



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 **7:00PM**.

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

20 MARCH 2024

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

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

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we live and work, and pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging.

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 21 February 2024 be confirmed as circulated.



ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

21 FEBRUARY 2024

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

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

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

A minutes silence was observed to pay respect to Councillor Steve Heywood, a sitting Councillor who passed away on Wednesday 7 February 2024.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Steve Cooper
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Tim Elstone
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
George Kenende (Acting Director Health and Planning)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)
Hannah Nicholas (Business Support Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Council Resolution

That Council notes the apology from Cr MacAllister.

Moved Cr Elstone, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Nichols advised that she had a less than significant pecuniary interest in Item 9.5 and 9.6 as the Wentworth Bowling Club is mentioned and she is the president.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 24 January 2024 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 24 January 2024 be confirmed as amended.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/24/54

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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

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 14 February 2024.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 14 February 2024.

Moved Cr Cooper, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/55

Recommendation

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

Mayoral Minute

That Council request a ministerial order to dispense of the need to have a by-election under Section 294 of the *Local Government Act 1993* following the passing of Cr Stephen Heywood.

Moved Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I would like to place on record our gratitude for the life and contribution of Cr Stephen Heywood. Steve was a strong and passionate advocate for all rural issues but always based his decision-making on what was best for Wentworth Shire. Steve was first elected to Council in 2016 and was re-elected in 2021 and served on multiple committees, until he lost his health battle recently. Cr Heywood will be remembered as a gentleman and will be missed by his fellow Councillors, Council officers, and all who knew him. On behalf of Council, I extend our sincere condolences to Andria, Jason & Kylie, Shannon and their families.

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Cr Nichols gave a verbal report on the Australia Day Event held at the Coomealla Club on 25 January 2024.

Cr Rodda gave a verbal report from the Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc meeting regarding their Why Not Winter in Wentworth campaign.

Cr Rodda gave a verbal report from the Australian Inland Botanic Garden meeting in relation to the Magenta Art Prize.

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/56

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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

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 24-01
2. Meetings
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed
4. Other items of note
Nil

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. Elstone, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 REQUEST FOR FUNDING - SPORT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

File Number: RPT/24/103

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

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

Council is in receipt of a request for financial assistance from the Sport Aircraft Association of Australia for their annual Ausfly 2024 event to be held at the at the Wentworth Aerodrome on 22 - 23 March 2024. This is the first year the event will take place in Wentworth. The Association is requesting financial support of \$25,000 from Council toward the event.

Recommendation

That Council nominate a level of support for the event as listed within the options section of the report

Council Resolution

That Council allocate \$25,000 of funds to the Sport Aircraft Association of Australia toward the Ausfly 2024 event and approve a budget variation for \$25,000 on the proviso that the event organiser complete a set of requested criteria including visitor data, an event acquittal and inclusion of the Wentworth Shire Council in their promotional material and advertising.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - JANUARY 2023

File Number: RPT/24/63

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

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

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

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of January 2024 were \$291,395.00. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 67.06%. For comparison purposes 63.72% of the levy had been collected at the end of January 2023. Council currently has \$44,674,246.38 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 Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - JANUARY 2023

File Number: RPT/24/67

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 of 31 January 2024, Council had \$40 million invested in term deposits and \$4,674,246.38 in other cash investments. Council received \$143,739.65 from its investments for the month of January 2023.

In January 2023 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.73% and it currently has \$9,535,581.71 of internal restrictions and \$33,120,672.44 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 Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 DECEMBER QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - SECOND QUARTER 2023 - 2024

File Number: RPT/24/66

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

Summary

A full analysis of Council's Income, Operating Expenditure and Capital Expenditure has been undertaken. Several 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.

In the December Quarter the result of net variances if approved are an unfavourable operational variance of \$2,550,000 and a favourable capital variance of \$4,086,000 resulting in a total favourable budget variation of \$1,536,000.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Note the 2023/2024 Second Quarter Budget Review
- b) Approve the proposed revised 2023/2024 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Note the 2023/2024 Second Quarter Budget Review
- b) Approve the proposed revised 2023/2024 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.

Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/68

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: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

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.

Recommendation

That Council notes the report

Council Resolution

That Council notes the report

Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

File Number: RPT/24/73

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 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 \$2,817.00 and the total value of requests granted in full is \$46,864.42

The total value of requests received for the 1 November 2023 – 29 January 2024 funding application period totals \$4,816.00, which if granted in full would leave a balance in the financial assistance program of \$32,528.58.

Financial Assistance Program starting balance 2023/24	\$200,000.00
Annual fees & charges annual exemptions granted	\$112,974.00
Granted under delegated authority to 30 October 2023	\$ 1,553.00
Value of approved requests August 2023 Council Meeting	\$ 33,374.80
Value of approved requests November 2023 Council Meeting	\$ 13,489.62
Granted under delegated authority 1 November 2023 – 29 January 2024	\$ 1,264.00
Available balance as at 30/1/2024	\$ 37,344.58
Request applications received 1 November 2023 – 29 January 2024	\$ 4,816.00
Remaining balance if all approved	\$ 32,528.58

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.

Council Resolution

That Council having considered the request for financial assistance from the Wentworth Rowing Club approve the amount of \$3,700.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That Council approves a fee waiver subject to the available location and conditions as specified by the User Groups being suitable to the Mildura Horse Complex.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED

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

Against the Motion: *Clr. Nichols.*

9.8 WENTWORTH CIVIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT BUDGET

File Number: RPT/24/94

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

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region
Strategy: 1.1 Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries

Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 October 2022 Council considered a report in relation to the acceptance of tenders for the Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment project and the adoption of the approved project budget.

As part of the project budget review process, it has come to the attention of the Project Control Group that there was a discrepancy between the project parameters that GSD and CPM were working within and the budget figure that Council was using to monitor the progress of the project.

A review of the Council report of 26 October 2022 identified that the conclusion of the report recommended that Council approve a budget with an upper limit for \$650,000 inclusive of GST for the nominated provisional items within the GSD summary document however, this was inadvertently left out of the final Council resolution.

To resolve the issue a resolution from Council is required to account for the \$650,000 of provisional items that was left out of the original Council resolution. This will ensure proper alignment between the intended budget and the project parameters.

Recommendation

That Council amend the Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Budget by \$650,000 GST inclusive to account for the nominated provisional items.

Council Resolution

That Council amend the Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Budget by \$650,000 GST inclusive to account for the nominated provisional items.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 LIFTING OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONE - WENTWORTH DISTRICT ROWING CLUB ANNUAL EASTER REGATTA

File Number: RPT/24/95

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning
Responsible Division: Health and Planning
Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

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

Council has received a request from the Wentworth District Rowing Club to lift the alcohol- free zone for the Rowing Club and immediate lawn area for one event.

The Wentworth District Rowing Club has sought approval for the suspension of the alcohol- free zone in past years for community events.

There have been no incidents or problems in past events that would warrant Council refusing the temporary lifting of the alcohol-free zone as requested.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) In accordance with Section 645 of the Local Government Act 1993, suspends the operation of the alcohol-free zone in the area of the Wentworth Rowing Club and Lawns as shown on the map attached to this report for the periods 29 March 2024 from 5pm to 10pm, 30 March 2024 from 12pm to 10pm and 31 March 2024 from 12pm to 8pm.
- b) Advertises the suspension of the alcohol-free zone in a locally circulated newspaper and Councils website
- c) Advises the NSW Police of the details of the suspensions of the alcohol-free zone.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) In accordance with Section 645 of the Local Government Act 1993, suspends the operation of the alcohol-free zone in the area of the Wentworth Rowing Club and Lawns as shown on the map attached to this report for the periods 29 March 2024 from 5pm to 10pm, 30 March 2024 from 12pm to 10pm and 31 March 2024 from 12pm to 8pm.
- b) Advertises the suspension of the alcohol-free zone in a locally circulated newspaper and Councils website
- c) Advises the NSW Police of the details of the suspensions of the alcohol-free zone.

Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/75

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 January 2024 and the planned activities for February 2024.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in January 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in January 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 INTEGRATED WATER RECYCLE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Cr Tim Elstone requested an update on the Integrated Water Recycle Management Plan.

The Director of Roads and Engineering advised that the issues paper will be presented to Council in March. The draft Strategy will be presented to Council in October.

10.2 FOOTPATH IN MURRAY STREET

Cr Brian Beaumont requested that consideration be given to a footpath in Murray Street.

The General Manager advised that the Murray Street footpath will form part of the Murray Street development.

10.3 LIVINGSTONE DRIVE GREENSPACE

Cr Jo Rodda advised that the sprinkler system in the greenspace area in Livingstone Drive has been damaged and this has been reported to Council but not fixed.

11 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 7:53pm.

NEXT MEETING

20 March 2024

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/24/122

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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

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 13 March 2024.

Attachments

1. Outstanding Actions as at 13 March 2024 [↓](#)

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/123

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Linklater for the period of 22 February 2024 – 20 March 2024.

Recommendation

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

Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Linklater for the period of 22 February 2024 – 20 March 2024.

Date	Meeting	Location
22 Feb 2024	Meeting with Bruce Munro	Mildura
26 Feb 2024	Murray Darling Association Region 4 Meeting	Mildura
28 Feb 2024	Caravan Park Walkthrough	Wentworth
28 Feb 2024	Cyber Security Training via Cyber Security NSW	Wentworth
5 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
5 Mar 2024	Mildura Living Magazine Launch	Mildura
12 Mar 2024	Tourism & Events Engagement Workshop	Dareton
13 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
13 Mar 2024	Governor of NSW Visit	Mungo
14 Mar 2024	Buronga Landfill Future Operations Presentation	Wentworth
18 Mar 2024	Community Bank & Wentworth Districts 25 th Birthday	Curlwaa
19 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Local Government Finance Training	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Presentation from Iluka	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

Attachments

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

File Number: RPT/24/119

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: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

A meeting of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee were held on 9 February 2024 and the draft Minutes for the meeting have been separately circulated for the information of Councillors.

The Committee considered the following item of business:

- Audit Office of NSW Update
- IT General Controls Internal Audit and Internal Audit update
- Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Update
- 2024/2025 Budget Update
- Delegations Framework
- Quarterly Fraud Report
- Procurement Review Action Plan Update
- Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report
- Quarterly Budget Review – Second Quarter 2023-2024
- Quarterly report on Legislative Updates
- Child Safe Standards Implementation Update

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meetings held on 9 February 2024

Additional Information

A meeting of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee was held on 9 February 2024. The agenda for the meeting covered the following areas of responsibilities as defined in the Committee's Terms of Reference:

Internal Audit

Principle

That Council has an effective internal audit function and receives maximum value from its internal audit activities.

- Council's Internal Auditor RSD Audit presented the scope of works for the proposed WHS Audit as outlined in the Internal Audit Work Plan.
- Internal Auditors presented the final report on the outcomes of the IT General Controls Audit and an overview of recent reports and publications by government agencies and other sources that may impact on public sector agencies.

External Audit

Principle

That Council receives maximum value from its external audit activities.

- The committee considered a standard report item being an update from the Audit Office of NSW and its approved service provider Nexia Australia. Nexia and the Audit Office are currently developing the Annual Engagement Plan for the audit of the 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements.

Risk Management

Principle

That Council has an effective risk management framework that successfully identifies and manages the risks it faces.

- Council's Internal Auditor RSD Audit presented the scope of works for the proposed WHS Audit as outlined in the Internal Audit Work Plan.
- Internal Auditors presented the final report on the outcomes of the IT General Controls Audit and an overview of recent reports and publications by government agencies and other sources that may impact on public sector agencies.
- The General Manager provided a quarterly fraud report.
- The General Manager and the Director Corporate Services presented an update on the Civic Centre Redevelopment project.
- Quarterly report on Legislative Updates was tabled with the Committee as requested at the previous meeting.
- An update on the implementation of the Child Safe Standards was provided to the Committee.
- The Committee reviewed Council's Delegations Framework as outlined in the Annual Work Plan

Financial Management

Principle

That Council has an effective financial management framework, sustainable financial position, and positive financial performance.

- The Committee reviewed the procedures for management review and consideration of the financial position and performance of Council by:
 - Considering the quarterly budget review for the second quarter of the 2023-2024 Financial Year

- The Director Corporate Services provided an update on the process of the 2024-2025 budget.

Strategic Planning

Principle

That Council has an effective framework that ensures it achieves its strategic plans and objectives under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework.

- The Committee reviewed and advised Council on whether Council is successfully implementing and achieving its IP&R objectives and strategies by
 - Considering the Quarterly Operational Plan Report for the period July 2023 - December 2024.

