan Park project continues to experience delays due to the significant rain received during May and June.

- The Buronga Landfill expansion is currently with the Department of Planning for final assessment. Council was given the opportunity to review and comment on the draft conditions of consent.

Conclusion

The Quarterly Operational Plan Progress report details Council's overall progress against all 162 Operational Plan actions for the period July 2022-June 2023.

Attachments

1. Operational Plan Progress Report June 2023 [↓](#)



Operational Plan Quarterly Review



About this report


This progress report is for the three-month period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023 and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 404(5) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, (NSW) which states that the General Manager must ensure that regular progress reports are provided to the Council, reporting as to its progress with respect to the principal activities detailed in its delivery program. Progress reports must be provided at least every 6 months.

Each action has been allocated to a Department who is accountable for its progress. The responsible officer is required to assess the status of the action as follows:

Status Option	Definition	Legend
Completed	Action completed for the year	
Progressing	Action underway and is progressing as planned	
Stalled	There is an issue that has delayed progress with this action	
Not due to start	Action not scheduled to start until later in the year	
Deferred	Action will not happen this year	

Strategic Direction: Our Economy

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
1.1	Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries.	1.1.1	Advocate for the local businesses on issues which further business and career opportunities for all	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core functions. Senior Council staff have been attending Recovery meetings with State Government agencies advocating for post flood assistance for business that have been affected directly and indirectly by the flood. Council also facilitated a Connecting Business to Government Workshop as part of flood recovery activities.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.1.2	Support economic growth and expansion across the Shire through improvement of local infrastructure and the identification of land for commercial and/or industrial use.	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
1.2	Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination.	1.2.1	Provide Visitor Information Centre Services	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		1.2.2	PS Ruby	Completed	General Manager	100%	The General Manager is preparing a report for future consideration of Council.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.2.3	Contribute to the promotion of tourism in the Wentworth Region through the management of Willowbend Caravan Park	Stalled	General Manager	15%	Work on this action has been postponed due to flooding. Recommencement date is unknown at this stage.	
		1.2.4	Continue to engage with and support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW Riverina-Murray, Mildura Regional Development and Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		1.2.5	Work with FSWJO to complete the Destination Management Plan for the region	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%		



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.2.6	Willowbend Caravan Park - Civil Works Redevelopment	Progressing	General Manager	30%	Post flood site clean up has been completed. Principal contractor has returned to site, however works have been delayed due to inclement weather.	
		1.2.7	Willowbend Caravan Park - Ablution Block Upgrade	Progressing	General Manager	30%	Contract awarded at the February 2023 Council meeting. Works have commenced.	
		1.2.8	Finalise development of a Shire Events Manual	Progressing	Manager Tourism & Promotion	70%	Draft Manual is being cross-referenced against public liability requirements and best practice as per guidelines provided by Council's insurer. Manual is also being reviewed to ensure it incorporates recently introduced Child Safe Standards.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.2.9	Undertake Economic Recovery Program utilising State Government Funding	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	All events that were planned to be held utilising the State Government Funding were held. Feedback from the Community has been positive with more events planned going forward. Dareton Street Markets were held during this quarter. Planning has been underway for the Smoked Meats event to be held in Wentworth in early July.	
		1.2.10	Regional Tourism Activation Project - Wentworth Light State.	Progressing	General Manager	25%	Deed of Agreement with Mildura Regional Tourism has been signed. Both parties working towards achieving Milestone 1 of the funding agreement.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.2.11	Dareton Early Settlers Museum Business Case	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	25%	Consultant has been engaged and first round of Community Consultation has been completed.	
1.3	High quality connectivity across the region.	1.3.1	Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. During this quarter Council continued is advocacy seeking an update on plans for a rail link to the Transcontinental Rail Line.	
		1.3.2	Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile connectivity	Completed	General Manager	100%	3 new towers have been announced for the Silver City Highway in addition to upgrades to the Emergency Services Network.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
1.4	Encourage lifelong learning opportunities.	1.4.1	Undertake a program of activities and services that facilitate learning opportunities at Council's library services	Completed	Team Leader Library Services	100%	Council continues to provide a range of services and programs across its library facilities that facilitate learning opportunities.	
		1.4.2	Advocate for the development and provision of local education, training and lifelong learning opportunities	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. Council continues to engage with Coomealla High School and the Wentworth Interagency Group.	
		1.4.3	Advocate for improved school services across the Wentworth Shire	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. Ongoing discussion between Council and the Education Department in regards to future school needs Shire wide.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
1.5	Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities.	1.5.1	Promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice including offering apprenticeships and traineeships	Completed	Manager Human Resources	100%	Council continues to actively promote itself. An apprentice mechanic has been appointed and started in mid June. Advertising continues for an apprentice Gardner. Council has also been successful in obtaining a grant from the Department of Planning to help fund tuition fees for someone interested in studying Town Planning.	
		1.5.2	Identify opportunities to promote Wentworth as an employer of choice for people with disability and from culturally diverse backgrounds	Completed	Manager Human Resources	100%	Inline with the Workforce Management Plan, Equal Employment Opportunity Plan and the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, Council actively promotes itself as an employer of choice.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.5.3	Promote the benefits of supporting Social enterprises and business to grow local employment opportunities	Progressing	Manager Tourism & Promotion	75%	The new Marketing and Communications Officer has developed a schedule of promotional activities for 2023.	
		1.5.4	Encourage businesses to employ people of all abilities and different backgrounds	Progressing	Manager Tourism & Promotion	75%	The new Marketing and Communications Officer has developed a schedule of promotional activities for 2023.	

Strategic Direction: Our Community

Wentworth Shire is a great place to live.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
2.1	Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.	2.1.1	Acknowledge and celebrate Seniors Week and International Day of People with Disabilities	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council held a Seniors Week event at the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens and recognised International Day of People with Disabilities on December 3rd.	
		2.1.2	Support and empower the community to deliver community initiatives that improve the lives of residents and visitors to the region	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council staff have been working with a number of sporting clubs and community groups on how to submit grants for infrastructure upgrades and programs. This is giving those organisations the confidence to be in charge of their own destiny.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.1.3	Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community	Completed	General Manager	100%	Expression of Interest process has been held for nominations to Council new Heritage and History Committee. A report will be prepared for Council to review and approve appropriate applications.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.1.4	Promote a welcome and inclusive community that strengthens positive attitudes and behaviours towards people of all abilities	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council actively promoted and supported a number of events and activities that promotes positive attitudes and behaviours including but not limited to: - NSW Seniors Week - International Women's Day - Harmony Day. - National Volunteer Week - Youth Week - Walk safely to school day - International guide dog day	
		2.1.5	Explore opportunities to promote and celebrate Culturally and Linguistically Diverse events and celebrations	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	Council and the Visitor Information Centre continue to promote a variety of local events and celebrations across the region.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
2.2	Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.	2.2.1	Implement recommendations of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Three Get Active NSW footpath projects have commenced and will be delivered by the end of October. Council was also successful in obtaining funding for an additional Get Active NSW Footpath project on the Silver City Highway at Dareton. Project will commence in late 2023.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.2	Undertake a program of activities and services that facilitate opportunities for vulnerable members of the community at Council's library services	Completed	Team Leader Library Services	100%	Council Libraries continue to run Book Clubs, Sewing and Arts Craft Groups, Walking Group, participated in Council's Seniors Day event. Council through the NSW State Library is able to access the Libraries collection of multicultural books which come in 43 different languages.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.3	Continue to collaborate with Government Agencies and other organisations to support the provision of health services across the Region	Completed	General Manager	100%	A new hospital has been approved for Wentworth. Council continues to support the work of the Wentworth Shire Interagency Group in regards to health issues. Council also worked with NSW Health to make 10,000 free COVID-19 testing kits available to the community.	

	2.2.4	Advocate for the provision of social services that meet the needs of all our community including families, children, youth, people with disability and the aged	Completed	General Manager	100%	
					<p>Council continues to support the work of the Wentworth Shire Interagency Group in regards to the provision of social services across the Wentworth Shire. Council staff attended a meeting organised by a group undertaking a study of the impacts of humanitarian migrants' settlement in regional Australia for both the migrants themselves and the communities in which they settle. The Mildura region has been selected to take part in the 4 year study and the group were keen to get Council's perspective.</p>	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.5	Promote and foster an accessible community that encourages access by people of all abilities	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council actively supported and promoted Seniors Week, Harmony Day, National Volunteer Week, Youth Week, International guide dog day.	
		2.2.6	Work with external agencies to promote the benefit of an active lifestyle	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council has facilitated, supported and promoted a free all aboard skateboarding session at the Wentworth Skate Park, Men's Mental Health Event at George Gordon Oval and walk safely to school day.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.7	Review Council facilities to ensure they are accessible to people with disability, including accessible pathways leading to accessible facilities	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	During this quarter Council staff undertook an assessment of pram ramps across the footpath network to identify any areas of concern. A works plan is currently being worked on to address high risk areas. Two of these pram ramps were upgraded during the quarter to resolve accessibility issues.	
		2.2.8	Advocate for the construction of a PCYC facility in Dareton	Completed	General Manager	100%	No further progress on this action. Council has committed to providing land for the project and continues to advocate for the project.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.9	Support Dareton Men in a Shed relocation project	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council's current commitment to the project has been completed. Council staff will continue to work with the group to secure additional funding for the project.	
		2.2.10	Wentworth Extended Day Care	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
2.3	To have a safe community	2.3.1	Provide Public Health Function	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core functions.	
		2.3.2	Companion Animals & Buronga Pound Operations	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core functions	
		2.3.3	Provide Building Compliance Function	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core functions.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.4	In partnership with the RFS undertake hazard reduction works	Completed	Manager Works	100%	Planning session has been held with RFS to develop a work schedule.	
		2.3.5	Continue to engage with the Local Area Command on key community safety issues	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core actions. The Mayor and General Manager continue to attend Police Liaison Committee Meetings.	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.6	Facilitate the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure a co-ordinated approach by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core function. The LEMC was activated as part of the preparation and response to the flood. The Committee has ongoing quarterly meetings and on a more regular basis in times of emergency's and or natural disasters.	
		2.3.7	In partnership with Transport for NSW continue to promote and encourage safe driving behaviours	Stalled	Director Roads & Engineering	20%	Stalled due to vacancy in the Road Safety Officer Position. Council is currently working with Transport for NSW to fill the vacancy. During March Council promoted Road Rules Awareness Week.	









Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.8	Identify and resolve were possible road and pedestrian safety issues	Stalled	Director Roads & Engineering	20%	Stalled due to vacancy in the Road Safety Officer Position. Council is currently working with Transport for NSW to fill the vacancy.	
		2.3.9	Undertake Flood Preparation and Response works.	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Council continues to monitor and respond to the flood water coming down the Anabranch. Flooding within the region has now retreated.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.10	General Flood Recovery Activities.	Progressing	General Manager	80%	Council staff have been undertaking general flood recovery activities including being involved in meetings with the NSW Reconstruction Authority and providing assistance to residents to clean up flood effected properties. This activity will continue into the new year as flooding along the Anabranch has only just receded. Council staff are still assessing the impact and determining required clean up and recovery activities.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.1.1	RFS Para Fire Station	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	30%	Procurement has been completed and works have commenced.	
2.4	A well informed, supported and engaged community	2.4.1	Consistently communicate the role of Council to the community	Completed	General Manager	100%	This action has recommenced since the new Marketing and Communications Officer commenced employment. The monthly newsletter following Council meeting recommenced in June with the next edition due in mid July.	
		2.4.2	Provide regular updates of Council's achievements, strategic objectives and actions	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core function. The quarterly Operational Plan progress report is uploaded to Council's website once it has been approved by Council.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
2.5		2.4.3	Communicate funding opportunities available for the community	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is an annual action and part of Council's core functions.	
		2.4.4	Continue to facilitate Council Connects & Quarterly newsletter	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	This project has recommenced since the new Marketing and Communications Officer commenced employment.	
		2.5.1	Maintain and update the amenity of the Shire to meet community expectations for clean and well-presented public spaces and townships	Completed	Manager Works	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		2.5.2	Engage with the community in the design and provision of public art within open space areas	Completed	General Manager	100%	Council was actively involved in the Namitijira Water Tower Public Art painting project.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.5.3	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Reserves Upgrades	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	35%	Action was delayed due to flooding. Installation of boardwalk happening at the same time as the new bridge. Designs for the upgrade at James King Park have been completed. Final consultation to be undertaken with the user group prior to commencing construction.	
		2.5.4	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	45%	Contract was awarded at the February 2023 Council meeting. Project is progressing. To be completed by the end of December 2023.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.5.5	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Pooncarie Toilet Block	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	45%	Contact was awarded at February 2023 Council meeting. Project is progressing. To be completed by end of December 2023.	
		2.5.6	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Wetlands Standpipe Area	Deferred	Director Roads & Engineering	0%	Due to need to reallocate resources to flood preparation and recovery activities it is recommended that this action be deferred to the 2023-2024 financial year.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.5.7	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Junction Island Bridge	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	50%	This action has recommenced following the flooding. Tenders has been submitted and are currently being assessed. Will be reported to the July Council Meeting for awarding of a contract.	
		2.5.8	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Astronomy Park	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	30%	Currently working with the funding body to potentially change the scope of the project.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.5.9	Flood Recovery - Parks, Gardens, Open Spaces	Completed	Manager Works	100%	<p>Council's Parks and Gardens team and the building maintenance team have been organising the clean up and re-opening of Council parks, open spaces, riverfront areas, toilet block etc. An audit on flood damaged playground equipment has been undertaken to determine the condition of those pieces of equipment. This action has been completed. Separate actions will be raised for the replacement of damaged playground equipment.</p>	



Strategic Direction: Our Environment

Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
3.1	Ensure our planning decisions and controls ensure the community benefits from development.	3.1.1	Ensure that all Development Applications and planning proposals mitigate the impact of development on the natural environment.	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		3.1.2	Review and Update Development Control Plan	Progressing	Director Health & Planning	60%	First draft is nearing completion. Just awaiting for additional information to be provided by the Department of Planning. Project has been delayed due to issues with the NSW Planning Portal and general planning matters. Currently reviewing draft for presentation to Council in August.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.1.3	Finalise and submit gateway determination for rezoning of Thegoa Lagoon	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%		
		3.1.4	Continue to progress Rural Residential Strategy	Progressing	Director Health & Planning	45%	Currently at Stage 3 of 7. Looking at a further 12 months to complete.	
		3.2.1	Land Tenure Program	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
3.2	Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained.	3.2.2	Maintain transport network including Roads, Brides & Footpaths	Completed	Manager Works	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		3.2.3	Maintain community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities	Completed	Manager Works	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.4	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Fixing Local Roads - Punt Road	Completed	Manager Works	100%		
		3.2.5	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Fixing Local Roads - Fletchers Lake Road	Completed	Manager Works	100%		
		3.2.6	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Fixing Local Roads - Log Bridge Road	Progressing	Manager Works	25%	This action has stalled due to flooding. Project has been scheduled to recommence in November and will be completed by Christmas..	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.7	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Fixing Local Roads - Bridge Road	Completed	Manager Works	100%		
		3.2.8	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Pooncarie-Menindee Road	Progressing	Manager Works	45%	Stalled due to other priorities (flood preparation and recovery). Works to recommence in July following completion of Arumpo Road upgrade and the River Road and Boeill Creek Road Flood Reconstruction projects. To be completed by the end of October.	
		3.2.9	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth & Dareton Pool Lighting Upgrade	Completed	Manager Works	100%	Completed.	







Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.10	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Buronga Wetlands Sharedway	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	25%	Delayed due to flooding. Contract was awarded at June Council Meeting. Works to commence mid July and be completed by October 2023.	
		3.2.11	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Pooncarie Telegraph Building	Completed	Manager Works	100%	Work commenced in January and will be completed by the end of June.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.12	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Pooncarie Aerodrome Lighting	Progressing	Manager Works	50%	Tender has been awarded. Project delayed due to flood priorities. Council staff to undertake preliminary ground works in May before the contractor comes onsite to install the lights. Runway works and trenching for light cabling have been completed. Installation of the lights has been delayed due to rain. Expected completion by the end of September, wet weather dependent.	
		3.2.13	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth Showgrounds Female Change Rooms & Running Rail Replacement	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	30%	Currently undertaking a review of the changeroom design after the Tender prices came back considerably higher than anticipated. Project will continue into the next financial year.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.14	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth EDS	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	20%	Project has recommended following the flood. Tenders have been submitted and are currently being assessed prior to going to Council for approval.	
		3.2.15	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth Rowing Club Extension	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	20%	Project has been delayed due to the Flood. Council is currently in discussions with the club regarding the future proofing the building against future floods.	
		3.2.16	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Pooncarie Race Course	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.17	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Project has been completed.	
		3.2.18	Continue to liaise with Crown Land to finalise Plans of Management for Community Land.	Progressing	Director Health & Planning	75%	The draft Plans of Management were public exhibited as required. No comments were received. Currently awaiting on Ministerial Consent for Council to formally adopt the Plans of Management. Ministerial Consent has been delayed due to the change of Government following the March State Election.	
		3.2.19	Gol Gol Cemetery Shed	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
		3.2.20	George Gordon Sporting Complex Car Park	Progressing	Manager Works	60%	Due to other priorities this project has been rescheduled to late October 2023.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.21	Wentworth Showgrounds Tower and Shade Sail	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
		3.2.22	Old Wentworth Road Upgrade	Completed	Manager Works	100%		
		3.2.23	Fixing Local Roads - Little Manly Road	Completed	Manager Works	100%		
		3.2.24	Coomealla Cemetery Shed Power	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	20%	Currently awaiting quotes from perspective contractors.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.25	Flood Recovery - Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	Progressing	Manager Works	40%	Council staff have been undertaking condition assessment of flood effected roads and undertaking emergency works to get them reopened. Planning has commenced to identify a priority list of roads to be reconstructed/repaired. River Road and Boiell Creek Road reconstruction jobs to be finished mid July. Awaiting approval of other works to commence in new financial year.	
		3.2.26	Alcheringa Tennis Courts and Lighting Upgrade	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	75%	Council is working with the Tennis Club to undertake this project. Quotations have been received and contractors have been appointed. Works have commenced, project is ahead of schedule.	







Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.27	Wentworth Sporting Complex Bowling Green Upgrade	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	75%	Council is working with the bowling club to complete this project. Quotes have been received and a contractor has been approved. Works have commenced, project is ahead of schedule.	
		3.2.28	Get Active NSW - Pine Road Sharedway	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	35%	Project has commenced. Contract awarded at June Council meeting. Works to commence mid July and be completed by October 2023.	
		3.2.29	Get Active NSW - Wood Street Sharedway	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	35%	Project has commenced. Contract awarded at June Council meeting. Works to commence mid July and to be completed by October 2023.	
		3.2.30	Get Active NSW - Wood Street and Gol Gol North Sharedway	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	25%	Project has commenced. Contract was awarded in June Council Meeting. Works to commence mid July and to be completed by October 2023.	














Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.31	Carramar Drive Sporting Complex Cricket Nets	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	70%	Contractors have been engaged and work has commenced.	
		3.2.32	Buronga Pump Track Stage 2	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	30%	Contractor has been engaged and preliminary planning and design has commenced.	
		3.2.33	Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program - Arumpo Road Upgrade	Progressing	Manager Works	10%	Preliminary survey and design works have commenced.	
		3.2.34	Wentworth Aerodrome additional facility upgrade	Progressing	Manager Works	50%	Contractors have been engaged and works have commenced.	
3.3	Minimise the impact on the natural environment	3.3.1	Undertake actions identified in the Western Weeds Action Plan	Completed	Manager Works	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core function.	
		3.3.2	Monitor and investigate Illegal Dumping Activities as required	Completed	Director Health & Planning	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		3.3.3	Support the activities of the Murray Darling Association	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
3.4		3.3.4	Advocate for the sustainable management of the Darling-Barka River and the Menindee Lakes	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions	
		3.3.5	Identify opportunities to collaborate with other stakeholders on projects that protect the environment	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Partnered with NSW Western Land Care for Clean Up Australia Day and Pomona School for National Tree Day.	
		3.3.6	Flood Plain Management Plan	Progressing	Director Health & Planning	30%	Tender was awarded at June Council to Lyall and Associates. Initial commencement meeting scheduled for 2nd week of July.	
	Use and manage our resources wisely.	3.4.1	Provide best practice water, waste water and stormwater management infrastructure	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.2	Collaborate with partners and the community to support innovative approaches to waste minimisation and increased reuse and recycling opportunities	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. Ongoing discussions continuing with Mildura Rural City Council about joint waste projects.	
		3.4.3	Encourage businesses and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible	Completed	Manager Tourism & Promotion	100%	Council actively promoted and supported the following: - World Wetlands Day, - The Water Challenge - Clean up Australia Day - Earth Hour - National Tree Planting Day	
		3.4.4	Progress Buronga Landfill Expansion	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	50%	Contractor approved at February 2023 Council meeting. Design works have commenced and will be completed by the end of October.	
		3.4.5	Review public place bins and revise service levels as required	Stalled	Manager Works	0%	This action has been postponed due to flooding. Commencement date is unknown at this stage.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.6	Finalise Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	75%	Revisions have been made to the document to better reflect expected population growth for the Region. Issues paper due to be issued at the end of August.	
		3.4.7	Buronga Landfill Machinery Shed	Completed	Manager Works	100%	Project progressing. Will be completed by the end of June.	
		3.4.8	Buronga Landfill Land Use & Licence Upgrade	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	70%	Council has reviewed and provided feedback on the proposed draft conditions of consent. Waiting for the Department of Planning to complete their assessment.	
		3.4.9	Trentham Cliffs Water Installation	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	90%	Final connection and commissioning of the pump station to the Gol Water Treatment Plant to be completed by end of July..	
		3.4.10	Mourquong Filtered Water Main	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	80%	Finalising creation of easements.	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.11	Gol Gol Pump Station	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
		3.4.12	Kingridge Sewer	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
		3.4.13	Wood Street Sewer	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%		
		3.4.14	Sewer Pump Station # 5	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Project has been completed.	
		3.4.15	Dareton Sewer Pump Station # 2	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	70%	Switch board has been built. Civil works component of the project to commence mid July. Project to be completed by end of August 2023	
		3.4.16	Trentham Cliffs Sewer Installation	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	90%	Final commissioning of the pump station to be completed by mid July.	
		3.4.17	Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Drainage & Fencing	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	20%	Tender for stormwater works was approved by Council at June Council meeting. Fencing contractor has been engaged and order has been placed.	







Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
3.5	Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.	3.5.1	Continue to explore funding opportunities for the delivery of key projects	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core function.	
		3.5.2	Continue to lobby all levels of government to support the provision of essential infrastructure for the Region	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		3.5.3	Plan for appropriate infrastructure and services that support current and future needs	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		3.5.4	Finalise Civic Centre Redevelopment	Progressing	General Manager	50%	Demolition work has been completed. Fit out has commenced. Project is currently on schedule.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.5.5	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Pink Lake Stormwater	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	10%	Final design has been approved. Tender to commence early in the new financial year.	
		3.5.6	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Crane Drive Stormwater	Deferred	Director Roads & Engineering	0%	Waiting for the developer to progress the subdivision. It is not likely that this project will commence this year therefore it is recommended that this action is deferred to a future financial year.	
		3.5.7	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Wilson Drainage Reserve	Deferred	Director Roads & Engineering	0%	Waiting for the developer to progress the subdivision. It is unlikely that this project will commence this financial year, therefore it is recommended that it be deferred to a future financial year.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.5.8	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Kingfisher Road Stormwater & Sewer Pump Station	Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	20%	Developer has redesigned the sub division Civil works plans resulting in there being no need for the Sewer Pump Station. Stormwater component to progress in conjunction with other works at the sub division.	
		3.5.9	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Corbett Avenue Sewer Pump Station	Deferred	Director Roads & Engineering	0%	Waiting for the developer to progress the subdivision. Not likely to commence this year therefore it is recommended that this action be deferred to a future year.	
		3.5.10	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - King Ridge Landscaping	Deferred	Director Roads & Engineering	0%	This action will be completed with the larger Open Spaces project that has recently received grant funding. It is recommended that this action be deferred to a future financial year.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.5.11	Undertake a review of current and future sporting needs within the Shire	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Community consultation workshops/engagement have been pushed back due to changes in the Office of Sport and Recreation. Will combine this process with the Buronga/Gol Sporting Master Plan consultation process.	
		3.5.12	Woorlong Drive Stormwater	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Completed.	
		3.5.13	Midway Stormwater Upgrade	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Completed.	
		3.5.14	Buronga/Gol Sporting Master Plan	Progressing	Director Finance & Policy	10%	Currently refining the scope of works for the project and identifying suitably qualified consultants to approach for quotes.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
3.2	Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained.	3.5.1.5	Rose Street Stormwater	Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	30%	Design has been completed. Currently working on tender documents. This project has moved ahead of the Kingfisher stormwater project as this development has progressed further than the Kingfisher one.	
3.5	Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.	3.5.1.6	Woorlong Drive Drainage Basin	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	Project has been completed.	







Strategic Direction: Our Leadership




Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.1	Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision making and advocating processes.	4.1.1	Undertake community engagement activities and provide opportunities for participation in decision making where appropriate, in-line with Council's adopted Community Engagement Strategy	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		4.1.2	Undertake audit of Council's websites to ensure compliance with Website Accessibility Guidelines	Completed	Manager Technology Services	100%	Audit has been completed and changes to websites are progressing.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.1.3	Implement actions outlined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Council staff undertook an audit of Pram Ramps across the footpath network. A program of works is being prepared to address risks. Council installed 2 new pram ramps in Wentworth during this quarter that were considered high risk.	
4.2	A strong, responsible and representative government.	4.2.1	Ensure that Council is accountable to the community, meets legislative requirements and supports the Councilors to undertake their civic responsibilities	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		4.2.2	Support Councilors to undertake ongoing professional development	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.3	An effective and efficient organisation.	4.3.1	Review services on a regular basis to ensure they are providing value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	Procurement/Purchasing Review has been completed. Action Plan to be developed to implement recommendations.	
		4.3.2	Staff are supported to deliver high quality services to the community	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions	
		4.3.3	Ensure the organisation is well led and managed through the implementation of Good Governance, Risk Management and Compliance Frameworks	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is annual action and is part of Council's core functions. The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is now in place and meeting quarterly. Internal Auditor has been appointed and will commence in 2nd quarter of 2023.	
		4.3.4	Undertake regular surveys to assess community satisfaction with Council service delivery	Deferred	Director Finance & Policy	0%	This action was deferred due to other priorities.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.4	Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to	4.3.5	Review Information Technology Strategic Plan and implement actions accordingly	Progressing	Manager Technology Services	30%	As part of reviewing the existing strategy it was determined to completely rewrite the strategy instead of just updated it, to better reflect changes over the last five years and to better reflect Council's current operating environment and proposed changes going forward.	
		4.3.6	Integrated Corporate Management System	Progressing	Manager Technology Services	50%	Continuing to progress the implementation of the Community Module (Customer Service, Building & Planning). Finance and Payroll implementation has been put on hold.	
		4.4.1	Continue to support the work of the Wentworth Interagency Group	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
	strategically plan for the future.	4.4.2	Foster strong partnerships with all levels of government, peak bodies, agencies and the community	Completed	General Manager	100%	This is annual action and is part of Council's core function.	
		4.4.3	Annual Financial Assistance Program	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. \$170,436 in financial assistance has been approved so far this year.	
		4.4.4	Undertake a review of the Annual Financial Assistance Program	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%		
4.5	Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term	4.5.1	Maintain a strong financial position that supports the delivery of services and strategies and ensures long term financial sustainability	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core function. The Delivery Program and Operational Plan for 2023-2024 was approved at the June Council Meeting...	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
	sustainability and efficiency.	4.5.2	Provide accurate and timely financial reports, monthly, quarterly and annually	Completed	Director Finance & Policy	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions. Annual Financial Statements for 2021/2022 has been completed. Council received an unqualified audit opinion. 1st, 2nd & 3rd Qtr Budget Reviews have been presented to the Audit Committee and Council. Regular reporting provided to key stakeholders.	
		4.5.3	Be the best employer that we can be by attracting, developing and retaining skilled staff to ensure a capable and effective workforce	Completed	Manager Human Resources	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.5.4	Implement sound asset management practices to ensure adequate provision is made for the maintenance and long-term replacement of Council's infrastructure assets	Completed	Director Roads & Engineering	100%	This is an annual action and is part of Council's core functions.	
		4.5.5	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan - Review flexible working practices	Progressing	Manager Human Resources	40%	Currently being assessed on a case by case basis. Broader framework being developed in conjunction with the salary review.	
		4.5.6	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan - Formulate a learning and development framework	Progressing	Manager Human Resources	80%	Formal framework has been approved with the assistance of Team Leaders, Managers and Directors. HR currently working with IT to identify appropriate method (on-line platforms) to deliver in-house training.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.5.7	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan - Develop succession/transition plan	Progressing	Manager Human Resources	30%	Currently being done on a case by case basis. Further work will be undertaken once the Salary System review has been completed.	
		4.5.8	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan - Health and Well Being Strategy	Completed	Manager Human Resources	100%	The review of the Employee Assistance Program has been completed and a new provider has been appointed and commenced in May. Onboarding session have conducted with staff and senior Management. HR continues to engage with our workcover provider to deliver a range of other health and well initiatives.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.5.9	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan - Salary System Review	Progressing	Manager Human Resources	70%	The new Local Government State Award was approved in late June this will now allow Council finalise the review of its salary and job evaluation system. To be completed by the end of September.	

9.7 JUNE QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - FINAL QUARTER 2022-2023

File Number: RPT/23/482

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

Summary

A full analysis of Council's Income, Operating Expenditure and Capital Expenditure has been undertaken. A number of variations have been identified against the original budget as outlined in this report. Council's revenue and expenditure is reviewed on a quarterly basis to identify any potential areas requiring a variation.

If approved, the net result of variances for June 2023 is an unfavourable operational variance of \$429,000 and a favourable capital variance of \$1,815,000 resulting in a total favourable budget variation of \$1,386,000.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Note the 2022/2023 Fourth Quarter Budget Review
- b) Note the proposed revised 2022/2023 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.
- c) Resolve to amend the 2022/2023 budget in accordance with the changes recommended in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period of 1 April to 30 June 2023

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the 2022/2023 Budget position, proposing amendments where required and also provide an overview of Council's current year financial performance in relation to the adopted budget and key indicators.

This report is prepared in accordance with S407 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 203(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's 2022/2023 Operational Plan. This report complies with the format required by the Office of Local Government.

Report Detail

As required by the Office of Local Government the quarterly budget review statement is attached and includes the following documents in order. All reports are presented in a consolidated view of all funds (General, Water and Sewer).

1. Consolidated Income Statement (containing operating income and expenses)
2. Proposed Variations to the Income Statement
3. Consolidated Capital Budget

4. Proposed Capital Budget Variations
5. Cash and Investments Position and Reserve Balance
6. Register of Material Contracts
7. Consultancy and Legal Expense Report

1. Consolidated Income Statement

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

Income & expenses - Council Consolidated

(\$000's)	Original budget 2022/23	Approved Changes					Revised budget 2022/23	Variations for this Jun Qtr	Notes	Projected year end result	Actual YTD figures
		Carry forwards	Other than by QBRs	Sep QBRs	Dec QBRs	Mar QBRs					
Income											
Rates and annual charges	10,098						10,098	(429)	a	9,669	9,669
User charges and fees	6,331						6,331	1,132	b	7,463	8,957
Other revenues	1,228						1,228		c	1,228	793
Grants and contributions - operating	9,901			(7)			9,894		d	9,894	12,310
Grants and contributions - capital	20,181	725	1,123	80	(1,850)	(6,127)	14,132		e	14,132	17,299
Interest and investment revenue	239				461		700		f	700	510
Net gain from disposal of assets	100						100		g	100	-
Total income from continuing operations	48,078	725	1,123	73	(1,389)	(6,127)	42,483	703		43,186	49,538
Expenses											
Employee benefits and on-costs	10,745						10,745		h	10,745	10,235
Borrowing costs	391						391		i	391	212
Materials and services	4,175			(7)			4,168	1,132	j	5,300	7,800
Depreciation and amortisation	8,025						8,025		k	8,025	8,025
Other expenses	3,368		50				3,418		l	3,418	3,547
Net Loss from disposal of assets	-						-		m	-	-
Total expenses from continuing operations	26,704	-	50	(7)	-	-	26,747	1,132		27,879	29,819
Net operating result from continuing operation	21,374	725	1,073	80	(1,389)	(6,127)	15,736	(429)		15,307	19,719
Discontinued operations - surplus/(deficit)							-		n	-	-
Net operating result from all operations	21,374	725	1,073	80	(1,389)	(6,127)	15,736	(429)		15,307	19,719
Net Operating Result before Capital Items	1,193	-	(50)	-	461	-	1,604	(429)		1,175	2,420

The net result of operations as at 30 June was a surplus of \$2,420,000 before capital income. The sum of proposed variations results in a \$703,000 increase in budgeted Income with a corresponding increase of \$1,132,000 to budgeted operational expenditure. The net result of proposed changes is an unfavorable operational variance of \$429,000.

Note: capital grant income in the operational income statement does not reflect grant amounts paid in advance and those held in external restrictions it only reflects cash amounts received to date this financial year. A reconciliation will be performed at 30th June 2023 to recognise these amounts as income.

For the quarter to 30 June there was \$49.538 million of operational income. Some of the notable income for the fourth quarter is listed below;

- Financial Assistance Grant \$7,787,081
- RMCC Contract Income \$1,234,824
- Landfill Income \$1,147,834
- Sewer Income \$300,508
- Water Income \$162,072

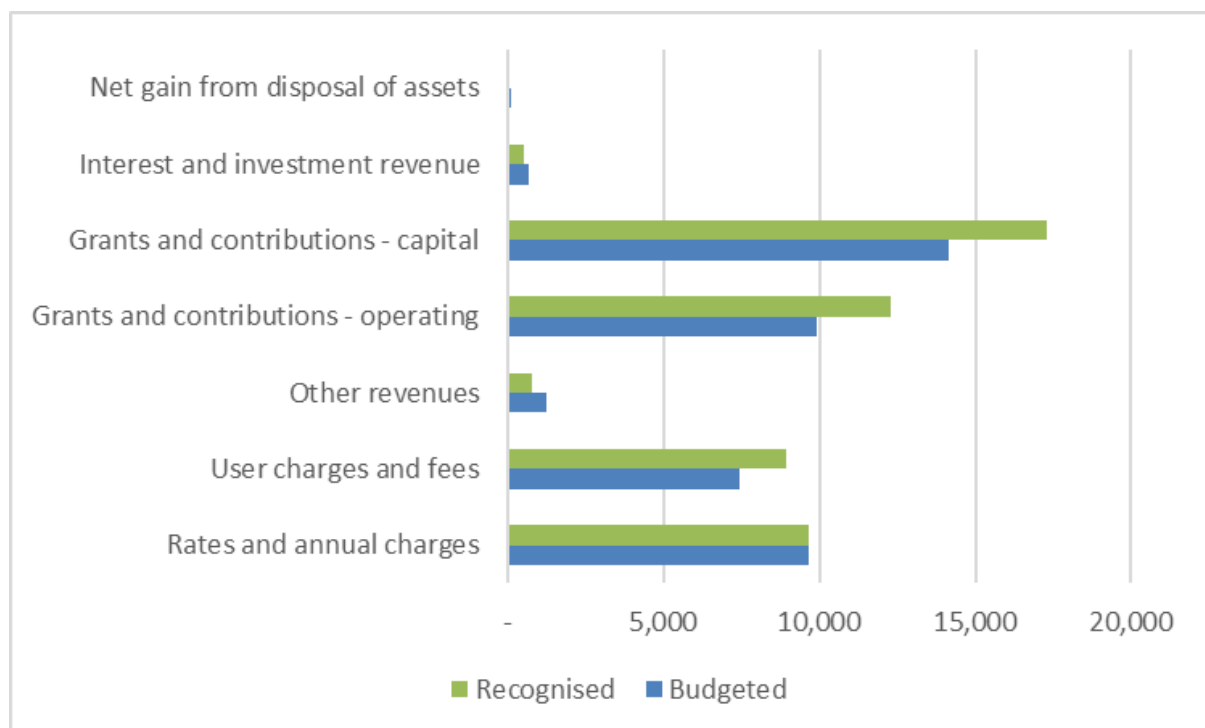
For the quarter to 30 June there was \$29.819 million of operational expenditure. Some of the notable expenditure for the fourth quarter is listed below;