Service Reviews and Business Improvement

Principle

That Council has an effective framework to ensure it is delivering services and conducting its businesses and functions to an expected standard.

Section 428A(2)(g) and Section 428A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) now requires Council to undertake regular service reviews to ensure that it is delivering services and conducting its business and functions to an expected level, and the community is receiving value for money for the services it receives.

- The Committee reviewed the progress of implementing the recommendations of the Procurement Review.

Attachments

1. Minutes - Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee 09 February 2024 (Under separate cover)⇒

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/124

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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

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 24-03

2. Meetings

As listed

3. Upcoming meetings or events

As listed

4. Other items of note

Council has been officially notified that under delegation from the Minister for Local Government and pursuant to section 294(2)a of the *Local Government Act 1993* the casual vacancy in civic office, following the passing of the Late Councillor Stephen Heywood, not be filled. This means that Council may dispense with the need to conduct a by-election to fill this casual vacancy.

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

1. Circulars

Circular 24-03

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has published a revised framework for issuing performance and suspension orders. The revised framework has been updated so that it is consistent with current statutory requirements.

Key Points

- The revised framework, and information sheets for Councils and members of the public are available on OLG's website.
- Councils are responsible for their own performance.
- The Minister for Local Government and OLG continues to encourage and support councils to voluntarily take actions to improve.

- Performance improvement, compliance, and suspension orders may be used to ensure Councils and individual Councillors take the actions required to address the performance issues.
- Decision on what action should be taken will be based on the nature and seriousness of the performance issue and the response of the Council.

2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 22 February 2024 – 20 March 2024.

Date	Meeting	Location
22 Feb 2024	Meeting with Bruce Munro	Wentworth
27 Feb 2024	Regional Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Balranald
28 Feb 2024	Caravan Park Walkthrough	Wentworth
1 Mar 2024	Buronga Landfill Update	Video Conference
5 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
5 Mar 2024	Meeting with BMEET	Coomealla
7 Mar 2024	Wentworth Country Music Festival Meeting	Dareton
7 Mar 2024	Caravan Park Meeting	Wentworth
7 Mar 2024	Meeting with Brett Saunders	Wentworth
7 Mar 2024	Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Site Meeting	Wentworth
13 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
13 Mar 2024	Governor of NSW Visit	Mungo
14 Mar 2024	Buronga Landfill Future Operations Meeting	Wentworth
15 Mar 2024	Drought Plan PCG Meeting	Video Conference
19 Mar 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Presentation from Iluka	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
20 Mar 2024	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 21 March 2024 – 17 April 2024.

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
21 Mar 2024	Wentworth Shire Interagency Group Meeting	Cr MacAllister, Cr Rodda	Buronga
21 Mar 2024	One Basin CRC Dinner Event	Cr Nichols	Mildura
25 Mar 2024	MRCC & WSC Joint Meeting	Councillors	Mildura

27 Mar 2024	Flood Risk Management Committee Meeting	Mayor, Deputy Mayor & Cr Elstone	Wentworth
28 Mar 2024	2024 Magenta Art Prize Opening Event	Councillors	Mourquong
1 Apr 2024	Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc Meeting	Cr Rodda	Wentworth
4 Apr 2024	Sturt Highway Taskforce Meeting	Cr Linklater	Video Conference
4 Apr 2024	Wentworth Showgrounds User Group Meeting	Cr Beaumont & Cr Nichols	Wentworth
8-9 Apr 2024	April Country Mayors Association Meeting (in Forbes)	Cr Linklater and Ken Ross	Forbes
9 Apr 2024	Australian Inland Botanic Gardens Meeting	Cr MacAllister & Cr Rodda	Mildura
17 Apr 2024	Sparks Renewable Presentation	Councillors	Wentworth

Attachments

1. Circular 24-03 [📄](#)



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	24-03 / 27 February 2024 / A889340
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers
Contact	Investigations Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

Subject

Performance and suspension orders

What's new or changing

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has published a revised framework for issuing performance and suspension orders
- The revised framework has been updated so that it is consistent with current statutory requirements

What this will mean for your council

- The framework provides information for councils on the process that will be followed when performance improvement orders and/or suspension orders are being considered or issued.
- The information provided includes details in relation to the appointment of temporary advisors, financial controllers and interim administrators.

Key points

- The revised framework, and information sheets for councils and members of the public are available on OLG's website [here](#).
- Councils are responsible for their own performance.
- The Minister for Local Government and OLG continues to encourage and support councils to voluntarily take actions to improve.
- Performance improvement, compliance, and suspension orders may be used to ensure councils and individual councillors take the actions required to address the performance issues.
- Decision on what action should be taken will be based on the nature and seriousness of the performance issue and the response of the council.

Where to go for further information

- For further information please contact the Investigations Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Brett Whitworth

Deputy Secretary, Local Government

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9.2 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - WENTWORTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY PROJECT ASSOCIATION INC

File Number: RPT/24/116

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
 Strategy: 2.1 Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life

Summary

Council is in receipt of a request for financial assistance on an annual basis from the Wentworth Regional Community Project Association. The request is for a budget allocation of \$7,700 for the fireworks display and supporting costs towards the annual Christmas Eve Street Party.

Recommendation

That Council nominate the preferred option from within the conclusion section of this report to enable a response to the request from Wentworth Regional Community Project Association.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a request to provide an annual budget allocation of \$7,700 towards the Christmas Eve Street Party, organised by Wentworth Regional Community Association Inc. The event has been in existence for over thirty-five years and has thus far, been a successful and popular event amongst the Wentworth township and broader community.

Report Detail

Council is in receipt of a request to provide ongoing financial support towards the Christmas Eve Street Party, held in Wentworth on an annual basis (attached). Council last year provided funding of \$5000 through Donations, Contributions and Grants and a further \$4000 via a request to Council. These amounts were to cover fireworks and administration costs. On top of this Council also provided in kind support of traffic management, hire fees, extra bins, additional cleaning of Darling Street toilets, set up and pack up of barricades and slashing of a block due to the risk with fireworks – a total of approximately \$2500.

The request that is the subject of this report differs from previous requests to Council, as it is for an annual allocation of funds dedicated towards the Christmas Eve Street Party. Wentworth Regional Community Project Association Inc would prefer to have money allocated within the budget to circumvent the requirement to request financial assistance in writing for the Christmas Eve Street Party every year.

If Council decides to support the option of an annual budget allocation for the event, operational staff from Finance & Policy will determine the most appropriate budget pool to utilize for the funds.

Conclusion

Council is requested to consider the following options with regards to financial support of the annual Christmas Eve Street Party:

- a) allocate \$7,700 from Council's annual budget ongoing for fireworks and supporting costs towards the Wentworth Regional Community Project Association Christmas Eve Street Party
- b) advise the Wentworth Regional Community Project Association to apply each year for funding required
- c) defers this item until the Wentworth Shire Tourism and Events Strategy is completed

Attachments

1. Request for financial assistance - Wentworth Regional Community Project Association Inc - January 2024 [↓](#)



26th January 2024

Ken Ross
Wentworth Shire
Wentworth NSW 2648

Good afternoon Ken,

Our committee has just had its wrap-up meeting to discuss how the event went this year and all were impressed and believe it was probably the best we have had, re numbers of people turning up and how it all ran.

We very much appreciate the assistance the Shire gives us re the staff putting up barricades etc and of course the grants you give us each year which assist tremendously. With this in mind we would like to put the following to the Shire:

- That the Shire actually put in its budget an amount to be allocated to fireworks each year and an additional \$1,000 to assist with the cost of oversight of applications, & processes between our committee and the shire and other authorities (currently being contracted out)
- As it stands the 2024 will be the same as this year's \$6,600 for the fireworks show and the additional \$1,000 for the oversight & applications.

This year we were very fortunate to receive a total of \$9,000 from you in grants. We do not want to keep asking for monies to cover a multiple of things to do with our event. We believe as a committee if you budget the two costs mentioned above into your yearly budget we will be able to fundraise for the rest and continue to make this event bigger and better to assist the community.

We look forward to hearing from you re our proposal.

David
Warm Regards

David Tunkin

Treasurer
Wentworth Regional Community Project Association Inc.
T/A Wentworth Street Party

Mb 0412638390
E dtunkin@gmail.com

PO BOX 211, WENTWORTH NSW 2648
CHAIRMAN: BILL WHEELDON
SECRETARY: DI PITT - DIPITT67@GMAIL.COM - 0421 528591
TREASURER: DAVID TUNKIN



9.3 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION 80TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

File Number: RPT/24/133

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

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 80th National Conference and Annual General Meeting is being held from the 8-11 July 2024 in Tamworth. The focus of the Conference is, "*The future of Water Security*". 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 80th National Conference and Annual General Meeting from 8-11 July 2024.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider who should attend the Murray Darling Association's 80th National Conference and Annual General Meeting. Council's representatives for the Murray Darling Association are Mayor Linklater, Deputy Mayor Nichols and Cr Elstone.

Report

The Murray Darling Association's 80th National Conference and Annual General Meeting is being held from 8-11 July 2024 in Tamworth. The Conference will bring together heads of Industry, Irrigation, Local Government, State Government, and Education to discuss "*The future of Water Security*", a pressing issue that has been identified by MDA Members as a key point of concern, with a risk of impacting Basin communities and industries in the years ahead.

Traditionally Council nominates its Murray Darling Association representatives to attend the Conference. The cost of conference attendance is \$790 per person, which includes a Welcome Reception, Study Tour, Gala Dinner and the two day conference. Travel and accommodation will be approximately \$1600 person.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council nominates Council's Murray Darling Association representatives to the Murray Darling Association's 80th National Conference and Annual General Meeting from 8-11 July 2024.

Attachments

Nil

9.4 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - POONCARIE DESERT DASH 2024

File Number: RPT/24/134

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

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

Council is in receipt of a request for financial assistance towards the 2024 Pooncarie Desert Dash. The event is to be held on 19 to 21 April 2024. Council has approved financial support for this event in previous years.

Recommendation

That Council nominate the preferred option from within this report to enable a response to the request from Sunraysia Motorsports Club.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a request for financial assistance for the 2024 Pooncarie Desert Dash.

Report Detail

Council is in receipt of a request from Sunraysia Motorsports Club for financial assistance towards the 2024 Pooncarie Desert Dash. The event will be held from Friday 19 April to Sunday 21 April 2024, inclusive.

Sunraysia Motorsports Club have been the event organisers of the Pooncarie Desert Dash since 2021. Motorsports Australia invited the event to be a part of the Australian Off-Road Championship (AORC), which meant the event was added to the National Championship calendar for 2022 and 2023. The 2024 Pooncarie Desert Dash event is to be featured as a Round 1 National Championship event and the only AORC event held in NSW.

The Desert Dash is an important local event to the township of Pooncarie that bolsters economic prosperity for local stakeholders, particularly by increased visitation during the event. The 2023 event was hailed a success by local media and across Council's local government area. 7Plus will also provide coverage of the event.

Options

Options to address this request are as follows:

- a) approve of financial assistance in the amount of \$20,000 for the event
- b) partially approve of financial assistance for the event
- c) decline financial assistance for the event.

Conclusion

Council is to consider Sunraysia Motorsports Club's request to provide financial assistance for the 2024 Pooncarie Desert Dash and it is noted that the event has been both previously successful and supported by Council.

Attachments

1. 2024 Sponsor Letter - Wentworth Shire Council [↓](#)



04th March 2024

Wentworth Shire Council
General Manager & Councillors
Via email: kross@wsc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ken, Mayor and Councillors

Sponsorship Proposal - Pooncarie Desert Dash April 19 – 24 2024

Sunraysia Motor Sports Club has hosted the Pooncarie Desert Dash since 2021. After a successful event, Motorsports Australia invited the Club to be part of the Australian Off Road Championship (AORC). And in 2022 the Pooncarie Desert Dash was added to the National championship calendar as the only NSW round. In 2023 the race was ran as the 2nd round of the Off Road Championship it was a great success for the club and the community of Pooncarie. This years event will feature as Round 1 which we believe to be a great result for our club as competitors will use our event as a shake down for the well know race which is held in Alice Springs FINKE. Our event still remains the only AORC round held in NSW, which we are proud to say is in the Wentworth Shire.

The event draws hundreds of competitors and visitors from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland and New Zealand.

The Pooncarie Desert Dash is run by a team of dedicated volunteers and is dependent upon support from organisations like yours to host and promote this event that produces significant economic benefits to our community.

Key highlights since inception:

- Growing spectator numbers of over the weekend event.
- Total competitors & team members 300 from VIC, SA, NSW, WA, QLD and New Zealand which includes driver, navigator, and support team member.
- Our First International competitors in 2023. Who won the event.
- Promotional reach via both Sunraysia Motorsports Club and Motorsports Australia social media platforms, offering a combined reach of 135,000 followers.
- Television coverage of the event via 7plus.
- Recognising the importance of tourism to this region, and the ability of this event to promote and offer the potential tourism exposure, showcasing the region as a destination to both new and return visitors.



PO Box 2064, Mildura VIC 3502
Email: secretary.sunraysiamotorsports@gmail.com
President Phone: 0408 502 921

We would like to invite the Wentworth Shire Council to support this National event to the value of \$20,000.

Your investment will allow us to promote the event outside the region and Internationally drawing on competitors from all states and New Zealand providing significant economic benefits to local business and community.

As a major sponsor you will receive naming rights of the event which is not only promoted locally but includes national and International exposure through our affiliating partnership with Motorsports Australia. Including, but not limited to a potential exposure to an audience of 132,000 Facebook and 20,700 Instagram followers.

Motorsports Australia and Sunraysia Motorsports have committed to AORC events for the 2024 and 2025 racing calendar. We would ask that you consider a multi-year sponsorship commitment, which supports our club and event sustainability, allowing the financial and operational security to seek additional avenues of enhancing this event and supporting long term community collaboration.

If you are interested in proceeding with a sponsorship investment or would like to discuss further, please contact me on 0427 248520.

Thank you for your support in past year and we look forward to you getting behind this great event again.

With thanks

Melisa Hederics
Sponsorship Coordinator



PO Box 2064, Mildura VIC 3502
Email: secretary.sunraysiamotorsports@gmail.com
President Phone: 0408 502 921

9.5 FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP - NORTHERN MALLEE LEADERS PROGRAM

File Number: RPT/24/151

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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: 4.4 Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future

Summary

Council has been requested to provide financial sponsorship towards the Northern Mallee Leaders program. The amount requested is \$3,850, which will provide an individual the opportunity to further develop their professional skillset and networking capabilities. Council sought interest from staff to participate in the program without success.

Recommendation

That Council provide financial sponsorship of \$3,850 towards the Northern Mallee Leaders Program.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider providing financial sponsorship towards the Northern Mallee Leaders Program, in the amount of \$3,850. This amount is equivalent to the contribution an employer would generally provide in order to subsidise an employee or individual who is partaking in the program.

Background

The Northern Mallee Leaders Program is an annual community leadership program that helps participants build leadership skills, confidence, knowledge and their professional networks through empowerment and encouragement to make a difference within their community.

The requested financial sponsorship will assist an individual participating in the 2024 Program. The application window for the Program closed on 29 February 2024, with the Program anticipated to start on 19 April 2024.

Report Detail

The Northern Mallee Leaders Program has been in existence for over 15 years. The Program has produced confident and capable community leaders who are well connected within the local cross-border community.

As outlined within the Program website, the following content and key areas are included in the Program:

REGIONAL INSIGHT & KNOWLEDGE

- *Monthly Regional Town Experience Days*
- *Melbourne Study Trip (5 days and 4 nights)*
- *Building connections and networks with local, state and metropolitan leaders and communities*

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

- *Opening, Mid-Year and Closing weekend residential Leadership Retreats*
- *Monthly Leadership Identity & Reflection Sessions (half-day)*
- *Monthly 1-hour Ask Me Anything Sessions with special guests (virtual)*

ACTION-BASED LEARNING

- *Developing connections and professional networks.*
- *Experiential learning and practical application of skills within Leadership Teams, Community Projects, and Sub-Committees.*

Conclusion

Council is requested to consider the information contained within this report and decide whether to provide financial sponsorship towards the Northern Mallee Leaders Program in the amount of \$3,850.

Attachments

Nil

9.6 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - FEBRUARY 2023

File Number: RPT/24/125

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

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

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

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of February 2024 were \$1,291,156.03. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 77.43%. For comparison purposes 73.76% of the levy had been collected at the end of February 2023. Council currently has \$46,827,184.62 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 29 February 2024

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 29 February 2024.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 February 2024	\$ 2,408,699.31
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 29 February 2024 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	\$ 9,358,373.16
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 29 February 2024 Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 9,210,837.78
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 29 February 2024	\$ 2,556,234.69
Trust Fund Balance	\$ 758,562.12
Total Investments as at 29 February 2024	\$ 43,512,387.81
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 46,827,184.62

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of February 2024 were \$1,291,156.03. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 77.43%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 29 February 2024 is as follows:

Note: For comparison purposes 73.76% of the levy had been collected at the end of February 2023.

LEVIES	RATES & CHARGES	
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	861,885.86	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	168,726.81	
+ Additional Charges	89,049.96	
- Credit Adjustments	24,739.59	
- Abandonments	35,908.12	\$ 12,375,907.22
DEDUCTIONS		
- Payments	9,245,623.12	
- Less Refunds of Payments	15,787.31	\$ 9,229,835.81
		\$ 3,146,071.41
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	94,844.13	
Council Subsidy	77,599.75	\$ 172,443.88
RATES/WATER CHARGES OUTSTANDING 29 FEBRUARY 2024		\$ 2,973,627.53

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

The following rates or charges have been written off or adjusted under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of February 2024.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
Rates			
175-7	8.1.2024	604.36	Cancelled rate assessment as per advice from the Valuer Generals
1436	31.1.2024	361.31	Adjustment to rates as per valuation objection
678	30.1.2024	6.72	Write off interest - payment was made to incorrect account
295-011512	7.2.2024	558	Credit water access charges - incorrectly levied to developer
1653-5701	7.2.2024	252	Credit Garbage Charge- incorrectly levied on property
947	16.2.2024	700	Credit interest and legal charges from previous owners. Property was sold but transfer did not eventuate and property was returned to the vendor

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	\$ 135,933.86	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 544,685.48	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,349,657.63	1/06/2033
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,155,810.23	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 574,888.68	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 958,282.15	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,238,756.92	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 614,055.51	25/09/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,365,382.52	31/03/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Civic Centre	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	31/03/2028
CFWC440209	T-Corp	Civic Centre	5.45% Fixed	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 4,000,000.00	9/02/2044
				TOTAL	\$ 13,437,452.98	

Overtime and Travelling

Month	Jan-24	Pay Periods	14 & 15					
Overtime from 23 December 2023 to 19 January 2024								
Overtime								
	Time and a Half		Double Time		Double Time 1/2		Total	2023/24
Department	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount		Accumulative Total
Animal Services	22.50	1,203.37	22.75	\$ 1,565.76	1.00	\$ 90.43	\$ 2,859.56	\$ 17,022.62
Assets							\$ -	\$ 302.45
Building Maintenance	0.50	32.47					\$ 32.47	\$ 305.65
Civil			0.50	\$ 47.39			\$ 47.39	\$ 4,550.86
Customer Service Office							\$ -	\$ -
Depot Store							\$ -	\$ -
Finance	1.00	81.43					\$ 81.43	\$ 900.42
GM's Office							\$ -	\$ 678.34
Health & Planning							\$ -	\$ 280.84
Indoor Engineers	9.00	732.84	0.75	\$ 81.43			\$ 814.27	\$ 13,614.50
IT Support	2.00	151.23					\$ 151.23	\$ 2,187.65
Landfill Transfer Stations	27.50	1,474.11	10.00	\$ 699.51			\$ 2,173.62	\$ 8,890.05
Library							\$ -	\$ 2,024.43
Parks & Gardens	9.50	526.92	12.00	\$ 855.81			\$ 1,382.73	\$ 10,185.93
Private Works							\$ -	\$ 6,847.59
Roads - Council	50.50	2,404.88	29.00	\$ 1,923.03			\$ 4,327.91	\$ 232,446.46
Roads - RMS	3.00	134.14	2.00	\$ 117.50			\$ 251.64	\$ 3,738.73
Subdivision Officer							\$ -	\$ 154.36
Tourism & Promotion	4.00	217.02	16.50	\$ 1,160.91			\$ 1,377.93	\$ 10,351.48
Water & Waste Water	91.00	4,802.18	90.00	\$ 6,390.91			\$ 11,193.09	\$ 58,661.12
Workshop Manager	9.50	568.15	6.50	\$ 518.32	3.50	\$ 280.58	\$ 1,367.05	\$ 2,915.94
Workshop/Mechanics							\$ -	\$ 751.03
Total	230.00	12,328.74	190.00	13,360.57	4.50	371.01	\$ 26,060.32	\$ 376,810.45
Travel Allowance								
Department	Kms	Amount						
Total	0	0						
Grand Total								
		\$ 26,060.32						

Conclusion

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

Attachments

Nil

9.7 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/128

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 of 29 February 2024, Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$4,827,184.62 in other cash investments. Council received \$293,727.35 from its investments for the month of February 2024.

In February 2024 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.77% and it currently has \$8,906,209.86 of internal restrictions and \$33,495,454.80 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 of 29 February 2024, Council had \$46,827,184.62 invested with Ten (10) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation. This is an increase of \$2,152,938.24 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 February 2024

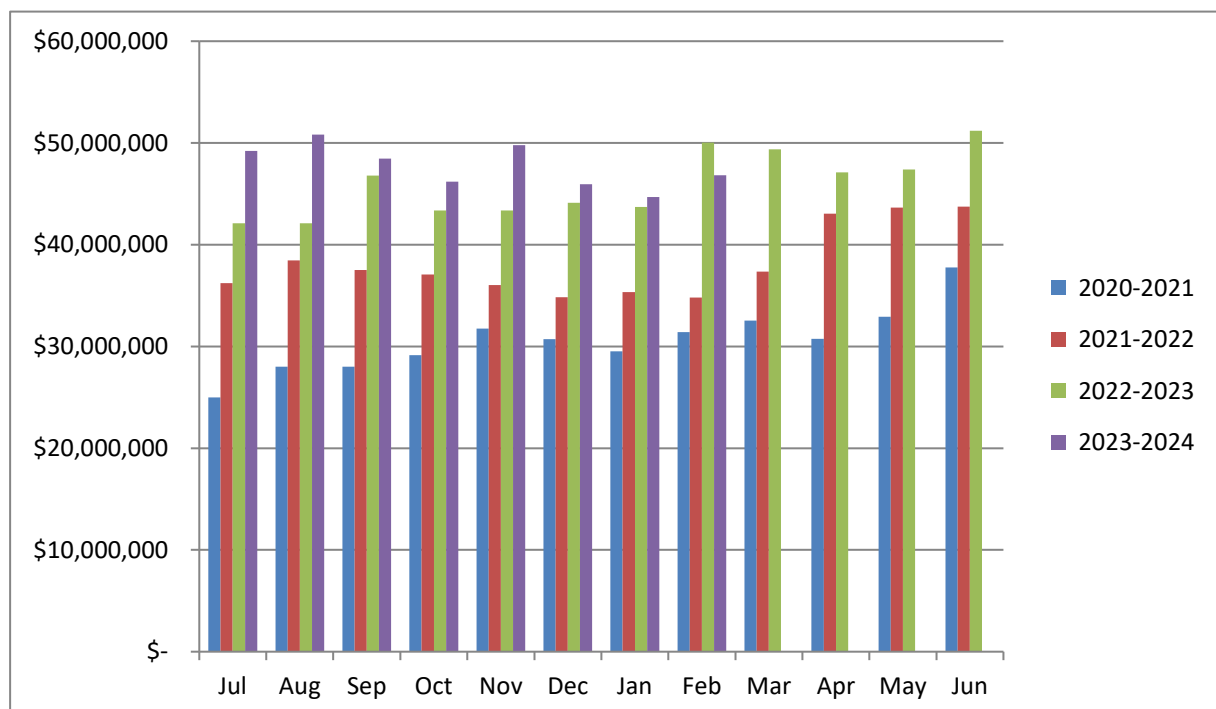
Six (6) deposits and One (1) other account matured or provided interest in February earning Council \$293,727.35 in interest. The budget for February was \$125,000. Year to date Council has received \$1,226,588.97 in interest based on cash accounting. Expired investments are now shown in the attached report along with a summary of accrued interest. The budget for the financial year was set at \$1,500,000.00. As shown in the attached report Council's investments are on track to return \$1,841,578.92 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	\$2,308,162.00	
- Doubtful Debts	\$47,730.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$1,076,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$1,642,959.98	
- Caravan Park Loan Facility	\$1,331,140.68	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$8,906,209.86
External Restrictions		
- Water Fund	\$10,823,189.77	
- Sewer Fund	\$5,499,894.60	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$541,934.32	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$983,097.38	
- Unexpended Grants	\$15,873,097.56	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$208,296.22	
- Loan Guarantee Reserve	\$187.69	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$565,757.26	\$34,495,454.80
Day to Day Liquidity		\$3,425,519.96
Total Funds Available		\$46,827,184.62