- Road Network Maintenance \$2,482,407
- Landfill Expenditure \$719,362
- Water Network Maintenance \$704,226

- Parks & Reserves Maintenance \$436,591
- Sewer Network Maintenance \$345,777

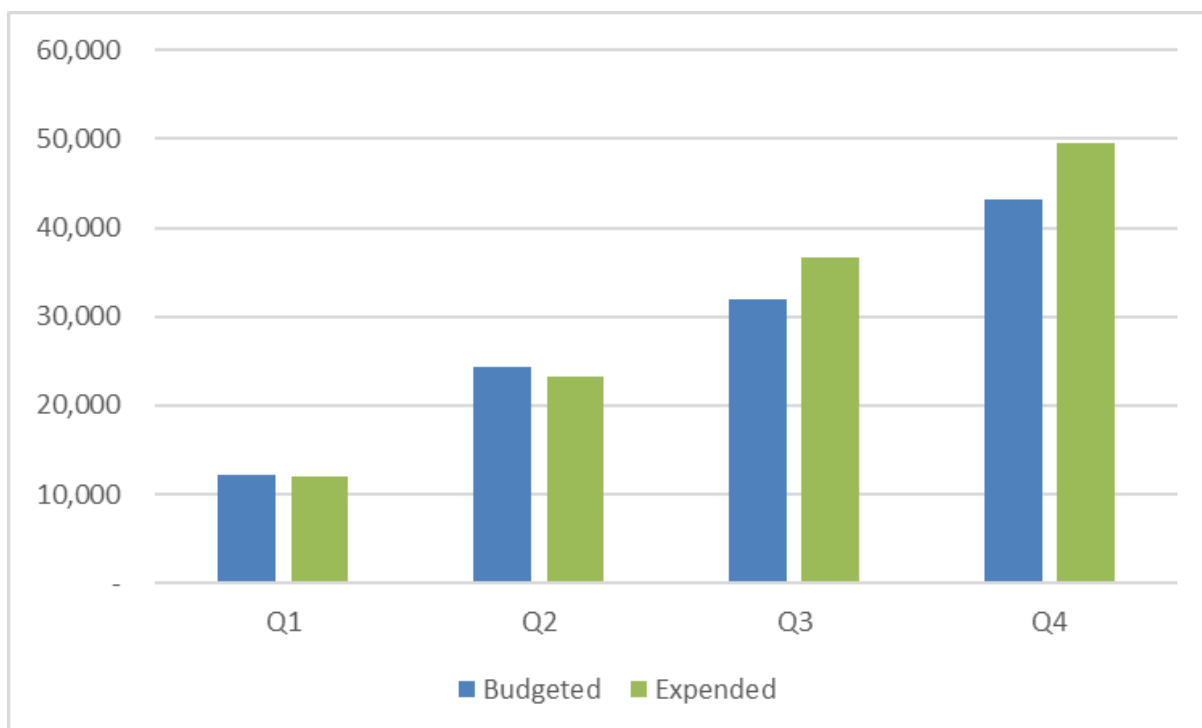
Income Recognised vs Budgeted Income at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



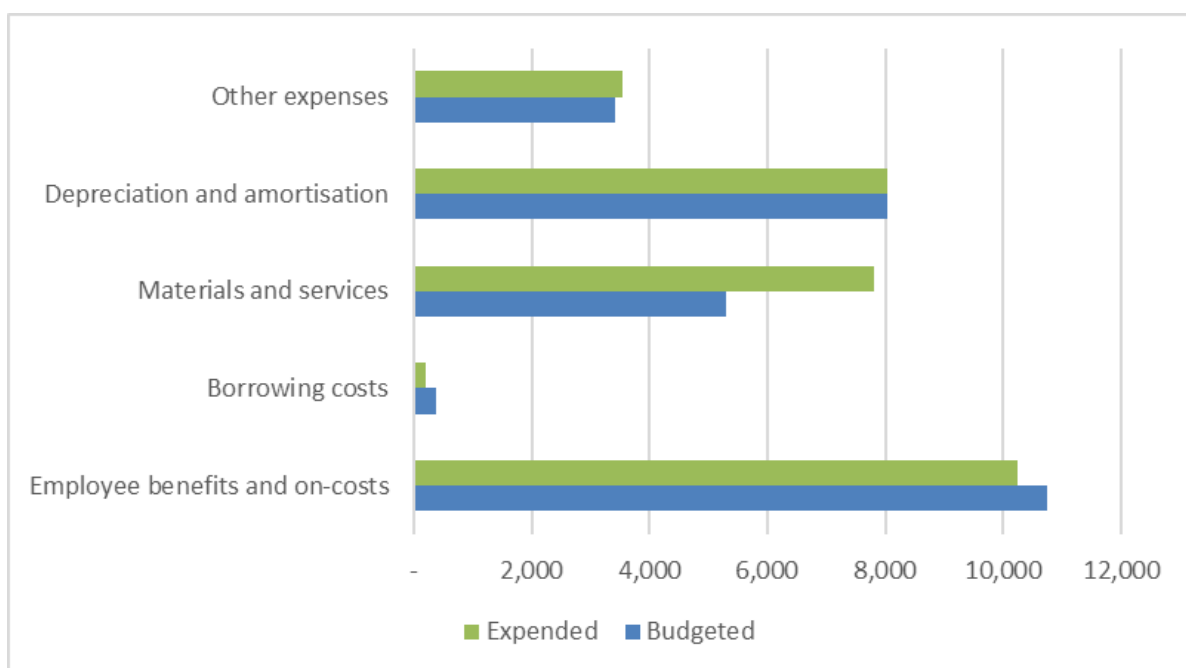
Consolidated Income Recognised vs Budgeted at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



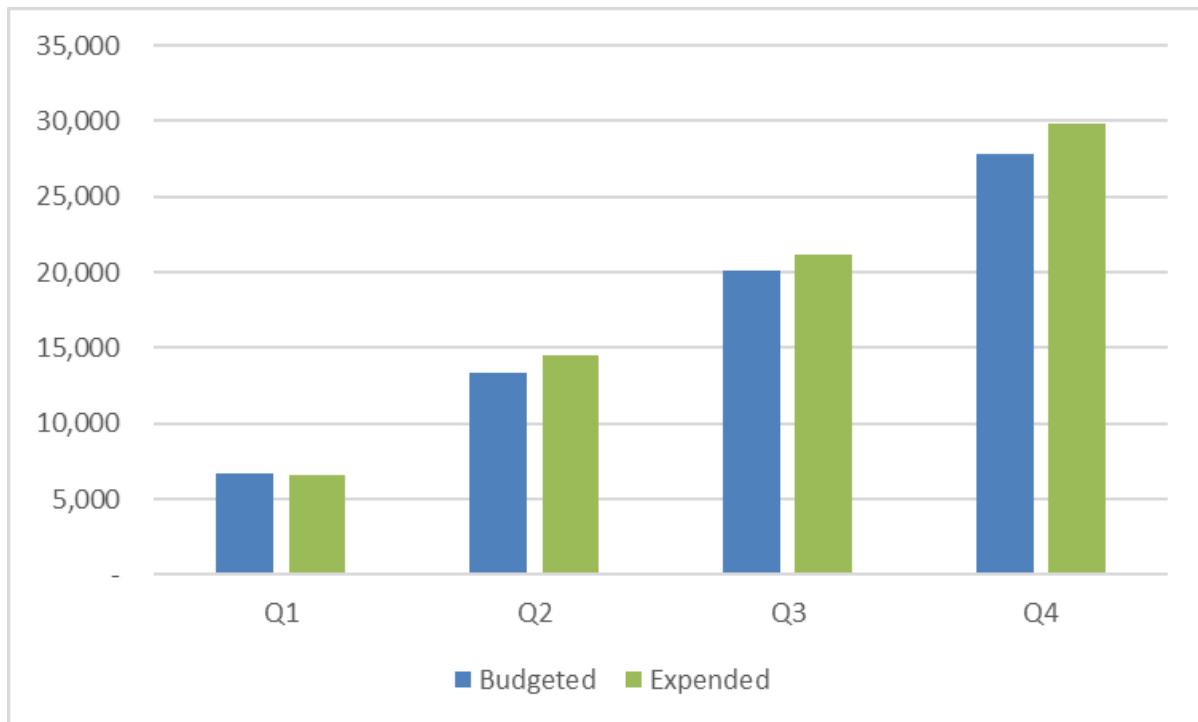
Expenditure to date vs Budgeted Expenditure at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



Consolidated Expenditure vs Budgeted Expenditure at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



2. Proposed Variations to the Income Statement

The June Quarterly Budget Review Statement includes two proposed operational variations.

1. Rates and Annual Charges:
Reduction due to less rates levied than budgeted being due to developments becoming ratable slower than expected.
2. User Fees and Charges:
Increase in budgeted income and expenditure due to the 2023 Heavy Patching and reseals for Transport for NSW Highways.

Note: A budget variation for flood preparation works has not been included in this quarters report. A variation will be included once a full reconciliation of costs has been completed and funding/reimbursement income has been identified.

3. Consolidated Capital Budget

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

Capital budget - Council Consolidated

(\$'000's)	Original budget 2022/23	Approved changes					Revised budget 2022/23	Variations for this Jun Qtr	Notes	Projected year end result	Actual YTD figures
		Carry forwards	Other than by QBRs	Sep QBRs	Dec QBRs	Mar QBRs					
Capital expenditure											
New assets											
- Plant & equipment	-			80			80		a	80	63
- Land & buildings	6,623				(2,000)	52	4,675	(1,000)	b	3,675	2,436
- Other	2,089	120			(715)	(1,062)	432	(50)	c	382	384
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	374						374		d	374	32
Renewal assets (replacement)											
- Plant & equipment	1,956	320					2,276		e	2,276	1,987
- Land & buildings	12,584	65	2,460		(8,478)	(600)	6,031	(215)	f	5,816	4,164
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	12,364	1,192			2,391	(6,500)	9,447		g	9,447	7,185
- Other	903					223	1,126	(75)	h	1,051	681
Joint Funded Projects (RTAF)	-					1,248	1,248		i	1,248	1,248
Loan repayments (principal)	854						854		j	854	821
Water Fund	740	75	1,378				2,193	(475)	k	1,718	988
Sewer Fund	1,287	450	317			(200)	1,854		l	1,854	994
Total capital expenditure	39,774	2,222	4,155	80	(8,802)	(6,839)	30,590	(1,815)		28,775	20,983
Capital funding											
Rates & other untied funding	9,368	927	787		(952)	(712)	9,418	(25)	m	9,393	4,795
Capital grants & contributions	20,181	725	1,123	80	(1,850)	(6,127)	14,132	(315)	n	13,817	12,789
Reserves:											
- External restrictions/reserves			2,245				2,245	(475)	o	1,770	1,419
- Internal restrictions/reserves	1,975	570					2,545	(1,000)	p	1,545	1,980
New loans	8,250					(6,000)	2,250		q	2,250	
Receipts from sale of assets									r		
Total capital funding	39,774	2,222	4,155	80	(8,802)	(6,839)	30,590	(1,815)		28,775	20,983

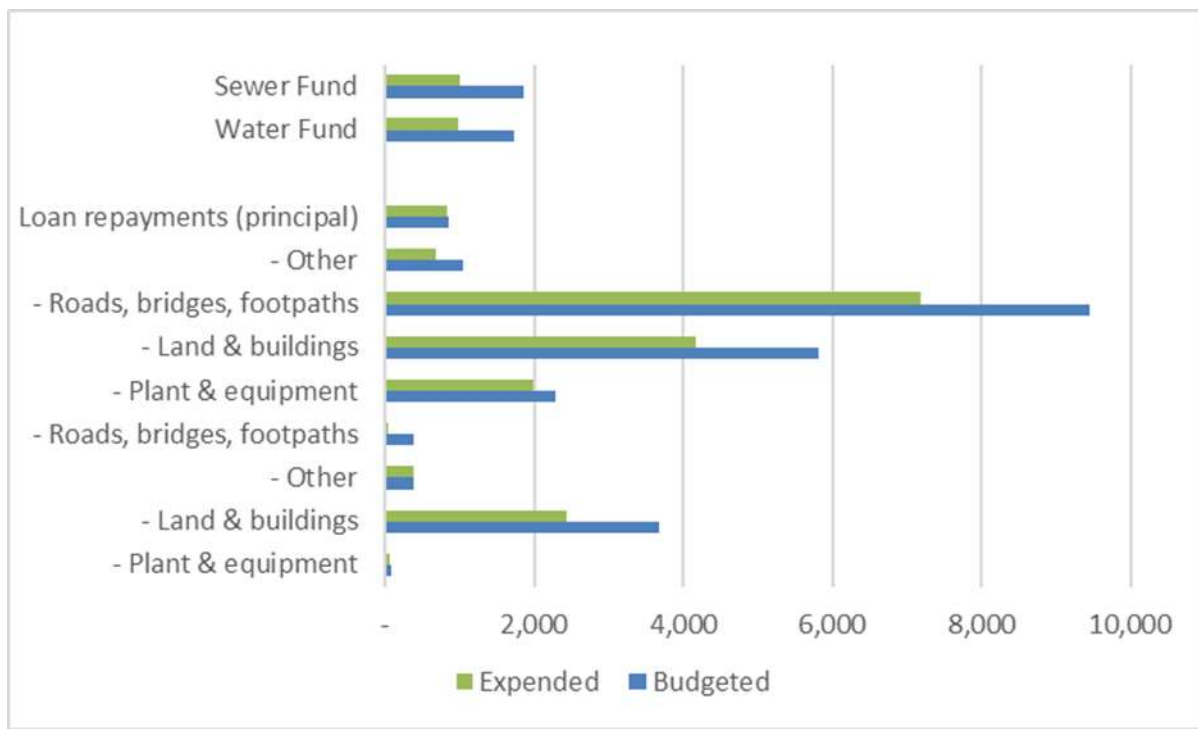
The net result of capital activities as at 30 June 2023 is total expenditure of \$20,983,000. The sum of proposed variations results in a favorable capital variance of \$1,815,000.

Some of the notable expenditure is listed below;

- Wentworth Civic Centre \$2,929,034
- Capital Plant Replacement \$583,043
- Trentham Cliffs Water \$536,632
- Pooncarie Aerodrome Lights \$416,956
- Caravan Park Redevelopment \$221,843

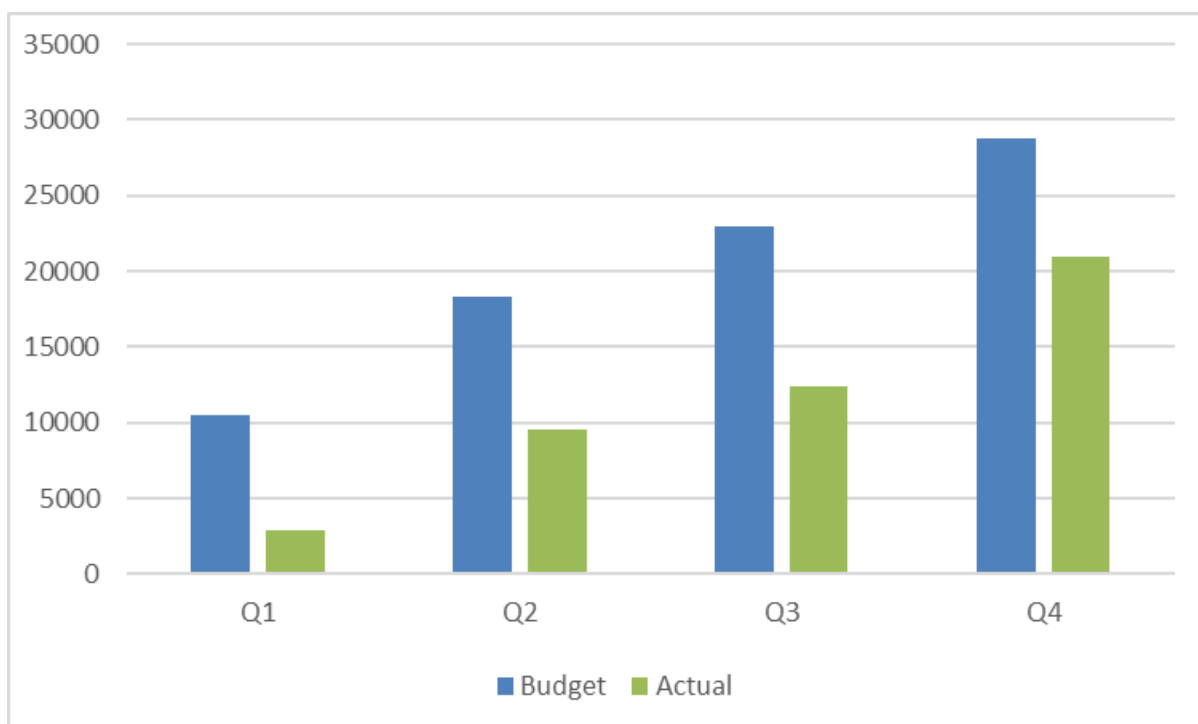
Capital Works Expenditure vs Budgeted Expenditure at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



Consolidated Capital Works Expenditure vs Budgeted at 30 June 2023

Units displayed in ('000)



1. Proposed Capital Budget Variations

The June Quarterly Budget Review Statement includes six proposed capital variations which are all ongoing project budgets being carried forward to the 2023 – 2024 financial year as per page 5 of the QBRs attachment.

2. Cash and Investments Position and Reserve Balance

Reserve Balance at 30 June 2023

<i>Internal Restrictions</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Restriction</i>
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,294,469.28	
- Doubtful Debts	\$115,011.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$1,076,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$758,562.12	
- Caravan Park Loan Facility	\$1,275,764.39	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$8,020,023.99
<i>External Restrictions</i>		
- Water Fund	\$11,109,591.30	
- Sewer Fund	\$5,148,970.91	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$534,321.10	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$962,882.55	
- Unexpended Grants	\$20,985,380.60	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$213,700.14	
- Loan Guarantee Reserve	\$3,460.91	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$550,181.57	\$39,508,489.08
Day to Day Liquidity		\$3,674,557.56
Total Funds Available		\$51,203,070.63

Compliance with NSW T-Corp Framework

As part of Council's agreement with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation for access to the loan facility of \$2,000,000 Council's investments must comply with the following limits.