Total Funds Invested



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 29 February 2024

Grant	Amount
SCCF Wentworth Rowing Club	\$42,069.66
Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program (Arumpo 24km Upgrade)	\$1,000,000.00
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Astronomy Park	\$656,000.21
Fixing Local Roads Grants - Stage 3	\$211,305.90
Fixing Local Roads Grants - Stage 4 (Keenans Drive)	\$40,048.57
Resources for Regions Round 8	\$165,497.10
Pooncarie Menindee Road	\$188,356.46
Main Road Block Grant	\$1,054,690.10
Transport for NSW Pothole Repair Program	\$580,945.94
Resources for Regions Round 9	\$2,361,676.79
Rural Local Road Repair Program	\$7,761,787.52
NSW Office of Local Government Flood Grants	\$776,628.34
Strong Start Cadetship Program Grant	\$25,000.00
JEV Mosquito Eradication Grant	\$22,013.56
SCCF Female Jockey Changerooms	\$58,733.52
Regional Leakage Reduction Program - Local Water Utility	\$35,211.56
Regional Fire Services Levy	\$79,982.53
Regional Youth School Holiday Program	\$6,947.80
Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program Phase 4	\$806,202.00
Total	\$15,873,097.56

Conclusion

The Director Finance & Policy has certified 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. February Investment Report - Yield Hub [🔗](#)



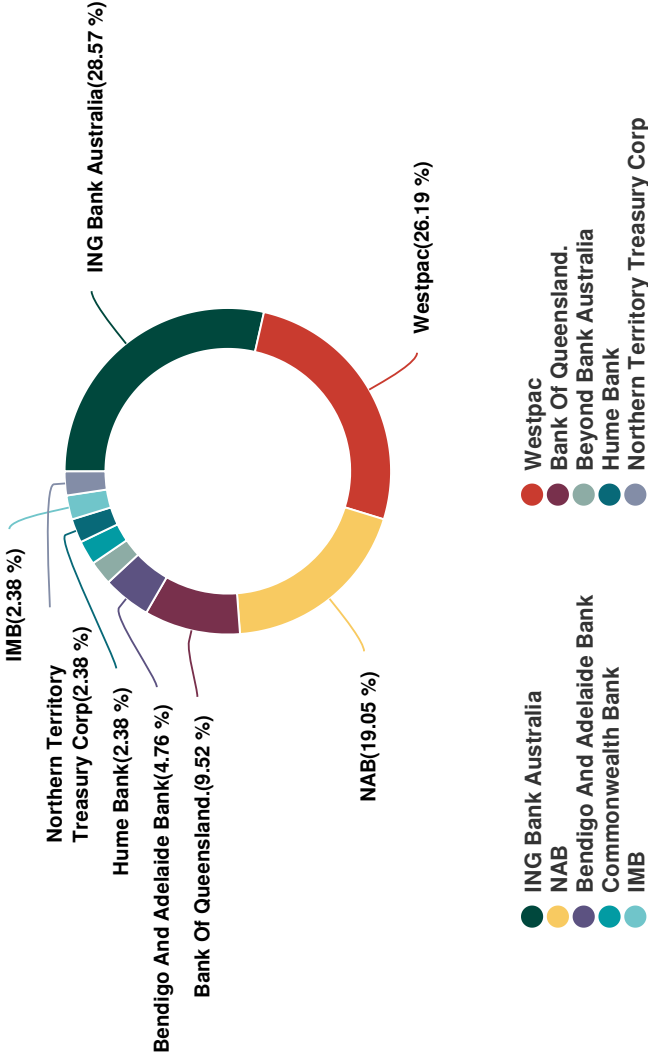
29 February 2024
Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

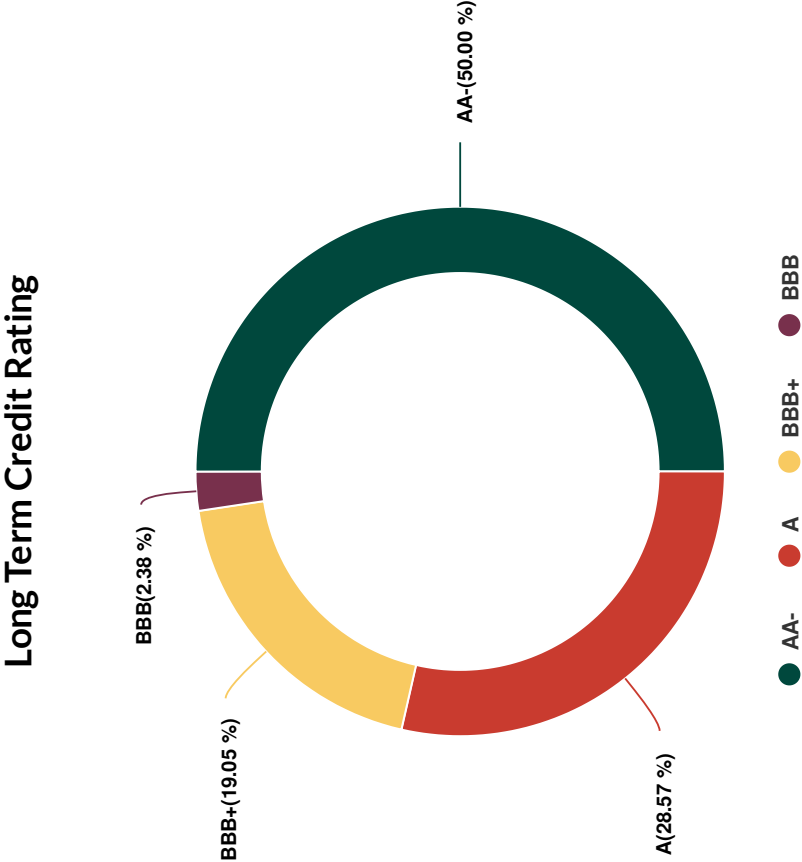
Summary

Total Cost	\$42,000,000.00
Total Portfolio Value	\$42,884,815.62
Weighted Average Term	248
Weighted Average Yield	4.67 %
90 day BBSW	4.34 %
Unrealised Capital Gain/Loss	\$0
Total Monthly Accrued Interest	\$139,779.99
Total Interest Received this month	\$288,171.23
Total Interest Received this FY	\$1,180,572.62
Total Interest Expected this FY	\$1,841,578.92
Interest Payments this month	6
Matured Investments this month	6
Total Funds Matured this month	\$6,000,000.00
Investments this month	7
Total Funds Invested this month	\$7,000,000.00
Compliant Portfolio	Yes



Counterparty





Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 29 February 2024

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	IMB	\$1,000,000	11/12/2023	10/03/2024	90	5.31 %	NR	NR
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-
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	Westpac	\$1,000,000	24/08/2023	26/08/2024	368	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	24/08/2023	26/08/2024	368	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	29/08/2023	28/08/2024	365	5.200 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	04/09/2023	03/09/2024	365	5.12 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	05/09/2023	04/09/2024	365	5.17 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Beyond Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	11/09/2023	10/09/2024	365	5.200 %	A-2	BBB
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	03/10/2023	02/10/2024	365	5.200 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	05/10/2023	04/10/2024	365	5.25 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	05/11/2024	270	5.0 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	23/02/2024	20/11/2024	271	5.02 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/11/2023	27/11/2024	366	5.47 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2024	365	5.28 %	A-1+	AA-



Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report							Report Date: 29 February 2024		
Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating	
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	15/12/2023	16/12/2024	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/12/2023	18/12/2024	365	5.23 %	A-1	A	
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	22/12/2023	23/12/2024	367	5.0 %	A-2	BBB+	
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	30/01/2024	29/01/2025	365	5.02 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	10/02/2025	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	20/02/2024	19/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/02/2024	27/02/2025	366	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	28/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-	
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	04/01/2024	05/01/2026	732	5.14 %	A-1	A	
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland.	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2026	1,095	5.25 %	A-2	BBB+	
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: 29 February 2024

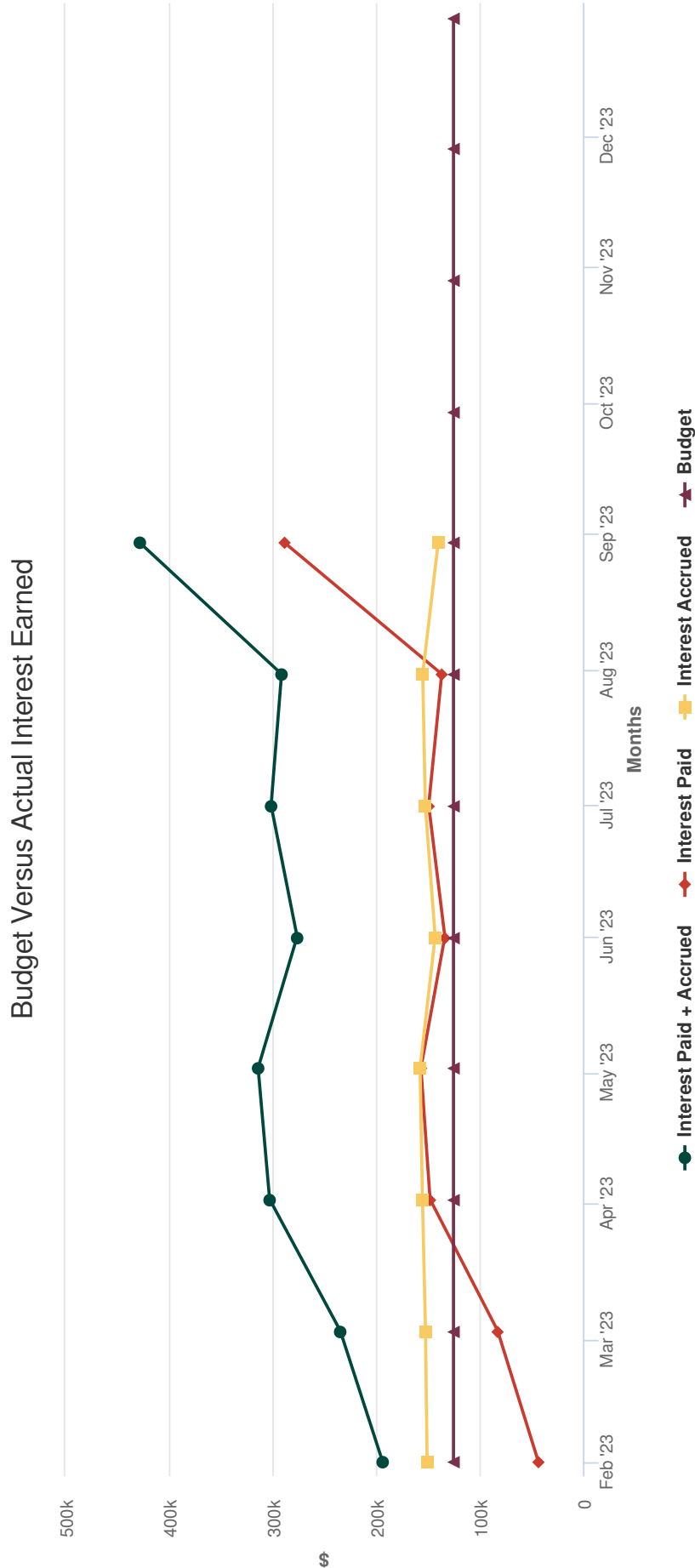
Transaction Date	Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Type	Amount	Credit/Debit	Long Term Rating	Designation	Comments	Maturity Date
27/02/2024	065638	NAB	Interest	\$50,000	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		27/02/2024
27/02/2024	065639	Westpac	Interest	\$49,800	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		27/02/2024
23/02/2024	065637	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	Interest	\$46,871.23	Debit	BBB+	Unclassified		23/02/2024
20/02/2024	065636	NAB	Interest	\$48,500	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		20/02/2024
09/02/2024	063056	Bank Of Queensland.	Interest	\$46,000	Debit	BBB+	Unclassified		09/02/2024
09/02/2024	065635	NAB	Interest	\$47,000	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		09/02/2024
Total				\$288,171.23					



Account vs RBA Cash vs 3m BBSW vs Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index					
Term	Account	RBA Cash	3m BBSW	Outperformance	AusBond Bank Bill
1m	4.69 %	4.35 %	4.34 %	0.35 %	4.32 %
3m	4.66 %	4.35 %	4.35 %	0.31 %	4.33 %
6m	4.59 %	4.26 %	4.29 %	0.30 %	4.26 %
12m	4.37 %	4.07 %	4.15 %	0.22 %	4.09 %
					0.37 %
					0.33 %
					0.33 %
					0.28 %

Month End Performance





9.8 WENTWORTH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011 MINIMUM LOT SIZE AMEDEMMENT AND REZONING DARETON

File Number: RPT/24/135

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & 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

Wentworth Shire Council resolved to proceed with a Planning Proposal to amend planning provisions in the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP) that specifically relate to amendment to the Minimum Lot Size (MLS) and fixing an error in the mapping.

The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) (now the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (DHPI)) issued a Gateway Determination to proceed on 13 October 2023.

The Planning Proposal sought to amend the following provisions:

- Reduce the Minimum Lot Size (MLS) of 15 allotments zoned R5 Large Lot Residential in Dareton from 5000sqm to 3000sqm
- Fix a map anomaly by rezoning parts of Lots 32 & 374 DP 756961 from R5 to RU1 Primary Production and minimum lot size from 5000sqm to 10,000ha

Public exhibition and state agency consultation was conducted in accordance with the Gateway Determination. One (1) public submission and three (3) state agency submissions were received.

No amendments have been made to the Planning Proposal as an outcome of public exhibition and submissions.

This report seeks Council endorsement of the Planning Proposal and approval to send the documentation to the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (DHPI), who will proceed with finalisation of the amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 as Council are not the plan-making authority.

Recommendation

- a) That Council endorse the post exhibition documentation as outlined in this report.
- b) That Council, support and resolve to send the planning proposal documentation to DPHI who will proceed with the finalisation of the Planning Proposal in accordance with section 3.36 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- c) Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the Gateway Determination conditions, the subsequent outcomes from exhibition of the Planning Proposal and process for the Planning Proposal to be finalised.

Background

Council's Health and Planning Department received a planning proposal from James Golsworthy Consulting on 2 August 2023 to reduce the MLS of four (4) allotments in Dareton. The planning proposal was reported to Council seeking a resolution to submit the Planning Proposal to DPE requesting a Gateway Determination to proceed.

The Gateway Determination to proceed was issued by DHPI (formerly DPE) 13 October 2023. The Gateway Determination contained five (5) conditions, all of which Council is obligated to comply with. The next section of this report details the amendments to the Planning Proposal as a consequence of compliance with the conditions.

Matters under consideration

Gateway Determination

The Gateway Determination was issued 13 October 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 1 - Gateway Determination Cover Letter).

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 2 - Gateway Determination).

The timeframe for completing the LEP is to be 8 months from the date of the Gateway Determination, being 1 June 2024.

A summary of compliance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination are provided, as follows:

1. a) An addendum was made to the planning proposal including the rest of the R5 Large Lot Residential zoned land within the planning proposal.
- b) The planning proposal addendum also included amendment to correct errors within the mapping.

Refer to **Attachment 2** Planning proposal with addendum sent to DPE Western Region.

Council sought the approval of the DHPI (formerly DPE) – Western Region office to proceed with community consultation. Approval was granted to proceed with community consultation on 7 November 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 3 - Approval to proceed with community consultation).

2. Public exhibition was conducted in accordance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination. Further details are provided below.
3. Consultation with Crown Lands, Biodiversity Conservation Science and Transport for NSW. Further details are provided below.
4. A public hearing was not required.
5. According to the Project Timeline the planning proposal will be completed within the Gateway Determination timeframe.

All conditions of the Gateway Determination have been satisfied.

Public exhibition

In accordance with Schedule 1 Clause 4 Community participation requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and Condition 2 of the Gateway Determination, the planning proposal was placed on public exhibition for a total of 20 days, from 13 November 2023 to 4 December 2023.

Public notice was provided in the Sunraysia Daily and posts on social media.

The proposed amendment and accompanying exhibition material were made available for viewing by the public on Council's website and at Council's Customer Service Counter in Wentworth and Midway Centre in Buronga.

As conditioned by the Gateway Determination, Council exhibited the following information:

- Gateway Determination
- Gateway Determination Letter
- Addendum to Planning Proposal
- Planning Proposal
- DPE Letter to proceed with community consultation

One community submission was received.

Three submissions were received from agency consultation:

- Transport for NSW: Provided comments for consideration by Council.
- Crown Lands: Noted the PP and provided general comments.
- Biodiversity Conservation Science: Provided comments for consideration by Council.

The submissions have been reviewed, considered and a response to each topic or comment is included in the attached submissions table.

No amendments were made to the Planning Proposal in response to the submissions.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 4 – Submission Table).

Refer to **Attachment 3** Transport for NSW submission 18 December 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 4** NSW Crown Lands submission 20 November 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 5** Biodiversity Conservation Science submission 6 December 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 6** Public Submission 20 November 2023.

Next Process

The Gateway Determination letter does authorise Council as the local plan-making authority.

Therefore, the process to finalise the Planning Proposal is as follows:

- Send the planning proposal documentation to DPHI requesting they finalise the planning proposal as they are the Local Plan-making Authority.

Options

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

- a) Resolve to support and proceed with the Planning Proposal, and forward it to DPHI for finalisation.

Or

- b) Resolve to not support the Planning Proposal and forward it to DPHI for finalisation.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The options contained in this report ensure that Council:

- a) Satisfies its legal obligations under the Gateway Determination; and
- b) Is consistent with the Community Strategic Plan 2022-2023 and Local Strategic Planning Statement.

There are no known financial or policy implications for Council.

Conclusion

It is concluded that the most appropriate course of action is to support and refer the Planning Proposal to the Department of Planning Housing & Infrastructure for finalisation of the proposal and notification of the amendment on the legislative website.

Attachments

1. Section 3.36 Planning Report[↓](#)
2. Planning Proposal including Addendum[↓](#)
3. Transport for NSW Submission[↓](#)
4. NSW Crown Lands submission[↓](#)
5. Biodiversity Conservation Science submission[↓](#)
6. Public Submission[↓](#)

SECTION 3.36 PLANNING REPORT

Planning proposal:

PP-2023-1662 (L1/99)

Planning proposal summary:

Amend the following in the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011:

- Reduce the Minimum Lot Size (MLS) of 15 allotments zoned R5 Large Lot Residential in Dareton from 5000sqm to 3000sqm
- Fix a map anomaly by rezoning parts of Lots 32 & 374 DP 756961 from R5 to RU1 Primary Production and minimum lot size from 5000sqm to 10,000ha

Post exhibition amendments to the planning proposal:

- No amendments made to the planning proposal after post exhibition

Date of Gateway determination:

13 October 2023.

1 GATEWAY DETERMINATION

The Gateway Determination was issued 13 October 2023.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Gateway Determination Cover Letter.

Refer to **Attachment 2** Gateway Determination.

The timeframe for completing the LEP is to be 7.5 months from the date of the Gateway Determination, being 1 June 2024.

A summary of compliance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination are provided, as follows:

1. a) Revisions made to planning proposal to include additional R5 Large Lot Residential land in Dareton for MLS reduction from 5000sqm to 3000sqm with justification. Additional discussion added to planning proposal to reflect site characteristics of additional R5 land including biodiversity and flooding.
b) Revisions made to planning proposal to correct minor mapping error on parts of Lots 374 and 32 DP 756961 to realign relevant zones and minimum lot size with the cadastre.

Council sought the approval of the Department of Planning and Environment – Western Region office to proceed with agency and community consultation. Approval was conditionally granted 7 November 2023 with no further amendments to the planning proposal required.

Refer to **Attachment 3** Approval to proceed with community consultation.

2. Public exhibition was conducted in accordance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination. Further details are provided in Section 2 of this report.

3. Consultation with Transport for NSW, Crown Lands and Biodiversity Conservation Science was conducted in accordance with the condition of the Gateway Determination. Further details are provided in Section 3 of this report.
4. A public hearing was not required or deemed necessary.
5. According to the Project Timeline the planning proposal will be completed within the Gateway Determination time frame.

All conditions of the Gateway Determination have been satisfied.

2 CONSULTATION

In accordance with Schedule 1 Clause 4 Community participation requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the planning proposal (with addendum) was placed on public exhibition for:

- 30 days to public authorities from 9 November 2023 to 8 December 2023
- 21 days to the public from 14 November 2023 to 5 December 2023

Public notice was provided in the Sunraysia Daily and posts on social media.

The planning proposal and accompanying exhibition material were made available for viewing by the public on Council's website and at Council's Customer Service Counter in Wentworth and Midway Centre in Buronga.

As conditioned by the Gateway Determination, Council exhibited the following information:

- Relevant Council meeting reports
- Planning Proposal with addendum
- Department of Planning and Environment's Gateway Determination, Cover Letter and approval to proceed with consultation letter.

One (1) community submission was received. The submission has been reviewed, considered and a response to each topic or comment made is included in the attached submissions table.

Refer to **Attachment 4** Submissions table.

In response to these submissions, no changes were made to the planning proposal with addendum which was publicly notified.

3 VIEWS OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

The Gateway Determination conditioned consultation with Transport for NSW, Crown Lands and Biodiversity Conservation Science.

Submissions were received from all three (3) public authorities during the exhibition period. The submissions have been reviewed, considered and a response to each topic or comment made is included in the attached submissions table.

Refer to **Attachment 4** Submissions table.

- Transport for NSW: Provided comments for consideration by Council.
- Crown Lands: Noted the PP and provided general comments.
- Biodiversity Conservation Science: Provided comments for consideration by Council.

In response to these submissions, no changes were made to the planning proposal with addendum which was publicly notified.

4 PLANNING PROPOSAL AMENDMENTS POST EXHIBITION/CONSULTATION

No changes were made to the planning proposal with addendum exhibited because of the exhibition and consultation.

5 CONSISTENCY WITH S.9.1 DIRECTIONS & OTHER STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

Part 3 Section B of the planning proposal provides a response to applicable strategic planning documents, State Environmental Planning Policies and Section 9.1 Directions.

The planning proposal is consistent with Section 9.1 Directions and other relevant strategic planning documents.

6 PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL OPINION

As Council are not the nominated Local Plan-Making Authority (LPMA), Opinion from Parliamentary Counsel will not be conducted by Council.

7 OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS

Nil.

8 MAPPING

The planning proposal seeks to amend the LEP zoning digital maps.

A copy of the amended LEP digital map will be forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (formerly DPE) to finalise the LEP amendment as Council are not the LPMA.

9 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the LEP amendment is made.

ATTACHMENT 1



Department of Planning and Environment

Mr Ken Ross
General Manager
Wentworth Shire Council
PO Box 81
WENTWORTH NSW 2648

Our ref: IRF 23/2319

Dear Mr Ross,

Planning proposal (PP-2023-1662) to amend Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 – River Road and Golf Course Road, Dareton.

I am writing in response to the planning proposal you have forwarded to the Minister under section 3.34(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) and additional information received on 18 September 2023 in respect of the planning proposal to reduce the minimum lot size on subject land in Dareton.

As delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, I have determined that the planning proposal should proceed subject to the conditions in the enclosed Gateway determination.

Council may still need to obtain the agreement of the Secretary to comply with the requirements of relevant applicable directions of the Minister under section 9.1 of the Act.

I have determined not to authorise Council to be the local plan-making authority due to Council's limited resources.

The amending local environmental plan (LEP) is to be finalised on or before 1 June 2024. Council should aim to commence the exhibition of the planning proposal as soon as possible. Council's request for the Department of Planning and Environment to draft and finalise the LEP should be made at least eight weeks in advance of the date the LEP is projected to be made.

The NSW Government has committed to reduce the time taken to complete LEPs. To meet these commitments, the Minister may appoint an alternate planning proposal authority if Council does not meet the timeframes outlined in the Gateway determination.

The Department's categorisation of planning proposals in the *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline* (Department of Planning and Environment, 2023) is supported by category specific timeframes for satisfaction of conditions and authority and Government agency referrals, consultation, and responses. Compliance with milestones will be monitored by the Department to ensure planning proposals are progressing as required.

Should you have any enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Rebecca Martin to assist you. Ms Martin can be contacted on 02 5852 6810.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G P Hopkins', written in a cursive style.

13 October 2023

Garry Hopkins
Director, Western Region
Local and Regional Planning

Encl: Gateway determination

ATTACHMENT 2



Department of Planning and Environment

Gateway Determination

Planning proposal (Department Ref: PP-2023-1662): Reduction of minimum lot size from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres at River Road and Golf Course Road, Dareton.