Column A		Column B	Column C	Column D
Long Term Debt Rating		Portfolio Limit	Counterparty Limit	Maximum Tenor
S&P	Moody's			
AAA	Aaa	100%	100%	Not applicable
AA+ to AA-	Aa1 to Aa3	100%	100%	5 years
A+ to A	A1 to A2	100%	100%	3 years
A-	A3	40%	20%	3 years
BBB+	Baa1	35%	10%	3 years
BBB	Baa2		5%	12 months

Compliance with Portfolio and Counterparty Limit at 30 June 2023

As demonstrated below Council's current investments are in line with T-Corp requirements. Majority of investments are held with A+ or higher rated institutions with 15% held in BBB+ rated investments.

<i>Row Labels</i>	<i>Investment Amount</i>	<i>% Invested</i>
A	\$11,000,000.00	23.9%
ING Bank	\$11,000,000.00	23.9%
A-	\$1,000,000.00	2.2%
IMB Bank	\$1,000,000.00	2.2%
A+	\$7,112,066.54	15.4%
Macquarie Bank	\$7,112,066.54	15.4%
AA-	\$19,000,000.00	41.2%
National Australia Bank	\$8,000,000.00	17.3%
Commonwealth Bank	\$3,000,000.00	6.5%
Westpac Banking Corporation	\$8,000,000.00	17.3%
AAA	\$1,000,000.00	2.2%
Northern Territory T-Corp	\$1,000,000.00	2.2%
BBB	\$2,000,000.00	4.3%
AMP Bank	\$2,000,000.00	4.3%
BBB+	\$5,000,000.00	10.8%
Bank of Queensland	\$3,000,000.00	6.5%
Bendigo Bank	\$2,000,000.00	4.3%
Grand Total	\$46,112,066.54	100.0%

Note: The table above excludes Council's Operating and Trust account.

Investments by Timeframe at 30 June 2023

Council is currently complying with its investment strategy which notes the preference of keeping cash invested for the short term (12 months or less). Cash needs to be accessed as needed due to the large amount of capital works currently being undertaken and the need for readily accessible cash flow to pay for these Capital Works.

Currently Council has less holdings for the long term than their strategy recommends however, this is due to current needs for cash flow as a result of the flooding experienced and funding of subsequent repairs from council reserves.

<i>Term</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>% of Portfolio</i>	<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Long Term 12mths+	\$2,000,000.00	4.34%	15.00%	10.66%
Short Term <12mths	\$40,000,000.00	86.73%	75.00%	-11.73%
At-Call	\$4,112,066.54	8.93%	10.00%	1.07%
TOTAL	\$46,112,066.54			

6. Register of Material Contracts

Contracts over \$50k are disclosed in the report below. As at 30 June 2023 Council had not materially varied any of the contracts included in the register or ceased any of the agreements.

For future reference any material variations, cancellations or other disclosures to these contracts will be listed within this report.

7. Consultancy and Legal Expense Report

Consultancies paid YTD at 30 June 2023

Contractor	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Details
Adept Engineering Australia			\$2,079.00		Boiler & Pressure Testing
ASPIRE Architecture			\$5,403.20		Architecture Services
Bump Trucks Australia				\$14,423.20	Event Safety Plan Consulting
Challis Design					Dareton Traveller Rest
Tonkin - Landfill	\$75,954.13				Survey & Design Works & Project Evaluation - Buronga Landfill
Civil Test - RMS		\$832.98		\$12,344.25	Roadwork Certification/testing/soil testing
Complete Power Consulting				\$14,190.00	Waste Water Re-Use Dareton/Willowbend Caravan Park
Greenedge Environmental				\$28,360.20	Gravel Pit Licencing / Cutural Heratige Assessments
Zenith Town Planning	\$18,711.00				Rural Residential Strategy
Exact Survey Group			\$1,650.00	\$880.00	Survey & Design Works & Project Evaluation
GBM Consulting		\$1,215.50	\$8,885.24		Survey & Design Works & Project Evaluation
EBS Heritage	\$6,067.60				Cultural Heritage
Greenedge Environmental	\$30,501.90	\$27,063.30	\$11,574.20		Planning & Licencing
James Goldsworthy	\$5,192.69				Landfill Expansion
EMM Consulting	\$5,189.89		\$3,028.84		Pooncarie WTP Water Testing
McMahon Consultancy Services		\$6,056.60			Human Resources Consultancies
Morrison Low Consultants	\$3,982.00		\$3,465.00	\$13,585.00	Asset Management Plan & Procurement Review
GSD Architects	\$3,047.00		\$104,492.36	\$43,505.00	Civic Centre Project Management
Pinion Advisory		\$15,928.00		\$18,275.40	Buronga Landfill
Project Green				\$20,878.00	Tree Assesment Audits
Public Works Advisory		\$53,935.13	\$12,543.85	\$107,499.61	Acquisitions & Project Management
Civil Test	\$2,178.00		\$5,316.03		Roadwork Certification/testing/soil testing
Tonkin		\$33,284.13	\$15,424.76	\$113,022.53	Survey & Design Works & Project Evaluation
Phil Maw Designs	\$742.50				Survey & Design Works & Project Evaluation
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	\$151,566.71	\$289,882.35	\$463,744.83	\$850,708.02	

Notes to Consultancies

Council is currently experiencing higher than normal consultancy fees due to the design and environmental compliance of major capital works projects such as; Pooncarie – Menindee Road, Wentworth Civic Centre and Buronga Landfill Expansion.

Legal Expenses paid YTD at 30 June 2023

Contractor	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Details
Bartier Perry	\$4,359.56	\$10,258.28	\$7,081.16	\$8,080.67	Crown Land Legal Fees
Iron Mountain	\$270.57	\$270.57		\$386.00	Document Storage - Debt Collection
Kells Lawyers			\$1,523.55	\$3,852.77	Planning
Maloney Anderson Legal		\$1,218.42			Acquisitions
Marsdens Law Group	\$10,375.55		\$9,176.80		Lawyers Fees Rate Recovery
Martin Irwin Richards			\$2,200.00		Client Recoveries
Navitas Legal				\$880.00	Property Sale Advice
NV Lawyers	\$4,285.30	\$3,388.60	\$5,500.62	\$2,591.40	Rate Recoveries
Outstanding Collections Australia				\$19,351.20	Legal Fees Overdue Rates
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	\$19,290.98	\$34,426.85	\$59,908.98	\$95,051.02	

Notes to Legal Expenses

No major changes to note.

Conclusion

This report is prepared in accordance with S407 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 203(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's 2022/23 Operational Plan. This report complies with the format required by the Office of Local Government.

If approved, the net result of variances for June 2023 is an unfavourable operational variance of \$429,000 and a favourable capital variance of \$1,815,000 resulting in a total favourable budget variation of \$1,386,000.

Attachments

1. June QBR [S](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement
for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23

Report by responsible accounting officer

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005:

30 June 2023

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Wentworth Shire Council for the quarter ended 30/06/2023 indicates that Council's projected financial position at 30/06/2023 will be satisfactory at year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.

Signed:



Date:

17/07/2023

Simon Rule
Responsible accounting officer

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review
for the period 01/04/23

Income & expenses budget review statement

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

Income & expenses - Council Consolidated

Original budget 2022/23	Approved Changes				Revised budget 2022/23	Variations for this Jun Qtr	Notes	Projected year end result	Actual YTD figures	Variance Surplus (Deficit)
	Carry forwards	Other than by QBRS	Sep QBRS	Dec QBRS						
Income										
Rates and annual charges	10,098				10,098	(429)	a	9,669	9,669	(429)
User charges and fees	6,331				6,331	1,132	b	7,463	8,957	2,626
Other revenues	1,228				1,228		c	1,228	793	(435)
Grants and contributions - operating	9,901		(7)		9,894		d	9,894	12,310	2,416
Grants and contributions - capital	20,181	1,123	80	(1,850)	14,132		e	14,132	17,299	3,167
Interest and investment revenue	239			461	700		f	700	510	(190)
Net gain from disposal of assets	100				100		g	100	-	(100)
Total income from continuing operations	48,078	1,123	73	(1,389)	42,483	703		43,186	49,538	7,055
Expenses										
Employee benefits and on-costs	10,745				10,745		h	10,745	10,235	510
Borrowing costs	391				391		i	391	212	179
Materials and services	4,175		(7)		4,168	1,132	j	5,300	7,800	(3,632)
Depreciation and amortisation	8,025				8,025		k	8,025	8,025	-
Other expenses	3,368	50			3,418		l	3,418	3,547	(129)
Net Loss from disposal of assets					-		m	-	-	-
Total expenses from continuing operations	26,704	-	50	-	26,747	1,132		27,879	29,819	(3,072)
Net operating result from continuing operations	21,374	725	1,073	80	15,736	(429)		15,307	19,719	3,983
Discontinued operations - surplus/(deficit)					-		n	-	-	-
Net operating result from all operations	21,374	725	1,073	80	15,736	(429)		15,307	19,719	3,983
Net Operating Result before Capital Items	1,193	-	(50)	461	1,604	(429)		1,175	2,420	816

This statement forms part of Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) for the quarter ended 30/06/2023 and should be read in conjunction with the total QBRS report

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23

Budget Variations being recommended include the following material items:

[illegible]

Wentworth Shire Council

Capital budget review statement

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

Capital budget - Council Consolidated

Quarterly Budget Review Statement
for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23:

	Original budget 2022/23	Approved changes				Revised budget 2022/23	Variations for this Jun Qtr	Notes	Projected year end result	Actual YTD figures	Variance Surplus (Deficit)	% Actuals by Projected
		Carry forwards	Other than by QBRS	Sep QBRS	Dec QBRS							
(\$000's)												
Capital expenditure												
New assets												
- Plant & equipment	-			80	(2,000)	52	(1,000)	a	80	63	17	78.75%
- Land & buildings	6,623				(715)	(1,062)	(50)	b	3,675	2,436	2,239	66.29%
- Other	2,089	120						c	382	384	48	100.52%
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	374							d	374	32	342	8.56%
Renewal assets (replacement)												
- Plant & equipment	1,956	320						e	2,276	1,987	289	87.30%
- Land & buildings	12,584	65	2,460		(8,478)	(600)	(215)	f	5,816	4,164	1,867	71.60%
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	12,364	1,192			2,391	(6,500)	(75)	g	9,447	7,185	2,262	76.06%
- Other	903					223		h	1,051	681	445	64.80%
Joint Funded Projects (RTAF)	-					1,248		i	1,248	1,248	-	100.00%
Loan repayments (principal)	854					854	(475)	j	854	821	33	96.14%
Water Fund	740	75	1,378			2,193		k	1,718	988	1,205	57.51%
Sewer Fund	1,287	450	317			1,854		l	1,854	994	860	53.61%
Total capital expenditure	39,774	2,222	4,155	80	(8,802)	(6,839)	(1,815)		28,775	20,983	9,607	72.92%
Capital funding												
Rates & other untied funding	9,368	927	787		(952)	(712)	(25)	m	9,393	4,795	(4,623)	51.05%
Capital grants & contributions	20,181	725	1,123	80	(1,850)	(6,127)	(315)	n	13,817	12,789	(1,343)	92.56%
Reserves:												
- External restrictions/reserves			2,245				(475)	o	1,770	1,419	(826)	80.17%
- Internal restrictions/reserves	1,975	570					(1,000)	p	1,545	1,980	(565)	128.16%
New loans	8,250				(6,000)			q	2,250		(2,250)	0.00%
Receipts from sale of assets								r				
Total capital funding	39,774	2,222	4,155	80	(8,802)	(6,839)	(1,815)		28,775	20,983	(9,607)	72.92%
Net capital funding - surplus/(deficit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	

This statement forms part of Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) for the quarter ended 30/06/2023 and should be read in conjunction with the total QBRS report

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement
for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23

Capital budget review statement
Recommended changes to revised budget

Budget variations being recommended include the following material items:

Notes	Details	
	<u>CARRY FORWARD VARIATIONS</u>	
b	New Assets - Land and Buildings	
	Wentworth Caravan Park	-\$1,000,000
c	New Assets - Other	
	Pooncarie Aerodrome Lighting	-\$50,000
f	Renewal Assets - Land & Buildings	
	Cemetrey Power Upgrade	-\$25,000
	James King Park Beach Upgrade	-\$190,000
h	Renewal Assets - Other	
	Wentworth Aerodrome Power, Painting & RNAV upgrade	-\$75,000
k	Water Assets	
	Gol Gol East Raw Water Upgrade	-\$475,000
	<u>FUNDING VARIATIONS</u>	
m	Rates and Other Untied Funding	
	Cemetrey Power Upgrade	-\$25,000
n	Capital Grants & Contributions	
	Pooncarie Aerodrome Lighting	-\$50,000
	James King Park Beach Upgrade	-\$190,000
	Wentworth Aerodrome Power, Painting & RNAV upgrade	-\$75,000
o	External Reserves (Water Fund)	
	Gol Gol East Raw Water Upgrade	-\$475,000
p	Internal Reserves (Caravan Park Loan Reserves)	
	Wentworth Caravan Park	-\$1,000,000

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23

Cash & investments budget review statement

Reconciliation status

The YTD cash & investment figure reconciles to the actual balances held as follows:

\$ 000's

Cash at bank (as per bank statements)

5,084

Investments on hand

46,119

less: unpresented cheques

(Timing Difference)

6

add: undeposited funds

(Timing Difference)

2

Reconciled cash at bank & investments

51,203

Balance as per QBRS review statement:

51,203

Difference:

-

Recommended changes to revised budget

Budget variations being recommended include the following material items:

Notes Details

--	--

--	--

--	--

--	--

--	--

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23:

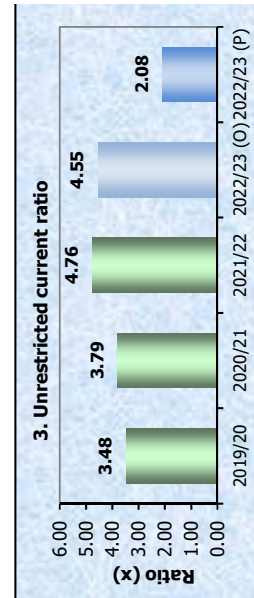
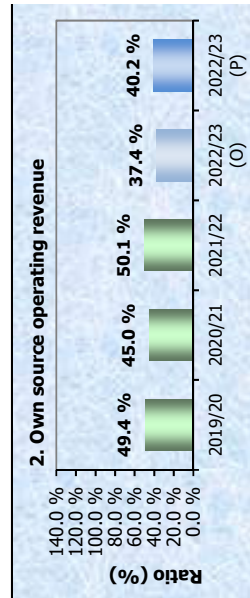
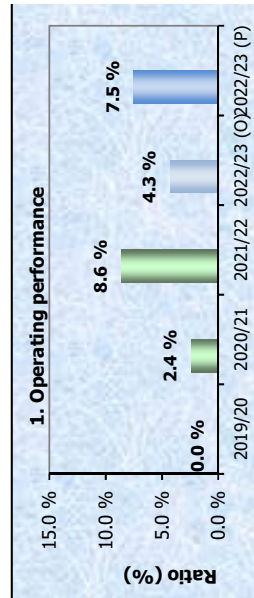
Key performance indicators budget review statement - Industry KPI's (OLG)

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

(\$000's)	Current projection		Original budget	Actuals prior periods
	22/23	22/23	22/23	21/22 20/21

NSW local government industry key performance indicators (OLG):

1. Operating performance Operating revenue (excl. capital) - operating expenses Operating revenue (excl. capital grants & contributions)	2420	7.5 %	4.3 %	8.6 % 2.4 %
	32239			20/21
This ratio measures Council's achievement of containing operating expenditure within operating revenue. Benchmark: > 0				
2. Own source operating revenue Operating revenue (excl. ALL grants & contributions) Total Operating revenue (incl. capital grants & cont)	19929	40.2 %	37.4 %	50.1 % 45.0 %
	49538			20/21 20/22
This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants & contributions. Benchmark: > 60%				
3. Unrestricted current ratio Current assets less all external restrictions Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	11695	2.08	4.55	4.76 3.79
	5624			20/21 20/22
To assess the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council. Benchmark: > 1.5				



Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23:

Key performance indicators budget review statement - Industry KPI's (OLG)

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

(\$000's)	Current projection		Original budget	Actuals	
	Amounts	Indicator	22/23	22/23	prior periods
	22/23	22/23	22/23	21/22	20/21

NSW local government industry key performance indicators (OLG):

4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before interest & dep. exp (EBITDA)	27956	27.06	23.91	12.36	14.41
Principal repayments + borrowing interest costs	1033				

This ratio measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments.

Benchmark: > 2

5. Rates, annual charges, interest & extra charges outstanding					
Rates, annual & extra charges outstanding	975	7.9 %	10.0 %	12.8 %	13.0 %
Rates, annual & extra charges collectible	12408				

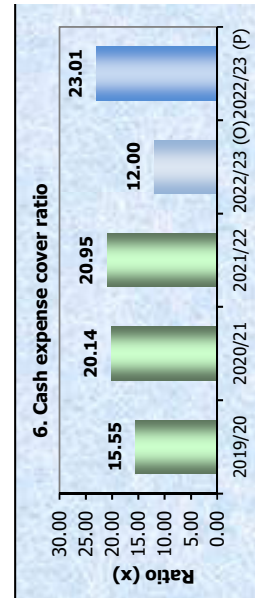
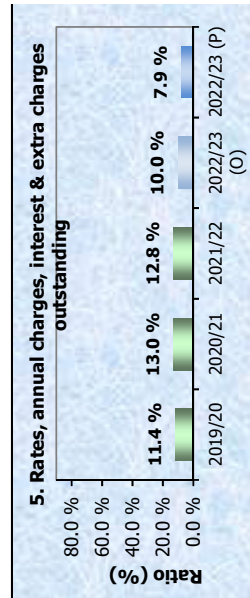
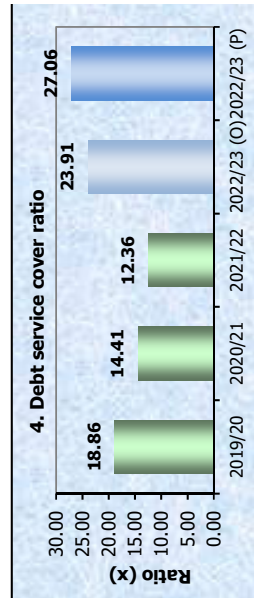
To assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.

Benchmark: < 10%

6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash & cash equivalents (incl. term deposits)	51203	23.01	12.00	20.95	20.14
Operating & financing activities cash flow payments	2225				

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow.

Benchmark: > 3



Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23:

Key performance indicators budget review statement - Industry KPI's (OLG)

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

(\$000's)	Current projection		Original budget	Actuals prior periods
	22/23	22/23	22/23	21/22 20/21

NSW Local Government Infrastructure Asset Performance Indicators (OLG):

7. Building and infrastructure renewals ratio				
Asset renewals (building, infrastructure & other structures)	14017	174.7 %	346.5 %	162.1 % 203.9 %
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	8025			73.6 % 174.7 %

To assess the rate at which these assets are being renewed relative to the rate at which they are depreciating.

Benchmark: > 100%

8. Infrastructure backlog ratio				
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory condition	50003	11.2 %	11.2 %	10.5 % 5.3 %
Total value of infrastructure, building, other structures & depreciable land improvement assets	446395			

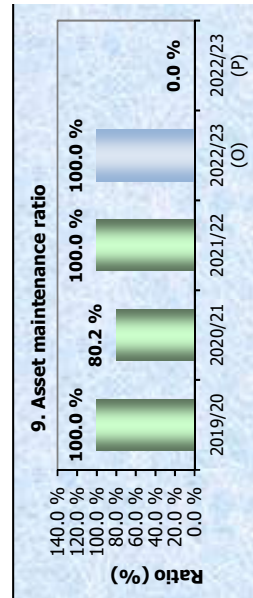
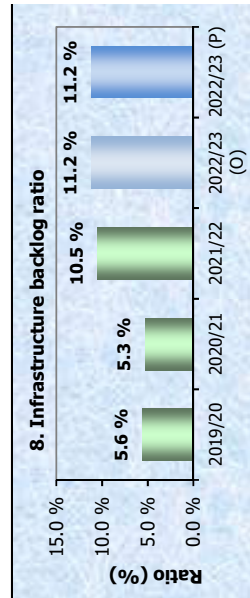
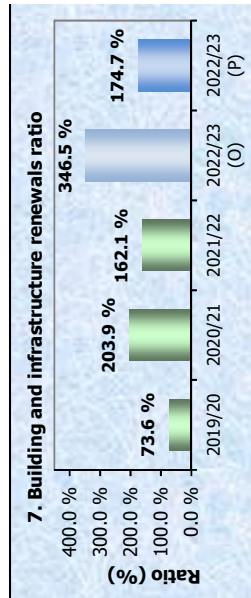
This ratio shows what proportion the backlog is against the total value of a Council's infrastructure.

Benchmark: < 2

9. Asset maintenance ratio				
Actual asset maintenance	N/A	0.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 % 80.2 %
Required asset maintenance				

Compares actual vs. required annual asset maintenance. A ratio above 1.0 indicates Council is investing enough funds to stop the Infrastructure Backlog growing.

Benchmark: > 100%



Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23:

Key performance indicators budget review statement - Industry KPI's (OLG)

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

(\$000's)	Current projection		Original budget	Actuals prior periods
	22/23	22/23	22/23	21/22 20/21

NSW Local Government Infrastructure Asset Performance Indicators (OLG):

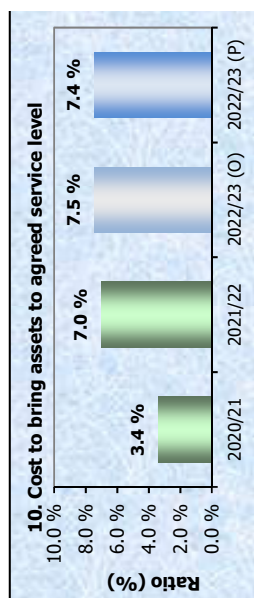
10. Cost to bring assets to agreed service level

Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by council
Gross replacement cost

50003	7.4 %
671336	

7.5 %

7.0 %	3.4 %
-------	-------



This ratio provides a snapshot of the proportion of outstanding renewal works compared to the total value of assets under Council's care and stewardship.
No Benchmark

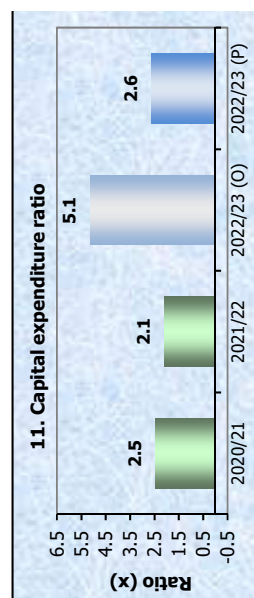
11. Capital expenditure ratio

Annual capital expenditure
Annual depreciation

20983	2.6
8025	

5.1

2.1	2.5
-----	-----



To assess the extent to which a Council is expanding its asset base thru capital expenditure on both new assets and the replacement and renewal of existing assets.

Benchmark: > 1

Quarterly Budget Review
for the period 01/04/23 :

Wentworth Shire Council

Contracts budget review statement

Budget review for the quarter ended 30 June 2023

Part A - Contracts listing - contracts entered into during the quarter

Contractor	Contract detail & purpose	Contract value	Start date	Duration of contract	Budgeted (Y/N)
Ultimate Building Solutions	Gol Gol Cricket Nets Construction	\$ 165,000.00	28/06/2023	Until Delivery	Y
MCM Fences & Gates	Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Fences and Gates	\$ 90,900.00	28/06/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Levers Concept Constructions Pty Ltd	RFS Para Brigade Station - Construction of Shed	\$ 65,029.00	21/06/2023	Until Delivery	Y
RDG Electrical	East Gol Gol Raw Water Upgrade	\$ 724,465.40	5/06/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Stabilco Pty Ltd	River Road & Boeill Creek Road Stabilisation	\$ 253,659.77	25/05/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Public Works Advisory	A53 Rufus River Road Realignment	\$ 53,369.80	19/05/2023	Until Completion	Y
B & S Earthworks Pty Ltd	Wood Street Road Widening - King Street Curb Replacement	\$ 95,458.00	16/05/2023	Until Delivery	N
Gabba Sporting Products	Purchase of Cricket Nets	\$ 75,151.34	15/05/2023	Until Delivery	Y
MEE Machinery Hire Pty Ltd	Supply and Delivery of Materials for River Road and Boeill Creek Road	\$ 303,118.61	15/05/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Fair Dinkum Fencing	Gol Gol Cricket Nets Chain Mesh Fencing	\$ 83,627.50	12/05/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Landmark Products	Supply of Caretaker Restroom Kit for Ski Reserve	\$ 88,154.00	10/05/2023	Until Delivery	N
William Adams	Supply and Delivery of Pad Foot Roller	\$ 249,700.00	24/04/2023	Until Delivery	Y
Audit Office NSW	2023 End of Year Audit Services	\$ 66,550.00	12/04/2023	Until Lodgement	Y
XCAV8	Wurlong Drive Basin Storage Upgrade	\$ 74,080.69	6/04/2023	Until Delivery	Y

Notes:

1. Minimum reporting level is 1% of estimated income from continuing operations of Council or \$50,000 - whatever is the lesser.
2. Contracts listed are those entered into during the quarter being reported and exclude contractors on Council's Preferred Supplier list.
3. Contracts for employment are not required to be included.
4. Council is funding \$200,000 of works relating to the Cricket nets and has received a contribution from the Gol Gol Cricket Club of \$150,000 to pay for the remaining costs
5. Funded from the 2023-24 Road infrastructure renewals budget with project not estimated to start until late July
6. Planned to be funded by the OLG Flood Recovery Grants when project submissions open

Wentworth Shire Council

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

for the period 01/04/23 to 30/06/23

Consultancy & legal expenses budget review statement

Consultancy & legal expenses overview

Expense	YTD expenditure (actual dollars)	Budgeted (Y/N)
Consultancies	850,708	Y
Legal Fees	95,051	Y

Definition of a consultant:

A consultant is a person or organisation engaged under contract on a temporary basis to provide recommendations or high level specialist or professional advice to assist decision making by management. Generally it is the advisory nature of the work that differentiates a consultant from other contractors.

Comments

Expenditure included in the above YTD figure but not budgeted includes:

Details

9.8 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

File Number: RPT/23/474

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

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
 Strategy: 2.4 A well informed, supported and engaged community

Summary

Council has provided an allocation of \$200,000.00 for the 2023/24 financial year for consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance. In this financial year, \$112,974.00 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 under delegated authority is \$320.00. The total value of requests for this August 2023 funding application period totals \$33,374.80, which if granted in full would leave a balance in the financial assistance program of \$53,331.20.

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 Financial Assistance program.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider requests for financial assistance that have been received within the current application period.

Background

Council's ability to make financial contribution and/or in-kind assistance are set out in Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. To assist Council in its compliance requirement, Council has adopted a Financial Assistance Policy (AF003) and has provided a funding allocation of \$200,000.00 for the 2023/24 financial year.

Report Detail

In this current application period, there have been seven (7) requests for assistance received from community organisations. The total value of the requests under consideration is \$33,374.80.

A review of the applications has determined that the applications meet the program guidelines.

The Financial Assistance Policy (AF003) allows for requests for fee waivers up to the value of \$2,000 to be determined under delegated authority by either the Director Finance & Policy or the General Manager.

During this application period the following (2) requests totalling \$320.00 have been approved under delegated authority:

\$270.00 – Vintage Machinery Society of Sunraysia – annual Wentworth Showgrounds license fee

\$50.00 – Wentworth Makers Inc – hire fee Wentworth Town Hall

Additional information

The August round of grants is usually the largest round from a monetary prospective and this year's round is larger in term of monetary value than last year.

Pooncarie Racing Club were granted \$5000.00 in 2021/22 however this was not paid as the event was cancelled due to Covid. The event was held in 2022 but they did not seek funding.

This is the second time that the Show Society has asked for a grant contribution towards the Show. Council provides significant in-kind support to the Show each year equating to approximately \$20,000.00.

Options

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

- (a) Granting the full value of all requests for a total of \$33,374.80; or
- (b) consider partially funding some applications.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

If the requested total of \$33,374.80 is approved this would leave a balance of \$53,331.20 left for the remaining financial year.

Conclusion

Council has received requests for financial assistance under this round of the program to the value of \$38,374.80. The sum of \$320.00 worth of fee waiver have been approved under delegated authority.

Attachments

- 1. Financial Assistance Program Requests - August 2023 [📄](#)
- 2. Financial Assistance Program Request Applications (Under Separate Cover) [📄](#)

FINANICAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS AUGUST 2023

Organisation/Recipient	Type of Request	Request Value \$	\$ Amounts granted in 2022/23	Details of Request
RFDS Operation Pelican Inc	Grant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Royal Flying Doctor Service Rowathon
Pooncarie Racing Club Inc	Grant	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	Requesting financial support towards the costs of health & safety requirements & promotion of the Pooncarie Races
Pooncarie Public School	Grant	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	Seeking support to create natural activity circuit
Men in a Shed Dareton Inc	Grant	\$3,874.80	\$0.00	Assistance with fees & charges incurred with the new building
Wentworth Area Landcare Inc	Grant	\$5,000.00	\$50.00	Catch a Carp Community Day, Clean Up Australia Day, National Tree Day
Wentworth Show Society Inc	Grant	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Requesting financial support to run the 2023 Wentworth Show
Gol Gol Community Band	Grant	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	Purchase a selection of marketing materials to showcase the Band
		\$ 33,374.80		

9.9 WENTWORTH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011 - MINIMUM LOT SIZE REDUCTION FROM 5000SQM TO 3000SQM OF LOTS 506, 551, 719 & 822 DP 756961 DARETON

File Number: RPT/23/470

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Strategic Planning Officer

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

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

Summary

Wentworth Shire Council has received a Planning Proposal from James Golsworthy Consulting on behalf of three (3) land holders.

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 by reducing the Minimum Lot Size of 506, 551, 719 & 822 DP 756961 from 5000 square metres to 3000 square metres.

Recommendation

That Council resolves to:

- a) Submit the planning proposal to the Minister for the Department of Planning and Environment for consideration of a Gateway Determination to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 in accordance with Section 3.34 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- b) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the detail required to make an informed decision with respect to the planning proposal, based on the content of the planning proposal submitted by James Golsworthy Consulting (the proponent) and the Planning Proposal Assessment (the assessment) undertaken by the Health and Planning Division.

Background

The allotments subject to the planning proposal are located at the River Road and Golf Course intersection, Dareton. The subject land encompasses approximately 8.7 hectares in total area. The site falls under the R5 Large Lot Residential zone with a minimum lot size of 5,000 square metres.

The property is being used for the following:

- Horticulture cropping on lot 506 DP 756961;
- Cleared rural residential for the rest of the subject land;

The western boundary of the subject site adjoins R5 Large Residential zoned land used for rural residential and a NSW Crown owned land parcel. The northern boundary is zoned RU5 Village and has a recent 53 lot subdivision approval. Adjoining land to the east and south are rural zoned with mixed uses of rural residential and horticulture.

Refer to Attachment 1 Planning Proposal

Matters under consideration

A detailed assessment of the planning proposal has been undertaken to determine if the proposed minimum lot size reduction is justified in seeking the support from Council to submit to the Department of Planning and Environment for consideration of a Gateway Determination.

Refer to Attachment 2 – Planning Proposal Assessment Report

The Assessment Report determines that the planning proposal as submitted, with minor amendments to the project timeline, satisfactorily addresses the requirements of the Guide to Preparing Planning Proposals, Ministerial Directions and applicable State Environmental Planning Policies.

The reduction in minimum lot size will not negatively impact the surrounding uses as it will only increase the potential lot yield of the subject lands by an additional 7 allotments. The addition of smaller rural residential allotments is in line with Councils *Dareton Revitalisation Strategy* and other relevant local and state strategies and plans.

Options

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

1. Submit the Planning Proposal to the Minister for the Department of Planning and Environment for consideration of a Gateway Determination,

Or

2. Refuse to support the Planning Proposal.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

There are no implications for Council. The endorsement of the attached Planning Proposal will allow it to be submitted to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces for consideration of a Gateway Determination in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Conclusion

The Planning Proposal prepared by James Golsworthy Consulting requests Council's support for the reduction in minimum lot size of the subject lot from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres.

The assessment of the Planning Proposal determines that the proposal is justifiably supportable and adequately responds to the requirements of the Guide to Preparing Planning Proposals, Ministerial Directions and applicable State Environmental Planning Policies.

Attachments

1. Planning Proposal [📄](#)
2. Planning Proposal Assessment Report [📄](#)



Planning Proposal

Golf Course Road Dareton

June 2023

environmental, planning and development consultants

www.jgconsult.com.au





James Golsworthy Consulting

140 Pine Avenue Mildura VIC 3500

PO Box 1650 Mildura VIC 3502

t 03 5022 8411

e admin@jgconsult.com.au

©Copyright, James Golsworthy Consulting Pty Ltd (2023).

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under Copyright Act 1963, no part may be reproduced without written permission of James Golsworthy Consulting Pty Ltd.

Disclaimer:

Neither James Golsworthy Consulting Pty Ltd nor any member or employee of James Golsworthy Consulting Pty Ltd takes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person or organisation (other than that for which this report has been prepared) in respect of the information set out in this report, including any errors or omissions therein. James Golsworthy Consulting is not liable for errors in plans, specifications, documentation or other advice not prepared or designed by James Golsworthy Consulting.



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	4
1. Introduction	5
1.1 Overview	5
1.2 Format of the Planning Proposal	5
1.3 Supporting documentation	5
2. Site and Locality Details	6
2.1 Site Context and Locality	6
2.2 Site Description	6
2.3 Surrounding Development	6
3. Planning Proposal	8
3.1 Objectives and Intended Outcomes	8
3.2 Explanation of Provisions	8
3.3 Justification of Strategic and Site-Specific Merit	8
3.4 Mapping	13
3.5 Consultation	13
3.6 Project Timeline	14
4. Land Availability	15

Appendices:

State Environmental Planning Policies	17
S9.1 Ministerial Directions	21

List of Figures

Figure 1	Dareton Locality	6
Figure 2	Site Locality (yellow)	6
Figure 3	Surrounding Zones	7
Figure 4	Site & Surrounds Minimum Lot Size Map	7
Figure 5	Proposed Residential and Business Rezoning Map	9
Figure 6	Dareton Settlement Boundary	10
Figure 7	Current Minimum Lot Size (5,000m ²)	13
Figure 8	Proposed Minimum Lot Size (3,000m ²)	13
Figure 9	Recent 39 lot subdivision	15

List of Tables

Table 1	Indicative Project Timeframe	14
Table 2	Development Applications for R5 zone	15

Executive Summary

This Planning Proposal has been prepared by James Golsworthy Consulting, on behalf of the landholders.

The proposal seeks Council support for an amendment to the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011*.

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Minimum Lot Size as it applies to Lots 551, 719, 506 and 822 DP756961, Golf Course Road, Dareton.

Specifically, the Planning Proposal seeks to reduce the Minimum Lot Size from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres.

The Planning Proposal has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and satisfies the requirements of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline December 2021*.

The Planning Proposal is classified as a 'Standard' application as it proposes to amend a principal development standard.

This Planning Proposal outlines justification and strategic merit, based on the following reasons:

- ♦ the proposal is consistent with State, Regional and local planning strategies
- ♦ the outcomes of the proposal will not create any negative environmental or social impacts
- ♦ the subject site can be provided with adequate services to support the minor increase in development density
- ♦ the proposal will, in the short term, cater for the continual demand for large residential lots in the area, which in turn supports population growth in Dareton

It is recommended that Wentworth Shire Council resolve to support the amendment, as outlined in this Planning Proposal, and submit the Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning and Environment, requesting that a Gateway Determination to proceed be issued to:

- ♦ amend the Lot Size Map (Sheet LSZ_004A) as it applies to Lots 551, 719, 506 and 822 DP756961 from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

This Planning Proposal has been prepared by James Golsworthy Consulting, on behalf of the landholder and seeks to amend the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011* (WLEP).

The proposal seeks to reduce the minimum lot size from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres, as it applies to the subject site.

The resultant outcome will be a slightly higher density large lot residential development, in the R5 Large Lot Residential zone applicable only to the subject site.

Under the current 5,000 square metre minimum lot size, the capacity of the subject site is 7 allotments. With the application of 3,000 square metres minimum lot size, the subject site could cater for an additional 7 allotments.