I, the Director, Western Region at the Department of Planning and Environment, as delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, have determined under section 3.34(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) that an amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 to reduce the minimum lot size from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres at River Road and Golf Course Road, Dareton should proceed subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to public exhibition, the planning proposal is to be updated with the following detail and forwarded to the Minister under s 3.34(6) of the Act:
 - (a) include additional R5 Large Lot Residential Land in Dareton, including justification for its inclusion in the proposal and associated maps. The revised planning proposal is to include discussion to reflect site characteristics including flooding and biodiversity.
 - (b) include proposed amendment to correct mapping error that exists on part Lots 374 and 32 DP 756961 to realign relevant zones with the cadastre.
2. Public exhibition is required under section 3.34(2)(c) and clause 4 of Schedule 1 to the Act as follows:
 - (a) the planning proposal is categorised as standard as described in the *Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines* (Department of Planning and Environment, 2023) and must be made publicly available for a minimum of 20 days; and
 - (b) the planning proposal authority must comply with the notice requirements for public exhibition of planning proposals and the specifications for material that must be made publicly available along with planning proposals as identified in *Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines* (Department of Planning and Environment, 2023).
3. Consultation is required with Crown Lands, Biodiversity Conservation Science and Transport for NSW under section 3.34(2)(d) of the Act. Each agency is to be provided with a copy of the updated planning proposal and any relevant supporting material and given at least 30 days to comment on the proposal.
4. A public hearing is not required to be held into the matter by any person or body under section 3.34(2)(e) of the Act. This does not discharge Council from any obligation it may otherwise have to conduct a public hearing (for example, in response to a submission or if reclassifying land).
5. The LEP should be completed on or before 1 June 2024.

Dated 13th day of October 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Garry Hopkins'.

Garry Hopkins
Director, Western Region

**Local and Regional Planning
Department of Planning and Environment**

**Delegate of the Minister for Planning and
Public Spaces**

ATTACHMENT 3



Department of Planning and Environment

Our ref: PP-2023-1662 / IRF23/2936

Mr Ken Ross
General Manager
Wentworth Shire Council
PO Box 81
WENTWORTH NSW 2648

Attention: George Kenende, Strategic Development Officer

Dear Mr Ross,

Planning proposal (PP-2023-1662) to amend Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 – River Road and Golf Course Road, Dareton – proceed to public consultation.

I refer to your correspondence dated 2 November 2023 in relation to planning proposal (PP-2023-1662) to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012 in respect of the planning proposal to reduce the minimum lot size on subject land in Dareton.

Condition 1 of the Gateway determination issued on 13 October 2023 required several matters to be addressed prior to community consultation.

I have reviewed the information provided and agree that condition 1 of the Gateway determination has been satisfied. Council may now proceed to community consultation as soon as possible as required by condition 2 of the Gateway determination.

I also note that following a discussion with the Department on 30 October 2023 it was noted that the identified mapping error of 1(b) of the Gateway determination also applies to the relevant minimum lot size maps.

A copy of this letter, the updated documentation provided on 2 November 2023, the Gateway determination dated 13 October 2023 and documents accompanying the planning proposal are to be included in the community consultation package.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter please contact Rebecca Martin on 02 5852 6810.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tim Collins".

7/11/23

Tim Collins
Acting Manager, Western Region
Local and Regional Planning
Department of Planning and Environment

ATTACHMENT 4

Summary of Submissions and Outcomes

Submission number	Submission	Comment/Response
Submission 1 Submission by Owners of Lot 4 DP 1230430	<p>Raised issues with possible development of Crown Land due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a wildlife area where many native birds, echidnas, kangaroos frequent. Development of blocks between River Road and Golf Course Road will drive some of the existing kangaroos that frequent that area to neighbouring wildlife areas such as the Crown Land section. There are currently asbestos-like materials which has been left in that area in several large piles that requires removal. We built on our block with the understanding that the land between our block and the river would not be developed. We were told when purchasing that the land could not be sub-divided and therefore will remain bushland. 	<p>The proposed planning proposal does involve or propose any development on the Crown land. Any proposed developments on this block of land will be notified to adjoining land owners for an opportunity to comment.</p> <p>The planning proposal proposes to change the minimum lot size only for the Crown land with no changes proposed to the zoning. These changes will not impact the type of developments already permitted on the Crown owned land under the current zoning.</p>
	Should the Wentworth Shire Council attempt to acquire the Crown Land for other purposes we are concerned that it will impact our lifestyle and negatively impact the wildlife that use that corridor by further reducing bushland that can sustain local wildlife.	The proposed planning proposal is for reduction of the minimum lot size for the Crown land. No Council acquisition of the land is identified or forms part of the Planning proposal.
	The reduction of land size referred to in the James Goldsworthy report, this report notes there is currently no block of 5000SQM available in the Wentworth Shire, therefore, to keep the current block sizes may be a point of difference to other blocks currently on the market and therefore increase demand for them when they are sub-divided. Comparative blocks which were referred to in the report were in Gol Gol.	The reduction in MLS to 3000sqm provides greater options for developers in terms of the sizes of R5 zoned allotments. The MLS allows the developer to have lots sized bigger than 3000sqm including having allotments sized 5000sqm. Developers are likely to subdivide the land to sizes based on the demand.

	<p>There is a higher demand for blocks in the Gol Gol/Buronga area where the infrastructure and services of Mildura are very close. Potential purchasers may be happy to travel a further distance from Mildura if they had additional land which is currently not available elsewhere on the NSW side of the river.</p> <p>No objection to the proposal, noting that any future subdivision of Crown Land reducing lot sizes in accord with the proposed changes to MLS (assuming they are implemented) would require the Department to approve as a party to the subdivision regardless, and any objections to such reduction in lot size would likely be made at that time.</p> <p>We recommend the proposal be revised to provide a biodiversity assessment that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maps and describes the ecological features and biodiversity value of the site including threatened ecological communities, threatened species and their habitat including linkages to corridors beyond the site • includes ground truthing if relying on existing mapping • discusses the potential impacts of future development on native flora and fauna. 	<p>Within the Dareton Strategy, land north-east of the subject land within the Planning proposal, was identified for future rezoning to R5. The MLS for these allotments would be a mixture of 3000sqm and 5000sqm allotments. This will be based on the demand for R5 sized allotments at the time of rezoning.</p> <p>Noted. Any future development on the Crown owned land will require NSW Crown Land consent and will be notified to adjoining land holders.</p> <p>While Council acknowledges the points raised by Biodiversity Conservation Science (BCS), the following matters must be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PP proposes to reduce the MLS only for the land with biodiversity value - No rezoning is proposed, as such the land uses currently permitted or prohibited will not change <p>Based on these factors, Council believe that no additional biodiversity assessment is required as biodiversity matters would have been considered during the rezoning. As no new land uses are proposed, council believes that this would be an unnecessary cost and burden for matters already addressed.</p>
Submission 2 NSW Crown Lands		
Submission 3 Biodiversity Conservation Science		

	<p>The planning proposal should be amended to respond to the findings of the biodiversity assessment, including to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate how the proposal has taken appropriate and sufficient steps, as a first step, to avoid or minimise impacts to native vegetation and • make recommendations to mitigate the identified impacts. 	<p>As per the response to the earlier point, no new land uses are proposed as part of this PP. The PP does not identify any proposed developments, and focuses on reduction of the MLS only.</p> <p>Steps to avoid and mitigate impacts on native vegetation are taken during the assessment of a development application. As such, with no new land uses being proposed, the most appropriate stage to assess biodiversity impacts will be at the development stage.</p> <p>If any vegetation removal is proposed, it will need to be assessed against the appropriate legislation, which will trigger biodiversity assessment reports as required e.g. BDARs.</p>
	<p>The proposal is within the riverine environment of the River Murray established by Chapter 5 of the B&C SEPP. We recommend the proposal is revised to demonstrate how future development outcomes will be consistent with the Planning Principles set out in section 5.9 of the B&C SEPP; in particular, the land degradation, landscape, river related uses and water quality principles.</p>	<p>Any developments within the mapped riverine area will need to be assessed against the principles of the BCSEPP.</p> <p>The PP proposal area is within the mapped area, as such any developments proposed within these lands will be assessed against the principles under clause 5.9 of the BCSEPP. Based on this requirement, assessment against the BCSEPP will constitute a doubling up with subsequent developments on the land.</p> <p>The PP does not propose new land uses.</p> <p>While Council acknowledges the point raised by TfNSW, Council believes a TIA at the PP stage is premature due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimal increase of potential allotments
Submission 4 Transport for NSW	<p>The increase in lot yield raises potential impacts on Tapio Street/the state classified road. To enable an understanding of the impacts that this PP will and/or will not have on its local road connections with the state</p>	

	classified road and to understand how the PP will support public transport and active transport, a TIS should be provided with the PP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic movement and impacts addressed at the development application stage - Most traffic is anticipated to turn south towards Buronga as that is the quickest and efficient way to reach Mildura centre. This is anticipated to be where most traffic will be going to due to the most services in the area being located in Mildura e.g. Shops, entertainment, banks etc. <p>At the current MLS, approximately 39 allotments are possible with 10% removed for services. The PP will increase this out put by 25 to approximately 64.</p> <p>These lots are not expected to be made available all at once due to the uptake of R5 zoned land in the Dareton area. The land uptake of R5 zoned land for 2015 to 2019 is approximately 4 lots per annum. This is not anticipated to significantly increase in the upcoming years.</p>
	TfNSW is supportive of PPs and subsequent developments that promote the utilisation of sustainable modes of travel, such as cycling and walking. In this regard, TfNSW recommends that the PP be designed to align, to the greatest extent feasible, with the aims and objectives of State Government policies related to sustainable transportation.	<p>Noted. The PP does not propose any land use change and modes of transport such as cycling and walking will be considered as part of development applications to subdivide the land.</p>
	Approval/concurrence under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 will be required from TfNSW for any works that are identified as required within a classified road.	<p>Noted. Any applications requiring works on a classified road will trigger concurrence from TfNSW.</p>

Your Reference:

Prepared By:

Date:

George Kenende

2 November 2023

PP-2023/1662 (L1/99) Planning Proposal Addendum

Changes made in response to Condition 1 of the Gateway Determination

The objective of the planning proposal is to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011 by decreasing the minimum lot size of the subject land from 5,000 square metres to 3,000 square metres to increase lot yield upon subdivision. The initial subject land was made up of Lots 551, 719, 506 and 802 DP 756961. Upon further discussion between Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and Council, it was decided to include the remaining R5 zoned land in Dareton with a Minimum Lot Size (MLS) of 5000sqm for consistency. This requirement was included as Condition 1(a) of the Gateway determination. The final result is that all R5 zoned land in Dareton will have a MLS of 3000sqm (Figure 1).

A mapping error was identified along river road where Lot 32 & 374 DP 756961 are partly zoned R5 zone with an MLS of 5000sqm. This planning proposal proposes to correct this minor cadastre error to properly align the boundaries with the appropriate MLS and zoning (Figure 1). This requirement in relation to zoning was included as Condition 1(b) of the Gateway determination. The MLS was not included in condition 1(b) of the gateway determination in error.

The new subject site will comprise of:

- Part Lots 1 & 2 DP 1004848 (part)
- Lot 506, 551, 719 & 822 DP 756961
- Lot 1-7 DP 1230430
- Lot 1 DP 1155361
- Lot 1057 DP 40315
- Part Lot 32 & 374 DP 756961 (part)



Figure 1: New zoning and MLS proposed with amended cadastre error

The proposed amendments are in line with the Dareton Strategy, Local Strategic Planning Statement, the relevant aspects of the Far West Regional Plan 2036, the relevant aspects of the draft Far West Regional Plan 2041 and State Environmental Planning Policies. The new subject area to the planning proposal causes an inconsistency with ministerial direction 4.1 flooding and increases potential risk of environmental impact to be checked at the development assessment stage. As part of the public exhibition, consultation with Biodiversity Conservation Science (BCS) and BCS – flood team will be conducted.



Your Reference:

Prepared By:

Date:

George Kenende

2 November 2023

The flooding is only for a small section of the land zoned R5 currently owned by NSW Crown Land with Native title implications (Figure 2). Based on these factors, development is not anticipated to occur on the land in the short term. As part of the public exhibition, consultation with NSW Crown Lands will be conducted.



Figure 2: Flood planning mapping impacting subject area

The new subject area will have an area of approximately 264000sqm. Based on this number and by removing 10% for roads and services, a lot yield of approximately 79 allotments is anticipated.

However, by removing the allotments already subdivided and developed or ready for development (Lot 1-7 DP 1230430 and Lot 1 DP 11553610), the overall lot yield anticipated is reduced to 64 potential new allotments with a MLS of 3000sqm. The increase lot yield raises potential impacts on the Tapio Street (classified Road). As part of the public exhibition, consultation with Transport for NSW will be conducted.