The Planning Proposal has been prepared in accordance with Section 3.33 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), as well as adhering to the requirements of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline December 2021*.

The Planning Proposal is considered to be classified as a 'Standard' application, as it proposes to amend a principal development standard of the WLEP.

The Planning Proposal will provide justification for the proposed amendment to the Minimum Lot Size mapping, as it is consistent with the State, Regional and local planning policy framework for residential development in semi-rural areas.

It is requested that Wentworth Shire Council forward the Planning Proposal to the Minister for Planning for consideration of a Gateway Determination in accordance with Section 3.35 of the EP&A Act.

1.2 Format of the Planning Proposal

This Planning Proposal has been structured in the following format:

- ♦ Section 1 provides an introduction to the Planning Proposal
- ♦ Section 2 sets out a description of the site, its context in terms of its locality and the existing surrounding development
- ♦ Section 3 contains details of the Planning Proposal and addresses all matters as required by the *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline*
- ♦ Section 4 provides information with respect to land availability in the R5 zone in Dareton

1.3 Supporting documentation

The following documents have been prepared and are attached, in support of the Planning Proposal:

- ♦ Appendix 1 State Environmental Planning Policies
- ♦ Appendix 2 Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions

2. Site and Locality Details

2.1 Site Context and Locality

The township of Dareton is located 13 kilometres east of Wentworth, 19 kilometres north west of Buronga and 22 kilometres from the north western Victoria regional city of Mildura.

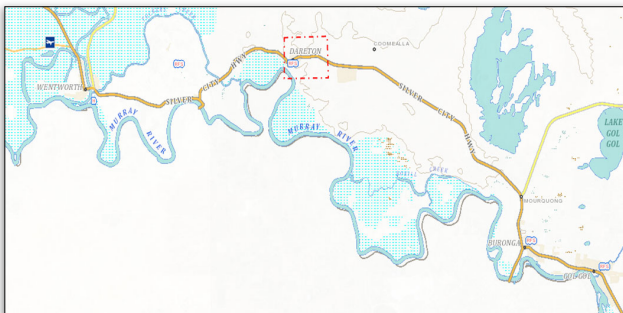


Figure 1 Dareton Locality

Source: planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewer

The subject site is located approximately 670 metres from the local business centre, on the southern fringe of the township of Dareton, in the far south west of New South Wales.

Access to the iconic Murray River is only an easy 400 metre walk from the western boundary of the subject site.



Figure 2 Site Locality (yellow)

2.2 Site Description

The subject site comprises four allotments, being Lots 551, 719, 506 and 822 DP756961. The land is located on the corner of River Road and Golf Course Road in Dareton NSW.

The site, which is irregular in shape, encompasses a total area of approximately 8.7 hectares.

The land was previously used for horticulture and includes associated, and now unused, agricultural buildings.

The topography of the subject site is flat and does not contain any significant landforms.

The subject site has been cleared of horticultural crops and does not contain any vegetation of note given its previous use.

The subject site is zoned R5 Large Lot Residential with a minimum lot size of 5,000 square metres. It adjoins the RU5 Village zone to the north and R5 zone to the south.

2.3 Surrounding Development

The subject site is situated on the southern fringe of the urban area of Dareton and forms a transition from the township to the rural area further south and east.

The RU5 Village zoned land to the north is not yet developed, however development approval has been recently granted for a 53 lot subdivision.

The land directly to the south of the subject site is also zoned R5 Large Lot Residential with a minimum lot size of 5,000 square metres. The land immediately adjacent to the south is also R5 zone but has not yet been developed however is in public ownership and therefore unlikely to be developed.

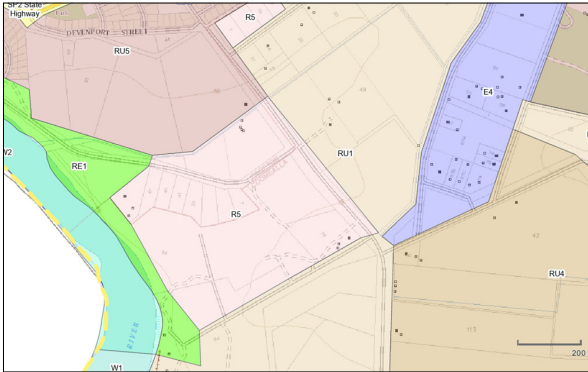


Figure 3 Surrounding Zones

Source: planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewer

There is an additional area of R5 zoned land north east of the subject site, where the minimum lot size applied is 3,000 square metres. This land was rezoned in 2017 to create an additional three (3) allotments. The land is developed for its designated purposes.

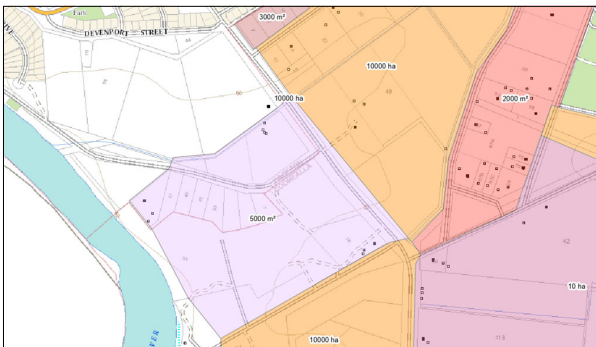


Figure 4 Site & Surrounds Minimum Lot Size Map

Further to the east of the subject site, the land is zoned RU1 Primary Production zone with a minimum lot size of 10 hectares. There is a blend of horticulture and rural living activities occurring in this area.

3. Planning Proposal

3.1 Objectives and Intended Outcomes

The objective of the Planning Proposal is to amend the WLEP by decreasing the minimum lot size applied to the subject site from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres.

The outcome from this amendment will be a minimal increase 7 lots that can be made available for purchasing and subsequent development.

Additionally, it will provide a range of sizes in the large lot residential zone stock, to accommodate the difference in demand and needs of new residents in Dareton.

3.2 Explanation of Provisions

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the following Minimum Lot Size map applicable to the subject site, being Lots 551, 719, 506 and 822 DP756961:

Amend *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 – Lot Size Map (LSZ_004A)* from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres.

3.3 Justification of Strategic and Site-Specific Merit

Section A – Need for the Planning Proposal

3.3.1 Is the planning proposal a result of an endorsed local strategic planning statement, strategic study or report?

The Planning Proposal is not the direct result or outcome from a specific recommendation within a local or regional strategy or study.

However, the Planning Proposal, in an indirect manner, will contribute to the overall outcome of Recommendation 7 of *Our Town Our Future – Dareton Revitalised 2021 (Dareton Strategy)*, by enabling the provision of a small increase in the current R5 Large Lot Residential zone lot yield.

Recommendation 7 of the Dareton Strategy includes the preparation of a Planning Proposal to rezone the nominated land from RU1 Primary Production zone to R5 Large Lot Residential zone with a minimum lot size range from 3,000 to 5,000 square metres.

Details from Page 49 of the Dareton Strategy include:

5.3.4 Rezone land to R5 Large Lot Residential

It is recommended that Council amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 by rezoning the parcels of land marked as Site 17 in Figure 5.5 to R5 Large Lot Residential with a minimum lot size range from 3000 m2 to 5000 m2. The total area of the land recommended for rezoning is 46 hectares, which together with the existing undeveloped zoned land culminates into 70 hectares of R5 Large Lot Residential land. This calculation includes the area of 11 hectares where there will be no immediate or short term development. With an allowance of 30% for road and other non-residential infrastructure, proposed and existing undeveloped R5 Large Lot Residential zoned land could provide 98 lots which equates (based on 5000 m2 lots) to 24 years supply based on the prevailing annual take-up rate of four lots. This means that by rezoning the designated area, Dareton would have a guaranteed long-term supply of R5 Large Lot Residential land which may also attract and drive new housing development in the town given the popularity of the zone. It must be noted the future take-up rate could be much higher based on historical trends and when lots become available, particularly when all seven lots from a subdivision were taken up with 12 months of completion. The rezoning of Site 17 should be undertaken in stages in response to demand, take up and subsequent development.

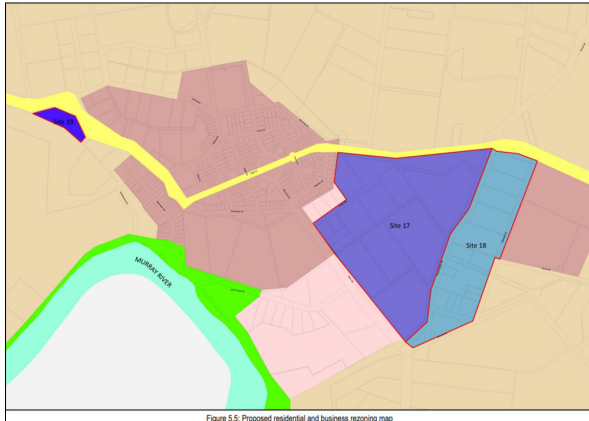


Figure 5 Proposed Residential and Business Rezoning Map

Source: Figure 5.5 Our Town Our Future: Dareton Revitalised 2021

3.3.2 Is the planning proposal the best means of achieving the objectives or intended outcomes, or is there a better way?

The Planning Proposal is the best means of achieving the objectives and intended outcomes, as the minimum lot size provisions in the WLEP determine the permissible lot size in the zone.

The current minimum lot size provisions applied to the subject site sets the subdivision area for each allotment at 5,000 square metres. This Planning Proposal seeks to reduce the minimum lot size down to 3,000 square metres.

Therefore, the approval of this Planning Proposal is the best means of amending the minimum lot size for the subject site.

Section B – Relationship to Strategic Planning Framework

3.3.3. Will the planning proposal give effect to the objectives and actions of the applicable regional or district plan or strategy (including any exhibited draft plans or strategies)?

Far West Regional Plan 2036 (FWRP)

Goal 3 of the FWRP aims to encourage strong and connected communities by building community resilience and capacity through focus and responding to environmental, industry, climate, economic and demographic changes in the region.

The Actions under *Direction 27: Provide greater housing choice* of the FWRP, that relate to this Planning Proposal include:

27.1 Review planning controls in existing town centres to increase housing options in centres and locations close to services and jobs.

Consistency = The Planning Proposal aims to reduce the current minimum lot size to increase land size options, increase the current R5 zone land stock availability, while the subject site is adjacent to the township of Dareton, with access to all required services.

27.2 Align infrastructure planning with land release areas to support new developments with adequate infrastructure.

Consistency = Due to recent upgrade works to water supply and reticulated sewer infrastructure along Golf Course Road, there is adequate infrastructure to support the minimal increase lot yield, as a result of this Planning Proposal.

The Actions under *Direction 29: Manage rural residential development* of the FWRP, that relate to this Planning Proposal include:

29.1 Provide opportunities for rural residential development only where it has been identified in a local strategy prepared by council and approved by the Department of Planning and Environment.

Consistency = While the subject site is already zoned for R5 purposes, the subject site falls within the Dareton settlement boundary as identified in the *Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement* and is consistent with the *Our Town Our Future – Dareton Revitalised 2021* strategy. Further details are provided in Section 3.3.4 of this Planning Proposal.

29.3 Locate rural residential areas:

- ♦ Close to existing urban settlements....
- ♦ To avoid and minimise the potential for land use conflicts...
- ♦ To avoid areas of high environmental, cultural and heritage significance, important agricultural land or areas affected by natural hazards

Consistency = While the Planning Proposal does not aim to rezone land, it is consistent with this action as it is close to the urban settlement of Dareton; will not create new or additional land use conflict; and the subject site does not contain high environmental, cultural and heritage significance, is not considered important agricultural land and is not bushfire or flood prone land.

Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041 (DFWRP)

Part 2 of the DFWRP focuses on the region's people and communities.

Objective 6: Plan for housing supply, diversity, affordability and resilience responds to the anticipated future changes to demographic and household structures, demand and housing for temporary workers.

The strategies, under Strategy 6.1, that directly relate to this Planning proposal, include:

- ♦ *creating flexible and feasible planning controls and development standards that support greater housing mix*

Consistency = This Planning Proposal is seeking to amend the current planning controls to enable the creation of additional allotments to satisfy, in the short term, demand for large lot residential land.

- ♦ *aligning infrastructure and service provision to housing supply needs*

Consistency = This Planning Proposal provides the opportunity for better utilising the recently upgraded infrastructure along Golf Course Road, by creating additional allotments that can effectively connect and efficiently use those services.

3.3.4 Is the planning proposal consistent with a council LSPS that has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary or GSC, or another endorsed local strategy or strategic plan?

Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020-2040 (LSPS)

The Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020-2040 sets out a strategic framework for new and existing development at a local level. The LSPS identifies potential issues and aims to negate those issues through planning priorities and specific actions.

One of the primary strategies for urban development is to ensure that new development, in each of the townships, is located within an identified settlement boundary. The subject site, already zoned R5 Large Lot Residential, is located within the settlement boundary of Dareton as identified in the LSPS. Refer to Figure 8 below.

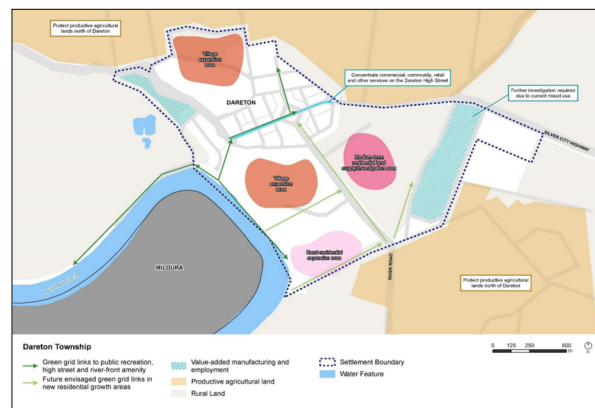


Figure 6 Dareton Settlement Boundary

Source: WSC Local Strategic Planning Statement Map 4 Dareton Township

While the LSPS does not explicitly recommend amending minimum lot sizes of the R5 zone in Dareton, excerpts of the vision statement on Page 11 of the LSPS, that specifically relate to this Planning Proposal, include the following:

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

Council will investigate and review land use pressures to ensure the shire has a complimentary balance of residential and commercial development opportunities to encourage population growth.

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

It is considered that the Planning Proposal is consistent with the LSPS, in that it aims to:

- ♦ Leverage the attraction of the R5 zoned land to generate population growth, by increasing the development density on the subject site
- ♦ Offer additional R5 zoned land with a smaller minimum lot size that is capable for being fully serviced by urban infrastructure

Our Town Our Future – Dareton Revitalised 2021

The aim of the Dareton Strategy is to identify a long-term rejuvenation vision for Dareton, with guidelines and a framework to bring about positive changes and sustainable growth.

The Dareton Strategy includes the following vision for the township:

The Our Town Our Future Dareton Revitalised Strategy is intended to provide a framework for guiding future land use planning decisions and Council's development initiatives in Dareton. The overarching vision of the Strategy has been developed following input from the community survey "Dareton will be a revitalised, sustainable and vibrant town that provides housing diversity, grows local businesses and employment, attracts new residents and a diverse labour force and promotes and respects its rich Indigenous culture and is supported by enhanced public open spaces, functional infrastructure, efficient services and a safe transport network".

While not directly related to Recommendation 7 to increase the total land area of R5 Large Residential zone in Dareton, the intent of the Planning Proposal is to decrease the current minimum lot size, which will result in a minor increase in lot yield and lot availability in this zone.

It is considered that the Planning Proposal is consistent with the Dareton Strategy, in that it aims to:

- ♦ Provide additional diversity in allotment sizes and additional lots for development opportunities in the popular R5 zone to attract new residents

WSC Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (CSP)

Following extensive community consultation, the CSP was developed as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework NSW requirements.

The CSP reflects the vision of the shire community and acts as a reference point for decision making for elected representatives, community members and council staff.

The four key strategies of the CSP include:

Economic – A vibrant, growing and thriving region

Social – A great place to live

Environmental – A community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Civic Leadership – is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner.

Results from community consultation included submissions relating to a desire to see population increase and growth, as the region has seen during the past few years. To encourage and facilitate population growth, which in turn encourages economic growth, land must be available to accommodate that growth.

It is therefore considered that the Planning Proposal is consistent with the CSP through the aim to provide additional available, developable land in the popular R5 zone in Dareton.

3.3.5 Is the planning proposal consistent with any other applicable State and regional studies or strategies?

There are no other known applicable State or regional studies or strategies related to this Planning Proposal.

3.3.6 Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable SEPPs?

Consistency with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) are set out in Appendix 2 State Environmental Planning Policies.

3.3.7 Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable Ministerial Directions (Section 9.1 Directions)?

Consistency with applicable Ministerial Directions under Section 9.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 are set out in Appendix 3 S9.1 Ministerial Directions.

Section C – Environmental, social and economic impact

3.3.8 Is there any likelihood that critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, will be adversely affected because of the proposal?

The entire area of the subject site has been significantly cleared, levelled and developed for agricultural purposes.

As a result of this, there is no likelihood that any critical habitat or threatened species, ecological communities and their habitats exist on site, and therefore, cannot be adversely affected.

3.3.9 Are there any other likely environmental effects of the planning proposal and how are they proposed to be managed?

The outcomes of this Planning Proposal, increasing the number of lots from 7 to 11, will not alter or increase environmental effects or impact on the subject site and its surrounds.

3.3.10 Has the planning proposal adequately addressed any social and economic effects?

The Planning Proposal has briefly referred to the economic benefits of attracting new residents to the Dareton township, as a response to the Dareton Strategy and the CSP.

Section D – Infrastructure (Local, State & Commonwealth)

3.3.11 Is there adequate public infrastructure for the planning proposal?

Development of the subject site will include provision of all urban infrastructure, including access to reticulated sewerage, provision of filtered and raw water, connectivity to power, stormwater provision and availability of telecommunication services. There is adequate infrastructure in place to facilitate the additional 4 lots as a consequence of this Planning Proposal.

Section E – State and Commonwealth Interests

3.3.12 What are the views of state and federal public authorities and government agencies consulted in order to inform the Gateway determination?

Due to the low impact and small nature of the Planning Proposal, relevant state agencies have not yet been consulted.

It is anticipated that relevant agencies and applicable service providers will be consulted through the community consultation process, if required by the Gateway Determination.

3.4 Mapping

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the following Minimum Lot Size map applicable to the subject site, being Lots 551, 719, 506 and 822 DP756961:

- ♦ *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 – Lot Size Map (LSZ_004A)* from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres.

The following figures show the application of the current minimum lot size and the proposed minimum lot size.

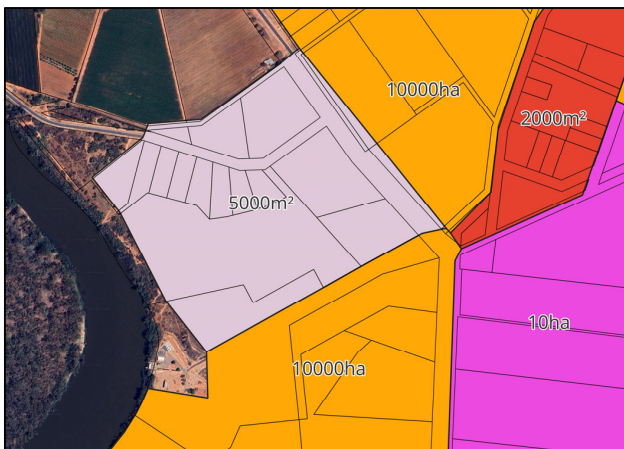


Figure 7 Current Minimum Lot Size (5,000m²)

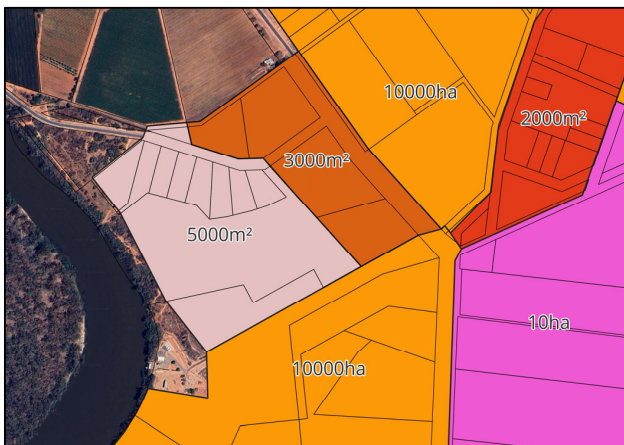


Figure 8 Proposed Minimum Lot Size (3,000m²)

3.5 Consultation

In accordance with Section 3.33(2)(e) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, this section of the Planning Proposal is required to provide details of the community consultation that may need to be undertaken.

Schedule 1, Part 1, Division 1, 4 of the EP&A Act prescribes community consultation timeframes are either determined by the Gateway Determination to be issued, or 28 days. This is also consistent with the timeframe set out in Table 4 of the Wentworth Shire Council Community Participation Plan.

It is anticipated that for this Planning Proposal, the following consultation process will include:

- ♦ Written notification to adjoining landowners
- ♦ Public notice in the local newspaper and on Council's website
- ♦ Display of the Planning Proposal and supporting documentation made available in Council's administrative buildings
- ♦ Planning Proposal documentation made available for public viewing on Council's website

During the consultation period, the following documents will be made available for public viewing:

1. Planning Proposal
2. Gateway Determination
3. All appendices and supporting documentation
4. Relevant Council reports and subsequent resolutions.

Consultation with any relevant state agencies will be determined by the Gateway Determination. It is considered that due to the minor nature of this Planning Proposal, consultation with state agencies may not be required.

At the conclusion of the consultation period, Council will review and consider submissions received regarding the Planning Proposal, and will determine if the Planning Proposal is to be finalised.

3.6 Project Timeline

The *NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Local Planning Guideline December 2021* sets a benchmark timeframe for completion of the Planning Proposal process.

For a standard Planning Proposal, the benchmark is a total of 220 days (working days) for all stages of the process to be completed. This timeframe does not include pre-lodgement of the Planning Proposal with Council.

While it is noted that there are many factors that can influence the timeframe process, the following table provides indicative timeframes for each stage:

Table 1 Indicative Project Timeframe

Stage	Timeframe
Pre-lodgement	May 2023
Planning Proposal	June 2023
Gateway Determination	July 2023
Post Gateway	August 2023
Consultation & Assessment	September-November 2023
Finalisation	December 2023

4. Land Availability

Wentworth Shire continues to experience interest and demand for the supply of development ready land in the R5 Large Lot Residential zone.

Table 2 below shows the relatively steady rate of approvals for development situated on R5 zoned land.

Table 2 Development Applications for R5 zone

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Total R5 DAs	27	31	34	39	21	152
Dareton R5 DAs	3	2	1	3	2	11

The demand has been particularly prevalent in Gol Gol where there has been a steady supply of development ready land during the past several years.

A recent 39 lot subdivision in Gol Gol, where the minimum lot size applied is 3,000 square metres, has not long been listed on Realestate.com and only 8 lots remain unsold. It is common for lots in this zone to be sold 'off the plan', due to the current demand.



Figure 9 Recent 39 lot subdivision

Source: Realestate.com Property ID: 203538908

The take-up of R5 zoned lots in Wentworth has declined, only due to the current lack or shortage of this type of land availability. Of the 22 lots within this zone located north of the Wentworth township, only 1 remains unsold.

In the R5 Large Lot Residential zone in Dareton, there are currently 12 allotments. One allotment has been in situ and developed since the 1980s, while the newer 11 allotments are the direct result from two subdivisions, approved in 2017 and 2018.

All of the 11 relatively recent allotments were sold within 12 to 18 months, following their listing on the real estate market. This indicates that the average demand and take up rate for developable land in this zone in Dareton is approximately greater than 5 lots per year. However, as stated in the Dareton Strategy on page 49:

It must be noted the future lot take-up rate could be much higher based on historical trends and when lots become available, particularly when all seven lots from a subdivision were taken-up within 12 months of completion.

Of those 11 allotments, one remains fully vacant, 3 contain sheds and 7 have dwellings and associated outbuildings.

Table 2 also shows that 11 development approvals have been issued for the subdivided R5 zoned land in Dareton between 2018 and 2022.

At present, there is no land available in the R5 Large Lot Residential zone in Dareton for immediate purchase and subsequent development.

Of the 24 hectares of existing undeveloped R5 zoned land, Council has received confirmation, from the landowners, that 13 hectares will not be available in the short to medium term for development.

This leaves a balance of 11 hectares. With a minimum lot size of 5,000 square metres and consideration of 30% of land area required for roads and public infrastructure for services, this equates to a lot yield of 15 allotments available for development.

Based on the conservative estimate of a take-up rate of 5 lots per year, this equates to a 3 year supply.

This Planning Proposal, through the reduction in the minimum lot size applied to the subject site, will increase the total short term lot yield from 15 to 19 lots.

The proponent has confirmed that, following the reduction in the minimum lot size applied to the subject site, a subsequent development application will be lodged for subdivision approval of the land.

State Environmental Planning Policies

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP)	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Assessment
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021	Y	Y	<p>The aims of this policy are—</p> <p>(a) <i>to protect the biodiversity values of trees and other vegetation in non-rural areas of the State, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>to preserve the amenity of non-rural areas of the State through the preservation of trees and other vegetation.</i></p> <p>The planning proposal does not seek to remove any vegetation but to amend the current minimum lot size provisions.</p> <p>As the planning proposal states, there is little to no vegetation due to previous clearing of the site for agricultural (horticultural) purposes.</p>
State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004	Y	Y	<p>The aims of this policy are –</p> <p>(1) <i>Regulations under the Act have established a scheme to encourage sustainable residential development (the BASIX scheme) under which:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>an application for a development consent, complying development certificate or construction certificate in relation to certain kinds of residential development must be accompanied by a list of commitments by the applicant as to the manner in which the development will be carried out, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the carrying out of residential development pursuant to the resulting development consent, complying development certificate or construction certificate will be subject to a condition requiring such commitments to be fulfilled.</i></p> <p>(2) <i>The aim of this Policy is to ensure consistency in the implementation of the BASIX scheme throughout the State.</i></p> <p>(3) <i>This Policy achieves its aim by overriding provisions of other environmental planning instruments and development control plans that would otherwise add to, subtract from or modify any obligations arising under the BASIX scheme.</i></p> <p>The planning proposal does not detract from the aims of this SEPP.</p>
State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying	Y	Y	<p><i>This Policy aims to provide streamlined assessment processes for development that complies with specified development standards by—</i></p>

Development Codes)
2008

(a) providing exempt and complying development codes that have State-wide application, and

(b) identifying, in the exempt development codes, types of development that are of minimal environmental impact that may be carried out without the need for development consent, and

(c) identifying, in the complying development codes, types of complying development that may be carried out in accordance with a complying development certificate as defined in the Act, and

(d) enabling the progressive extension of the types of development in this Policy, and

(e) providing transitional arrangements for the introduction of the State-wide codes, including the amendment of other environmental planning instruments.

The planning proposal does not detract from the aims of this SEPP.

State Environmental
Planning Policy
(Housing) 2021

Y

Y

The principles of this Policy are as follows—

(a) enabling the development of diverse housing types, including purpose-built rental housing,

(b) encouraging the development of housing that will meet the needs of more vulnerable members of the community, including very low to moderate income households, seniors and people with a disability,

(c) ensuring new housing development provides residents with a reasonable level of amenity,

(d) promoting the planning and delivery of housing in locations where it will make good use of existing and planned infrastructure and services,

(e) minimising adverse climate and environmental impacts of new housing development,

(f) reinforcing the importance of designing housing in a way that reflects and enhances its locality,

(g) supporting short-term rental accommodation as a home-sharing activity and contributor to local economies, while managing the social and environmental impacts from this use,

(h) mitigating the loss of existing affordable rental housing.

The planning proposal does not detract from the principles of this SEPP.

State Environmental
Planning Policy

Y

Y

The aims of Chapter 3 of this policy are -

(a) to ensure that signage (including advertising)—

(Industry and Employment) 2021		<p>(i) is compatible with the desired amenity and visual character of an area, and</p> <p>(ii) provides effective communication in suitable locations, and</p> <p>(iii) is of high quality design and finish, and</p> <p>(b) to regulate signage (but not content) under Part 4 of the Act, and</p> <p>(c) to provide time-limited consents for the display of certain advertisements, and</p> <p>(d) to regulate the display of advertisements in transport corridors, and</p> <p>(e) to ensure that public benefits may be derived from advertising in and adjacent to transport corridors.</p> <p>(2) This Chapter does not regulate the content of signage and does not require consent for a change in the content of signage.</p> <p>The planning proposal does not detract from the aims of this SEPP.</p>
State Environmental Planning Policy No 65 Design Quality of Residential Apartment Development	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	N	<p>This SEPP is not applicable to the planning proposal as the planning proposal is not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State or Regional development - Aboriginal land - Seeking concurrence or consent.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Central River City) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Eastern Harbour City) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Regional) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy	N	

(Western Parkland City) 2021

State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021

N

This planning proposal relates to land within the R5 Large Lot Residential zone.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021

N

This SEPP does not apply as the planning proposal does not relate to:

- land in a coastal environment
- Hazardous or offensive development
- Remediation of land, the site is already zoned R5 Large Lot Residential.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021

N

State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

Y

Y

The planning proposal does not detract from the various aims of this SEPP.

S9.1 Ministerial Directions

Section 9.1 Direction	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Comments/Justification
1. Planning Systems			
1.1 Implementation of Regional Plans	Y	Y	The planning proposal is consistent with the goals, directions and actions as set out in the <i>Far West Regional Plan 2036</i> and the draft <i>Far West Regional Plan 2041</i> . For further details, please refer to Section B Sub-section 3.3.3 of the Planning Proposal.
1.2 Development of Aboriginal Land Council land	N		
1.3 Approval and Referral Requirements	Y	Y	The planning proposal is consistent with this direction as it does not propose any provisions that require concurrence or referral to a Minister or public authority and does not identify designated development.
1.4 – Site Specific Provisions	N		
1.5 Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy	N		
1.6 Implementation of North West Priority Growth Area Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.7 Implementation of Greater Parramatta Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and	N		

Infrastructure Implementation Plan	
1.8 Implementation of Wilton Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N
1.9 Implementation of Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor	N
1.10 Implementation of the western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan	N
1.11 Implementation of Bayside West Precincts 2036 Plan	N
1.12 Implementation of Planning Principles for the Cooks Cove Precinct	N
1.13 Implementation of St Leonards and Crows Nest 2036 Plan	N
1.14 Implementation of Greater Macarthur 2040	N
1.15 Implementation of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy	N
1.16 North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy	N
1.17 Implementation of the Bays West Place Strategy	N

1.18 Implementation of the Macquarie Park Innovation Precinct

N

1.19 Implementation of the Westmead Place Strategy

N

1.20 Implementation of the Camellia-Rosehill Place Strategy

1.21 Implementation of the South West Growth Area Structure Plan

1.22 Implementation of the Cherrybrook Station Place Strategy

2. Design and Place

Nil

3. Biodiversity and Conservation

3.1 Conservation Zones

Y

Y

The planning proposal does not identify any areas of land within or outside of the subject site, that require specific provisions to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas.

3.2 Heritage Conservation

Y

Y

There are no known or registered heritage items, places or objects on the subject site.

3.3 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments

N

3.4 Application of C2 and C3 Zones and Environmental Overlays in Far North Coast LEPs

N

3.5 Recreation Vehicle Areas

Y

Y

The planning proposal does not include provisions for the development and use of recreational vehicle area, as defined by the *Recreation Vehicles Act 1983*.

3.6 Strategic Conservation Planning	N		
3.7 Public Bushland	N		
3.8 Willandra Lakes Region	N		The subject site is not identified as the Willandra Lakes Heritage property.
3.9 Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Waterways Area	N		
3.10 Water Catchment Protection	N		
4. Resilience and Hazards			
4.1 Flooding	N		The subject site is not located on flood prone land.
4.2 Coastal Management	N		
4.3 Planning for Bushfire Protection	N		The subject site is not located on bushfire prone land.
4.4 Remediation of Contaminated Land	Y	Y	The planning proposal is not seeking to rezone the subject land, as the use of the site for large lot residential purposes has previously been determined. The planning proposal seeks to reduce the current minimum lot size from 5,000 sqm to 3,000 sqm.
4.5 Acid Sulphate Soils	N		The subject site is not identified as containing acid sulphate soils.
4.6 Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land	N		
5. Transport and Infrastructure			
5.1 Integrating Land Use and Transport	Y	Y	The planning proposal seeks to increase the number of permissible lots through a reduction in the minimum lot size. It is considered that the minor nature of the planning proposal will not have a detrimental impact on the integration of the residential land use and transport.
5.2 Reserving Land for Public Purposes	Y	Y	The planning proposal does not create, alter or reduce land reserved for public purposes.

5.3 Development
Near Regulated
Airports and Defence
Airfields

N

5.4 Shooting Ranges

N

6. Housing

6.1 Residential
Zones

Y

Y

The planning proposal is consistent with this direction as it broadens the choice of lot sizes in the R5 zone. It will also make more efficient use of the available infrastructure and services, as a result of the minor intensification of development on the subject land.

There are adequate services and associated infrastructure to support the minor intensified development of the subject land.

6.2 Caravan Parks
and Manufactured
Home Estates

N

7. Industry and Employment

7.1 Business and
Industrial Zones

N

7.2 Reduction in
Non-Hosted Short-
term Rental
Accommodation
period

N

7.3 Commercial and
Retail Development
along the Pacific
Highway North Coast

N

8. Resources and Energy

8.1 Mining,
Petroleum
Production and
Extractive Industries

N

The planning proposal does not impact mining, petroleum or extractive industries.

9. Primary Production

9.1 Rural Zones

N

The planning proposal is not seeking to rezone from or to a rural zone.

9.2 Rural Lands	N	The zone of the subject site is not rural or conservation.
-----------------	---	--

9.3 Oyster Aquaculture	N	
------------------------	---	--

9.4 Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast	N	
--	---	--



James Golsworthy Consulting

140 Pine Avenue Mildura VIC 3500
PO Box 1650 Mildura VIC 3502

telephone 03 5022 8411

email admin@jgconsult.com.au

www.jgconsult.com.au





Our Reference:
 Prepared By: George Kenende
 Date:

PLANNING PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

Application Details

Application No: L1/99

Applicant: James Golsworthy Consulting

Proposal Summary: Reduce the minimum lot size (MLS) of four (4) allotment from 5000 sqm to 3000 sqm

Land Owner/s: Devine Holdings PTY LTD, Michael Gorman, Sharon Gorman and Jeffrey Nicholls

Assessment Officer: George Kenende, Strategic Development Officer

Site and Locality Details

Subject Land: Lot 506, 551, 719 & 822 DP 756961

Current LEP provisions: Minimum Lot Size of the subject site is 5000sqm

Current DCP Provisions: None applicable

Proposed amendment controls: Reduction of minimum lot size to 3000sqm

Existing Character and Use: The subject land is located at the corner of Gold Course Road and River Road in the locality of Dareton. The subject site contains a dwelling, farm structures and horticultural crops on Lot 506 DP 756961. The rest of the subject site is vacant land historically used for horticulture. Refer to Figure 1.

The planning proposal states that the site is not sed for productive horticulture, however, the aerial imagery shows some form of small scale cropping activity occurring on Lot 506 DP 756961.

Locality: The land to the north of the subject site is a R5 zoned stormwater channel with a width of approx. 11m. The land north of the channel is undeveloped and zoned RU5 Village, however development approval has recently been granted for 53 lot subdivision on that land.

The land directly to the south of the subject site is also zoned R5 Large Lot Residential with a minimum lot size of 5,000 square metres. The land immediately adjacent to the south is also R5 zone and is in public ownership (Crowned owned land) and therefore unlikely to be developed.

The properties to the east are zoned RU1 Primary Production and currently under horticultural crop. The properties to the west are zoned R5 and used for residential purposes with dwellings and ancillary structures.

The subject site can be accessed from River Road (east) and Golf Course Road (east and west).