Planning Proposal

Golf Course Road Dareton

June 2023

environmental, planning and development consultants

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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.

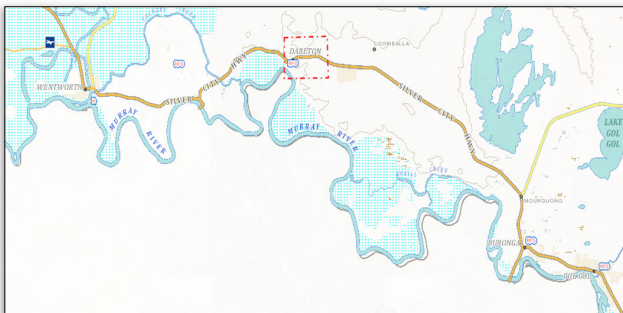


Figure 1 Dareton Locality

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.

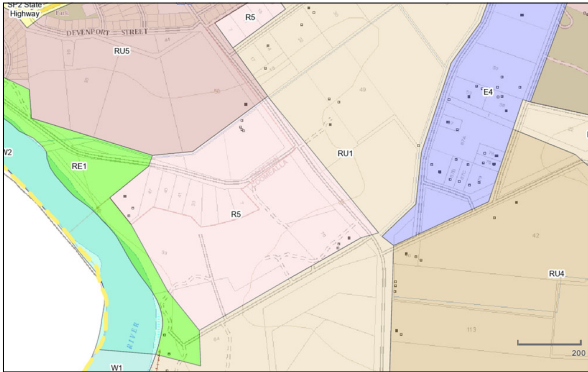


Figure 3 Surrounding Zones

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.

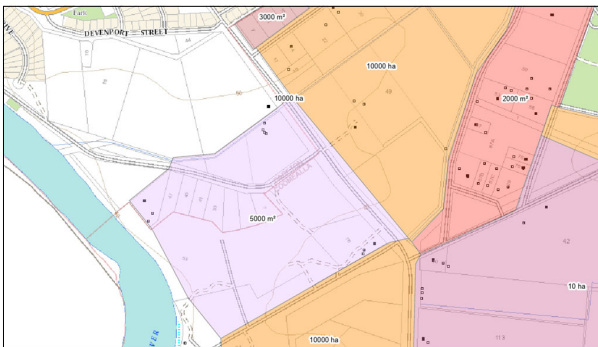


Figure 4 Site & Surrounds Minimum Lot Size Map

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.

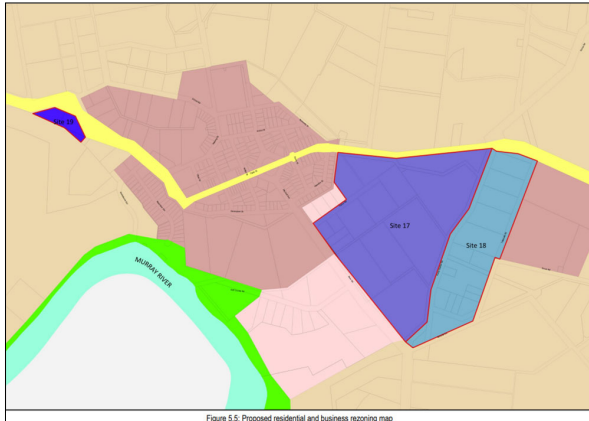


Figure 5 Proposed Residential and Business Rezoning Map

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.

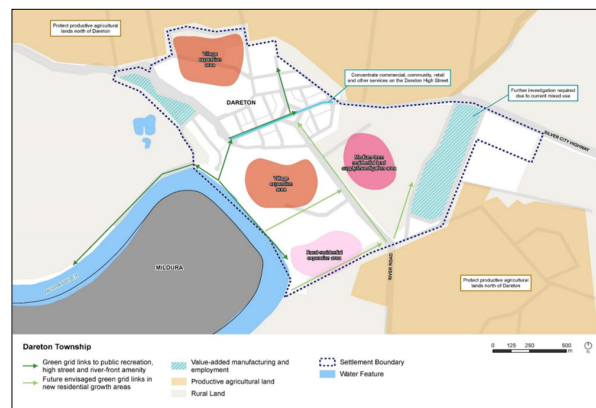


Figure 6 Dareton Settlement Boundary

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.

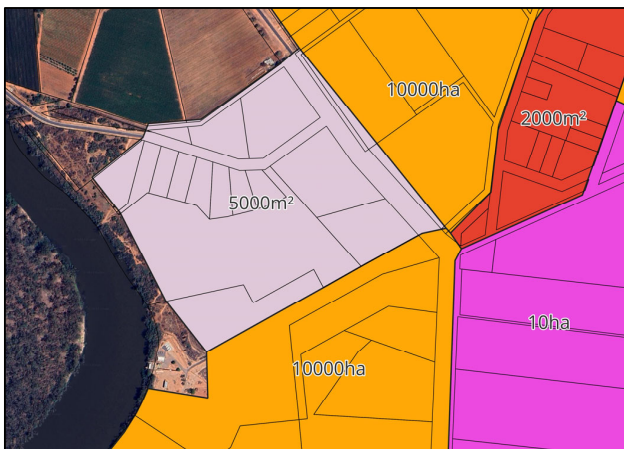


Figure 7 Current Minimum Lot Size (5,000m²)

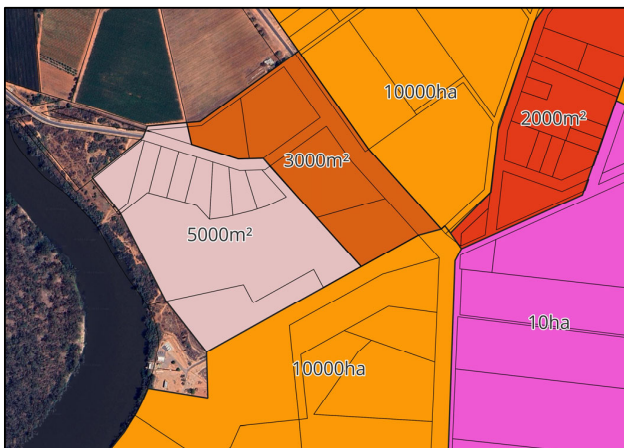


Figure 8 Proposed Minimum Lot Size (3,000m²)

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			<p>(a) <i>providing exempt and complying development codes that have State-wide application, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>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</i></p> <p>(c) <i>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</i></p> <p>(d) <i>enabling the progressive extension of the types of development in this Policy, and</i></p> <p>(e) <i>providing transitional arrangements for the introduction of the State-wide codes, including the amendment of other environmental planning instruments.</i></p> <p>The planning proposal does not detract from the aims of this SEPP.</p>
State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021	Y	Y	<p>The principles of this Policy are as follows—</p> <p>(a) <i>enabling the development of diverse housing types, including purpose-built rental housing,</i></p> <p>(b) <i>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,</i></p> <p>(c) <i>ensuring new housing development provides residents with a reasonable level of amenity,</i></p> <p>(d) <i>promoting the planning and delivery of housing in locations where it will make good use of existing and planned infrastructure and services,</i></p> <p>(e) <i>minimising adverse climate and environmental impacts of new housing development,</i></p> <p>(f) <i>reinforcing the importance of designing housing in a way that reflects and enhances its locality,</i></p> <p>(g) <i>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,</i></p> <p>(h) <i>mitigating the loss of existing affordable rental housing.</i></p> <p>The planning proposal does not detract from the principles of this SEPP.</p>
State Environmental Planning Policy	Y	Y	<p>The aims of Chapter 3 of this policy are -</p> <p>(a) <i>to ensure that signage (including advertising)—</i></p>

(Industry and Employment) 2021

(i) is compatible with the desired amenity and visual character of an area, and

(ii) provides effective communication in suitable locations, and

(iii) is of high quality design and finish, and

(b) to regulate signage (but not content) under Part 4 of the Act, and

(c) to provide time-limited consents for the display of certain advertisements, and

(d) to regulate the display of advertisements in transport corridors, and

(e) to ensure that public benefits may be derived from advertising in and adjacent to transport corridors.

(2) This Chapter does not regulate the content of signage and does not require consent for a change in the content of signage.

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

State Environmental Planning Policy No 65 Design Quality of Residential Apartment Development

N

State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021

N

This SEPP is not applicable to the planning proposal as the planning proposal is not:

- 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.
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9.3 Oyster Aquaculture	N
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9.4 Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast	N
--	---

James Golsworthy Consulting

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PO Box 1650 Mildura VIC 3502

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email admin@jgconsult.com.au

www.jgconsult.com.au



Transport for NSW



18 December 2023

Our Ref: STH23/00177/01

Your reference: PP-2023/1662 (L1/99)

Wentworth Shire Council

BY EMAIL: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Attention: George Kenende

PLANNING PROPOSAL – AMENDMENT TO THE WENTWORTH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011 – MINIMUM LOT SIZE MAP CHANGES FOR ALL R5 ZONED LAND IN DARETON – AGENCY CONSULTATION

Dear George,

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is responding to the Council's request for comments on the above Planning Proposal (PP) that has been referred for advice in accordance with the Gateway Determination issued by the Department of Planning and Environment dated 13 October 2023.

TfNSW has reviewed the information that has been made available, including the PP addendum report dated 2 November 2023 (prepared by Wentworth Shire Council), and provides the comments in **Attachment 1**. In summary, noting the amendments that have been made to the PP, insufficient information has been provided to enable TfNSW to determine if this rezoning will have an adverse impact on the state road network in terms of safety and efficiency.

TfNSW staff would be happy to be involved in an MS Teams meeting with Wentworth Shire Council staff and the applicant to discuss further and clarify the comments provided in Attachment 1.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned, on 1300 019 680 or email development.west@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Lissenden

A/Team Leader Development Services (West)

Community & Place

Regional and Outer Metropolitan

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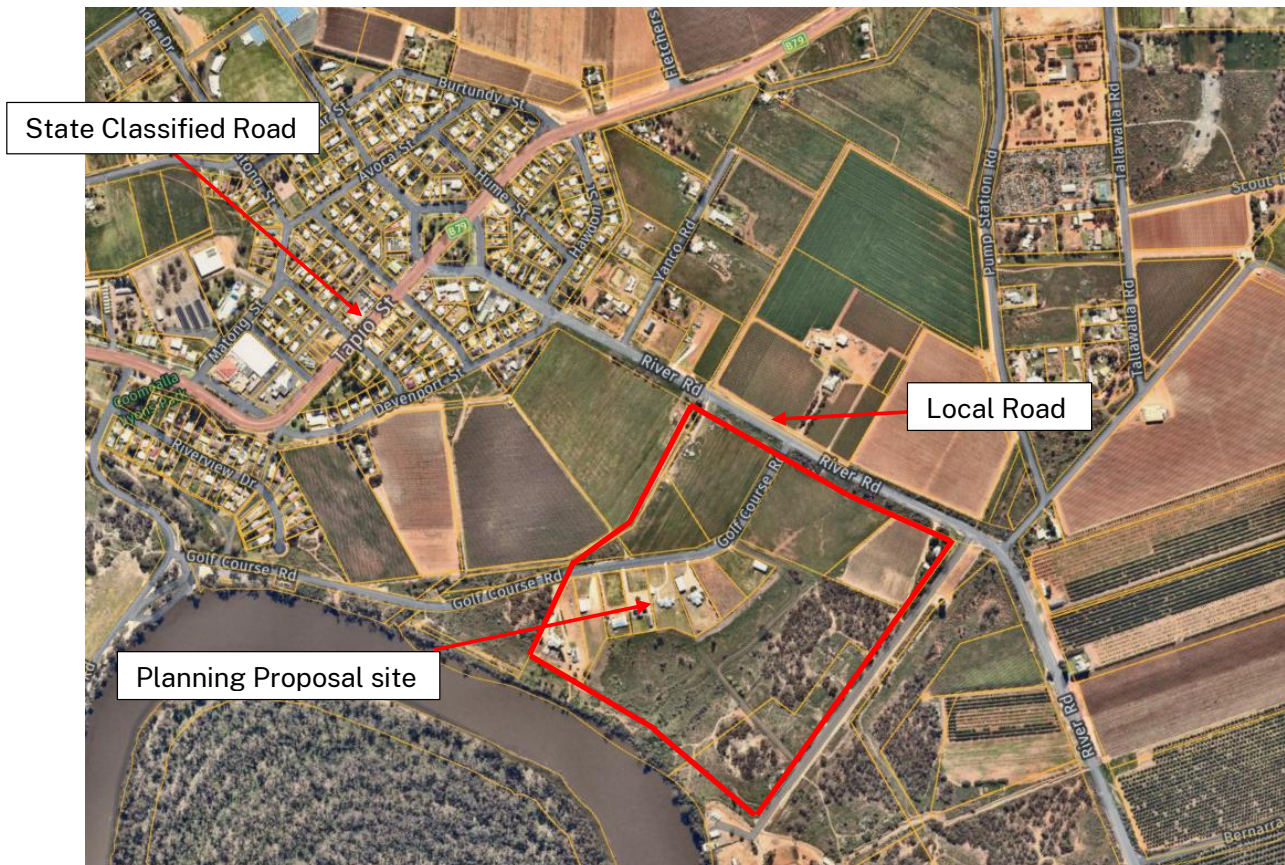
Transport for NSW



Attachment 1

PLANNING PROPOSAL – AMENDMENT TO THE WENTWORTH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011 – MINIMUM LOT SIZE MAP CHANGES FOR ALL R5 ZONED LAND IN DARETON – AGENCY CONSULTATION

Planning Proposal Site



Context

TfNSW notes:

- The key state road is the Silver City Highway/Tapio Street to which the PP site has no direct access.
- The PP, as amended, aims to modify the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)* by reducing the minimum lot size on subject land from 5,000m² to 3,000m² (i.e. amending the minimum lot size map). This proposed change will result in all R5 zoned land in Dareton having a minimum lot size of 3,000m². A lot yield of approximately 79 allotments is anticipated (i.e. 64 potential new allotments created through future development applications).
- A Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) has not been prepared to support the PP, as amended.