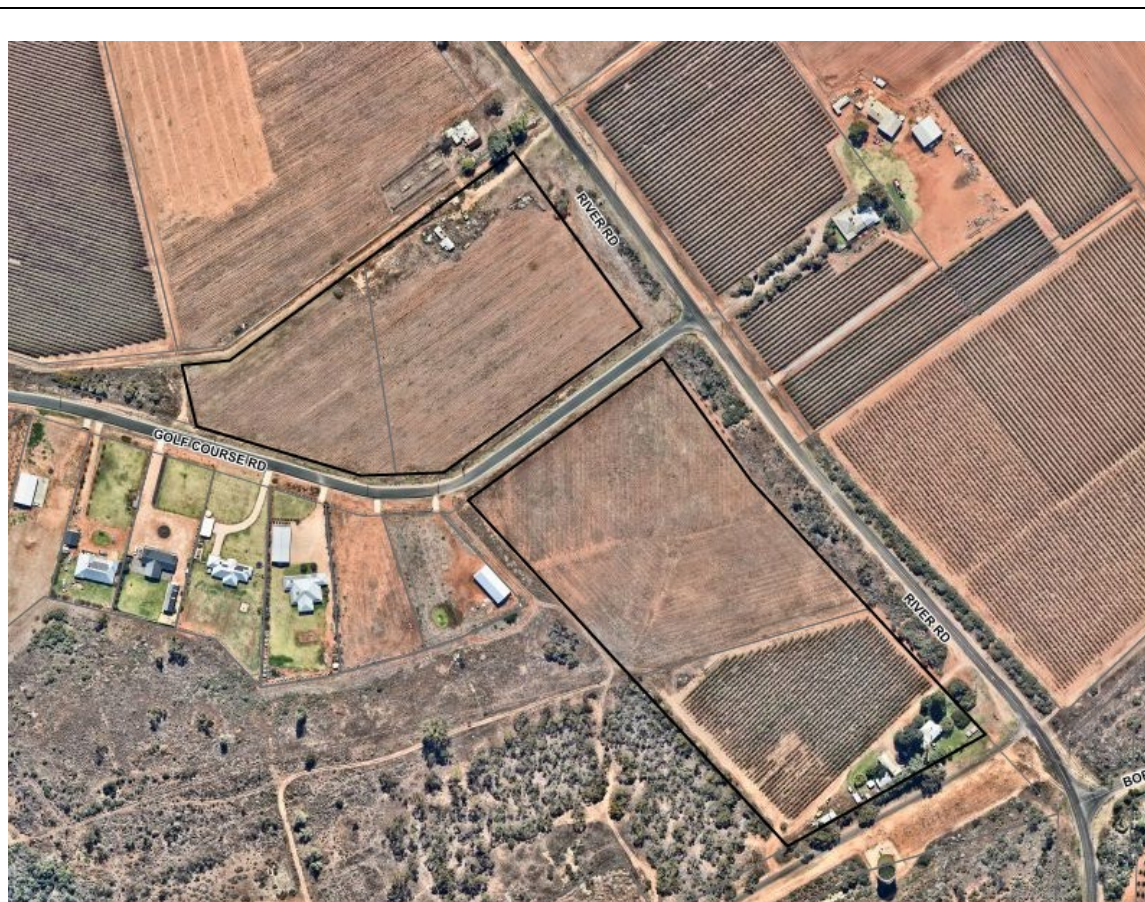


Figure 1: Site location

Planning Proposal

Council is in receipt of an application to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP) to:

1. Reduce the minimum lot size of the subject land from 5000sqm to 3000sqm.

The planning proposal outlines the purpose of the proposal to:

- a) Enable an increase of lot yield from the subject site by 7 allotment
- b) Given effect to Council's local strategic documents.



Figure 2: Current and Proposed minimum lot size

The applicant's description of the proposal, including supporting information and conceptual plans are provided in Attachment 1 Planning Proposal.

Strategic Assessment

1. Consistency with WSC Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032

The planning proposal seeks to reduce the minimum lot size of the subject site to allow the opportunity for 7 additional allotments once subdivided. This was in line with public desire for population growth and development.

Consistent

2. Consistency with WSC Local Strategic Planning Statement

In addition to the response to the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) outlined on Page 10 of the Planning Proposal, referring to *Planning Priority 6 Sustainable Settlements*, the LSPS also identifies the necessity of ensuring that *provide a range of housing options* in new development in settlement areas.

Consistent

3. Consistency with any other relevant strategy/study/report

The Our Town Our Future – Dareton Revitalised 2021 identifies the revitalisation vision for Dareton with short and long-term strategies.

The planning proposal is in line with a key objective of the strategy "*Stimulate diverse residential development at appropriate locations in the town*". The reduction of the minimum lot size will allow smaller residential blocks while still being in line with the rural residential lifestyle expected from R5 zoned lands.

Consistent

4. Consistency with Far West Regional Plan 2036

The planning proposal addresses and shows consistency with *Direction 27 Provide greater housing choice* and *Direction 29 Manage rural residential development*.

The planning proposal does not seek to rezone rural land to residential, but reduce the MLS of an existing rural residential zoned lands.

Consistent

5. Consistency with Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041

The planning proposal addresses and shows consistency with *Objective 6 Plan for housing supply, diversity, affordability and resilience.*

6. Consistency with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies

Refer to Table 1 below.

7. Consistency with applicable Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions

Refer to Table 2 below.

Table 1: State Environmental Planning Policies consistency assessment

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP)	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Assessment
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021	Y	Y	Besides landscape plantings the site is fairly devoid of vegetation due to its previous use for horticulture. There will be not removal of vegetation required. Due to the lack of native vegetation on site, it is considered that the site is not potential or core koala habitat. The site is not riverine land.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021	Y	Y	The planning proposal will result in the potential of additional 7 allotments and will therefore add to the existing stock of land available for residential development.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy No 65 Design Quality of Residential Apartment Development	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	N		



Our Reference:
 Prepared By: George Kenende
 Date:

State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Central River City) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Eastern Harbour City) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Regional) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Parkland City) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021	N	The site relates to land zoned R5 Large Lot Residential.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	N	The site is already zoned R5 Large Lot Residential with any potentially contamination addressed during the assessment of building works
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021	N	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021	Y Y	The application is inline with the objectives of the SEPP. Infrastructure is accessible to all new allotments.

Table 2: Ministerial Directions consistency assessment

Section 9.1 Direction	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Comments/Justification
1. Planning Systems			
1.1 Implementation of Regional Plans	Y	Y	<p>Based on the objective of this planning proposal the following Directions of the <i>Far West Regional Plan 2036</i> are considered to be relevant and consistent:</p> <p><i>Direction 27 Provide greater housing choice and</i> <i>Direction 29 Manage rural residential development.</i></p> <p>Based on the objective of this planning proposal the following Objectives of the <i>Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041</i> are considered to be relevant and consistent:</p> <p><i>Objective 6 Plan for housing supply, diversity, affordability and resilience</i></p>

1.2 Development of Aboriginal Land Council land	N		
1.3 Approval and Referral Requirements	Y	Y	The planning proposal is consistent with direction.
1.4 Site Specific Provisions	N		
1.5 Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy	N		
1.6 Implementation of North West Priority Growth Area Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.7 Implementation of Greater Parramatta Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.8 Implementation of Wilton Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.9 Implementation of Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor	N		
1.10 Implementation of the western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan	N		
1.11 Implementation of Bayside West Precincts 2036 Plan	N		
1.12 Implementation of Planning Principles for the Cooks Cove Precinct	N		
1.13 Implementation of St Leonards and Crows Nest 2036 Plan	N		
1.14 Implementation of Greater Macarthur 2040	N		
1.15 Implementation of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy	N		
1.16 North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy	N		
1.17 Implementation of the Bays West Place Strategy	N		



Our Reference:
 Prepared By: George Kenende
 Date:

2. Design and Place			
2.1 Not yet applied			
3. Biodiversity and Conservation			
3.1 Conservation Zones	Y	Y	The subject site is already mainly cleared for horticulture
3.2 Heritage Conservation	N		
3.3 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments	N		
3.4 Application of C2 and C3 Zones and Environmental Overlays in Far North Coast LEPs	N		
3.5 Recreation Vehicle Areas	N		
4. Resilience and Hazards			
4.1 Flooding	N		The subject site is not subject to flooding.
4.2 Coastal Management	N		
4.3 Planning for Bushfire Protection	N		The subject site is not bushfire mapped.
4.4 Remediation of Contaminated Land	N		Existing residential zoned land and any contamination addressed at building stage
4.5 Acid Sulfate Soils	N		
4.6 Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land	N		
5. Transport and Infrastructure			
5.1 Integrating Land Use and Transport	Y	Y	The planning proposal is considered consistent with direction as the subject site is located on a connector road, has access to services and infrastructure.
5.2 Reserving Land for Public Purposes	N		
5.3 Development Near Regulated Airports and Defence Airfields	N		
5.4 Shooting Ranges	N		
6. Housing			
6.1 Residential Zones	Y	Y	The subject land is already zoned residential and the planning proposal aims to increase variety of rural residential land available. This planning proposal is considered consistent with this direction.
6.2 Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates	N		No change to the land use on the subject land proposed.
7. Industry and Employment			
7.1 Employment zones	N		

7.2 Reduction in Non-Hosted Short-term Rental Accommodation period	N		
7.3 Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway North Coast	N		
8. Resources and Energy			
8.1 Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries	N		
9. Primary Production			
9.1 Rural Zones	N		
9.2 Rural Lands	N		
9.3 Oyster Aquaculture	N		
9.4 Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast	N		

Site Assessment*Suitability of site for proposal*

The site is deemed suitable for the proposal because of the demand for more diverse sized rural residential land within Dareton. The land is already zoned R5 Large Lot Residential and the planning proposal will not change any uses currently existing or permissible on the land.

Infrastructure

There is adequate infrastructure to support the outcomes of the planning proposal. Power, sewer, filtered and raw water and stormwater infrastructure is located in the vicinity of the land.

Consultation*Internal consultation*

Roads and Engineering Department

External consultation

Department of Planning & Environment

Financial Implications

Council's 2021/2022 Fees and Charges includes a fee for planning proposals which is \$7,885.90. This fee was partially waived by \$2,628.63. A lodgement fee of \$5,257.26 has been paid by the proponent.

Should the planning proposal proceed and an amendment to the LEP be made, the contribution plan will apply to future development on the subject site.

Recommended Amendments

Minor amendments to the project timeframe are as follows:

Stage	Timeframe
Pre-lodgement	July 2023



Our Reference:
 Prepared By: George Kenende
 Date:

Planning proposal	August 2023
Gateway determination	October 2023
Post Gateway	October – November 2023
Consultation & Assessment	November – December 2023
Finalisation	February 2024

Conclusion and Recommendation

That Council:

1. Support the planning proposal to amend the Wentworth LEP 2011 by reduction the Minimum Lot Size of the subject site from 5000 square metres to 3000 square metres
2. Submit the planning proposal to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for Gateway Determination

9.10 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - AUGUST 2023

File Number: RPT/23/460

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Jamie-Lee Kelly - Administration Officer

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

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

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 months of July 2023 and the planned activities for August 2023.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in July 2023 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Detailed Report

Refer below for updates of the works completed in July 2023, and the planned activities for August 2023.

Project and Works Update for July 2023	
Roads	<p><u>River Road Flood Repairs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line marking complete <p><u>Boeill Creek Road Flood Repairs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line marking Complete <p><u>Pooncarie Menindee Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant and equipment have been relocated to site, with base earth works approximately 50% complete and placing of gravel 20% complete. <p><u>Heavy Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program, heavy grading works are currently being undertaken on the Anabranche Mail Road and sections of the High Darling Road <p><u>Silver City Highway Curlwaa Vegetation Clearing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The clearing of vegetation extending from the west side of Wakefield Lane to the guard rail east of Manly Road was undertaken to improve the line of sight of vehicle users, and clean up beside the shared way that extends from Curlwaa to Wentworth township. See attachment 1
Projects	<p><u>Gol Gol East Raw Water System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jetty structure piles constructed and service water line installed

Junction Island Bridge

- Demolition and Installation Tender awarded to Teleo Design.
- Initial meeting held with Teleo Design on site.

Jockey Changerooms

- Minor works progressing on upgrading the existing Secretary's office.
- Racing NSW Stewards provided approval to proceed with the changeroom proposal
- Quotations being sort for the demountable toilet/changeroom.

Pink Lake

- Consultation with Public Works commenced to assess pipe loading. Public Works are considering both ductile iron (flange – flange) and Heavy Duty Polyethylene.

Wentworth Effluent Disposal System (EDS)

- Council accepted the Wentworth Effluent Disposal System tender pending funding.
- Funding approval confirmed through Boating Now late July.
- Contract documentation to be signed by successful contractor.

Willow Bend Caravan Park

- Stormwater works recommenced through the western half of the site.
- Two lanes complete.
- Western discharge main 50% complete.

Amenities Blocks

- Sub-floor and ramp welding complete.

Buronga Toilet Block

- Tender documents being compiled.

Buronga Shared Path

- Works programmed to follow Gol Gol Shared Path Tender.

Pine Road Shared Path

- Excavation and setout complete, concrete pours nearing completion.

Wood Street Shared Path

- Works programmed to follow Pine Road Tender.

Wood Street & Gol Gol North Road Shared Path

- Works programmed to follow Wood Street Shared Path Tender.

Wood Street Road Widening & Kerb

- Design altered due to adjoining land owners request.
- Excavation complete, kerb and laybacks poured.
- Sub-base and base works under way.

Pooncarie Sporting Reserve

- Investigation into canteen upgrade works in progress.

Dareton Toilet Block

- Investigations have commenced into the viability of a new toilet block for Dareton main street.

Wentworth Rowing Club Building

- Rowing Club Executives have met to discuss the upstairs option and deemed it unfeasible and the demountable building option should be considered further.
- A meeting was convened for Monday 31 July with Council officers and rowing club to progress the works.

O'Donnell Park Toilet Block – vehicle strike

- Contractor engaged and damaged section of masonry wall removed.
- Works expected to be completed by late August.
- Signage installed explaining Male toilet to be used as Unisex toilet until works are completed.

Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant Drainage Upgrade

- Site handed to contractor.
- Pits and pipes delivered.
- Earthworks commenced.

Dareton to Namatiira Sharedway

- Preliminary design undertaken for Transport for NSW (TfNSW) review.

George Gordon Sporting Complex Netball Court upgrade

- Core samples taken of existing geotechnical conditions
- Project specification to be finalised.

Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1

- Detailed design works have been completed for the Rose Street Stormwater upgrade.
- Consultation with Public Works commenced to provide a fee proposal to undertake a Technical Specification and Contract Documentation.

	<p><u>Wentworth Sewer Repairs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30m sewer blockage within the Wentworth Primary School Oval, 6m deep. • 150 mm diameter clay pipe being replaced with PVC pipe. • Installation of a dewatering system to pump out groundwater along the pipeline. • Closure of Arthur St required for bypass pumping.
--	---

Projects and Works scheduled for August 2023

Roads	<p><u>Heavy Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded by the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program, heavy grading works will continue on the Anabranche Mail Road, Old Broken Hill Road and possibly the Roo Roo Road <p><u>Pooncarie Menindee Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of carting of gravel and commencement of compaction and shaping works
Projects	<p><u>Gol Gol East Raw Water System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jetty concrete repairs and strengthening to be completed. • Construction on new support beams to commence. <p><u>Junction Island Bridge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender process to finalise. • Negotiations to commence with successful tenderer. <p><u>Pink Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional design material to be provided by Public Works. <p><u>Wentworth EDS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender contracts to be finalised early August. <p><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater installation works to continue along the western boundary and main entrance through road, with both expected to be completed during August. • Works will also continue on water main installations. <p><u>Amenities Blocks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooring to be installed early August. • Frames to be stood. • Roof to be installed. • Initial rough-in works to commence. • Internal cladding to commence late August to early September.

Buronga Toilet Block

- Complete tender documents and release to market place.

Buronga Shared Path

- Works programed to follow Gol Gol Shared Path Tender.

Pine Road Shared Path

- Works to be completed by end August.

Wood Street Shared Path

- Excavation and set out with continuous concrete pours to be under taken.

Wood Street & Gol Gol North Road Shared Path

- Works programmed to follow Wood Street Shared Path.

Wood Street Road Widening

- Sub-base and base layers to be completed
- Seal works to be under taken

Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant New Fencing & Auto Gates

- Works to commence in early August.

Wentworth & Dareton Landfill Cabins

- Old generator & caravan to be removed in coming weeks.

Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant – Drainage Works

- Earthworks to continue.
- Concrete plinth installation around lagoon edges to begin.

Dareton to Namatjira Sharedway

- Preliminary design to be completed.
- TfNSW to review and provide feedback.
- Notification of works to be provided to residents.

George Gordon Sporting Complex Netball Court upgrade

- Survey and design works to be completed.

Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1

- Public Works to complete Technical Specification and Contract documentation.
- Works to be tendered late August.

Wentworth Sewer Repairs

- De–watering process, installation and replacement of new sewer to be complete by 2nd week of August.
- Restoration works of the oval to commence following reinstatement of excavation.

Flood Recovery Works

Flood Recovery

Junction Park

- River bank erosion beside the tower has been repaired.
- 2 x switchboards - Flood recovery funding expired, quotes will be required to replace and funding sought. Both switchboards are operational.

Wentworth Ski Reserve

- Replacement toilet block ordered – arrival ETA mid-August
- RFQ to rebuild toilet block issued – successful contractor given one month to complete works.
- Toilet block structural completion late September, electrical work to follow immediately after. Opening in October.
- Old boat ramp solar light assembly removed, new solar light pole footings installed.
- New pole and solar head to be installed by mid-August.

Wentworth Wharf & Riverfront

- Underground power supply lost to the park lamp posts, lights under the wharf and some ground lights. Contractor to undertake repairs once higher priority Council works are complete - flood funding will not cover repairs – alternative funding to be sought to undertake works.
- Park lights come under Essential Energy who are rectifying the issue – Essential Energy relinquished ownership, now a Council asset. Repairs will be undertaken with above electrical repairs - flood funding will not cover repairs – alternative funding to be sought to undertake works.

Attachments

1. Silver City Highway Curlwaa Vegetation Clearing[↓](#)
2. Pooncarie Menindee Road Project[↓](#)
3. Junction Park Landscaping[↓](#)
4. Pine Road Footpath[↓](#)
5. Wood Street Kerb and Footpath[↓](#)
6. Wentworth School Oval Sewer[↓](#)
7. Willow Bend Stormwater[↓](#)
8. Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant[↓](#)





02/08/2023 14:35

















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 Purchase of land - 5 Wakefield Lane part Lot 17 DP 807828 Curlwaa. (RPT/23/468)

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 (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. 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.

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 PURCHASE OF LAND - 5 WAKEFIELD LANE PART LOT 17 DP 807828 CURLWAA

File Number: RPT/23/468

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

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

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

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 (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. 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.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

20 September 2023