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2

Attachment 1

Comments/matters to be addressed

1. **Traffic Impact Study (TIS):** The increase in lot yield raises potential impacts on Tapio Street/the state classified road. To enable an understanding of the impacts that this PP will and/or will not have on its local road connections with the state classified road and to understand how the PP will support public transport and active transport, a TIS should be provided with the PP. The TIS should:
 - a) Be prepared by a suitably qualified consultant.
 - b) Address the applicable criteria/key issues in Table 2.1 of the RTA's *Guide to Traffic Generating Developments*.
 - c) Have regard for the Austroads publications, particularly the *Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 12: Integrated Transport Assessments for Developments* and *Part 3: Traffic Studies and Analysis Methods*.
 - d) Base the trip generation rates for the new residential development on the maximum value of 0.85 and 0.90 for low density residential in regional areas for the AM and PM peak hours respectively (as detailed in NSW Technical Direction (TDT) 2013/04a).
 - e) Ensure that the estimated traffic generated by the future development of the land includes a component of the new development containing more than one dwelling per lot noting that the land zoning will enable other forms of residential development that will result in greater vehicle movements than a single dwelling house (e.g. secondary dwellings, bed and breakfast accommodation). Agreement should be reached with the Council about the proportion of lots that should be assumed to be developed with more than 1 dwelling per lot.
 - f) Provide an assessment/explanation of assumed travel patterns (i.e. trip distributions) to access services.
 - g) Provide an assessment of the suitability of the local road connection to the state classified road network. Specifically, the River Road connection with the Silver City Highway/Tapio Street. This assessment should be based on current traffic counts during the AM and PM peaks and be calibrated with on-site observations while noting the comments in Points d), e), and g) above and include an assessment of the cumulative traffic impacts.
 - h) Identify appropriate measures to mitigate any adverse impacts as a result of the PP and the future development it will facilitate on the state classified road network.
 - i) Detail appropriate arrangements to support public transport (including school buses). The future subdivision of the land affected by the PP will need to demonstrate compliance with the *TfNSW Guidelines for Public Transport Capable Infrastructure in Greenfield Sites* and therefore ensure that the provided road network complies with the above guideline. These guidelines highlight the requirements for bus infrastructure in new development areas that should be included in the design/detailed in the TIS as it is important to ensure that future occupants will have access to bus infrastructure for their transportation needs.

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Attachment 1

- j) Provide a strategic design for any identified road upgrades that are required as a result of the PP. The design provided shall demonstrate compliance with the TfNSW [Strategic design requirements for DAs fact sheet](#).

2. Other general comments:

- a) TfNSW has no current proposals which require any part of the subject site.
- b) TfNSW is supportive of PPs and subsequent developments that promote the utilisation of sustainable modes of travel, such as cycling and walking. In this regard, TfNSW recommends that the PP be designed to align, to the greatest extent feasible, with the aims and objectives of State Government policies related to sustainable transportation.
- c) Approval/concurrence under Section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993* will be required from TfNSW for any works that are identified as required within a classified road.

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Department of Planning and Environment



Our ref: DOC23/258352

Your ref: PP 2023-1662

Ken Ross, GM
Wentworth Shire Council
PO Box 81,
WENTWORTH NSW 2648

VIA Email: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

CC: Rebecca Martin, DPE Planning (rebecca.martin@dpie.nsw.gov.au)

20 November 2023

Subject: Crown Lands Response – Planning Proposal 2023-1662

Dear Mr. Ross,

I refer to Council's Planning Proposal (23-1662) to change the Minimum Lot Size (MLS) allowable over certain lands at Dareton under the *Wentworth Local Environment Plan 2011*.

The Department has considered the proposal and advises that there are no objections to the proposed changes to the MLS. No adverse impacts to the Crown Estate are anticipated.

It is noted that any future subdivision of Crown Land reducing lot sizes in accord with the proposed changes to MLS (assuming they are implemented) would require the Department to approve as a party to the subdivision regardless, and any objections to such reduction in lot size would likely be made at that time.

This letter has been sent at the request of Rebecca Martin, DPE Planning to fulfil the requirements for evidencing proper agency consultancy as part of a condition of gateway. Ms. Martin has been cc'd into this letter via email as per her request.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions via email at elissa.anderson@crownland.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elissa", with a horizontal line underneath.

Elissa Anderson
Property Services Officer
DPE – Crown Lands



Department of Planning and Environment

Your ref: PP2023-1662
Our ref: DOC23/1006899

George Kenende
Strategic Development Officer
Wentworth Shire Council

Via Planning Portal PP-2023-1662 REF-2542

Dear George

**Subject: Planning Proposal PP-2023-1662 REF-2542 Golf Course Road, Dareton, R5
Minimum Lot Size Reduction**

Thank you for your referral dated 8 November 2023 seeking comments from the Biodiversity and Conservation Division (BCD) of the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department).

BCD has statutory responsibilities relating to biodiversity (including threatened species, populations, ecological communities, or their habitats) and flooding.

The Gateway Determination requires Council to consult with BCD on biodiversity and floodplain management. We have reviewed the documents supplied and provide the following comments. Detailed advice is included in **Attachment A**.

Flood

Based on available information, the subject site is unlikely to be flood affected up to the 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) Murray River flood event. Therefore BCD considers that the flood risk to future development at this site can be managed effectively through the application of planning policy in the development approval process. The planning proposal is satisfactory from a flooding perspective.

We advise that future development at the site should be consistent with the recommendations of the Wentworth Flood Study and Wentworth Flood Risk Management and Plan once finalised.

Biodiversity

The subject site and surrounding areas support native vegetation. Future development will require the clearing of native vegetation. The proposed reduction in the minimum lot size will increase the clearing required for future use and development. The Biodiversity Offset Scheme is likely to apply to any future development of the southern part of the subject site.

We recommend a biodiversity assessment be undertaken to support this proposal. The planning proposal should be amended to respond to this assessment, demonstrating how impacts of future development can be avoided and minimised.

The proposal is within the riverine land of the River Murray established by Chapter 5 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 (the B&C SEPP). We recommend the proposal also be amended to demonstrate future development can occur consistent with the principles of this policy.

A planning proposal that is responsive to biodiversity values can minimise both biodiversity impacts and the need for detailed assessments for future development. There will be fewer opportunities to avoid assessment and offset requirements in the development application process.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss practical ways to address biodiversity in this proposal.

If you have any questions regarding this advice, please contact Claire Coulson, Senior Conservation Planning Officer via rog.southwest@environment.nsw.gov.au or 02 6022 0636.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Fisher
6 December 2023

Senior Team Leader Planning South West, Biodiversity and Conservation Division
Environment and Heritage Group
Department of Planning and Environment

ATTACHMENT A – Detailed comments on PP-2023-1662 Golf Course Road, Dareton

ATTACHMENT A Detailed comments on PP-2023-1662 Golf Course Road, DaretonFlooding

The basis and validity of the current flood planning area associated with the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (2011) is unknown. BCD is unable to locate the report referenced in the Wentworth Development Control Plan (SMEC 2010).

BCD is aware of flood studies commissioned by Council, conducted by Worley-Parsons (2010) and Advisian (2021). Both the Worley-Parsons (2010) and Advisian (2021) draft flood studies have produced similar design flood level mapping, indicating that the subject site is unlikely to be flood affected by a 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) Murray River flood event. BCD understands that these flood studies remain in a draft stage and have not been adopted by Council.

It is important to note that Council are in the process of developing an updated Flood Study and Flood Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMS&P) in accordance with the NSW Flood Prone Land Policy and Flood Risk Management Manual (2023).

The hydraulic modelling developed under this updated Flood Study will supersede the previous draft design flood information for the study area, including this site. Additionally, the FRMS&P will develop revised flood related development controls (including a Flood Planning Area Map) and consider future development against the newly defined flood risks.

Based on currently available information, BCD suggests that the subject site is at low risk of riverine flooding and hence it could be considered that the inconsistency of the planning proposal with Ministerial Direction 4.1 flooding is of a minor significance. BCD considers that the flood risk to future development can be managed effectively through the application of planning policy in the development application process.

Biodiversity

The Planning Proposal is supported by a report prepared by James Golsworthy Consulting (dated June 2023). This report provides analysis of the initial proposal, which was for a smaller area. The proposal was subsequently expanded to take in a larger area. However, no additional analysis to support the expanded proposal has been provided.

The subject land and surrounding areas support native vegetation. Some of this is mapped by the Department's State Vegetation Type Mapping as Plant Community Type 153, which is associated with a Threatened Ecological Community.

While the initial proposal extent included only cleared land, the area added to the proposal following Gateway Determination appears to contain substantial cover of native vegetation. It is very likely the Biodiversity Offset Scheme will apply to future development in this part of the subject land. The Wetlands and Terrestrial Biodiversity provisions of the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 will also apply.

A reduction in minimum lot size (MLS) is likely to increase the total amount of clearing required for future use and development and reduce opportunities to avoid clearing by retaining native vegetation.

The increased density of future development is also likely to increase potential impacts to adjoining vegetation, for new or upgraded access and services to the site and for access to the river frontage. We note development of the river front area, including clearing of vegetation, is apparent from recent housing development immediately to the west of the proposal site.

The [Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline](#) (LEP Guideline, DPE 2022) provides guidance for determining the appropriate level of assessment for a planning proposal. [Attachment C](#) of the Guideline indicates the level of technical biodiversity information that may be required.

Consistent with this guidance, we recommend the proposal be revised to provide a biodiversity assessment that:

- maps and describes the ecological features and biodiversity value of the site including threatened ecological communities, threatened species and their habitat including linkages to corridors beyond the site
- includes ground truthing if relying on existing mapping
- discusses the potential impacts of future development on native flora and fauna.

[Attachment B](#) to the LEP Guideline specifies that any preliminary ecological analysis is to be done by a qualified and experienced ecologist.

The planning proposal should be amended to respond to the findings of the biodiversity assessment, including to:

- demonstrate how the proposal has taken appropriate and sufficient steps, as a first step, to avoid or minimise impacts to native vegetation and
- make recommendations to mitigate the identified impacts.

This may include consideration of whether the existing zone and proposed MLS are appropriate across the entire subject site, consideration of the use of easements or reserves for area of high value habitat, application of controls such as building envelopes and so on. The future management of public access to the river frontage should also be considered.

The proposal is within the riverine environment of the River Murray established by Chapter 5 of the B&C SEPP. We recommend the proposal is revised to demonstrate how future development outcomes will be consistent with the Planning Principles set out in section 5.9 of the B&C SEPP; in particular, the land degradation, landscape, river related uses and water quality principles.

The area added to the proposal following Gateway Determination includes native vegetation mapped for the purposes of the B&C SEPP (refer to [mapping on Planning Portal website](#), see [sheet 36](#)). We note clearing of this mapped vegetation that is likely to significantly affect threatened species will trigger the requirement to consult with the Department (refer to item 9 in the consultation table at 5.12).

19 November 2023

To Whom it May Concern

**RE: PUBLIC NOTICE OF PLANNING PROPSAL TO AMEND WENTWORTH LEP 2011 – REDUCE
MINIUMUM SIZE FROM 5000SQM TO R5 ZONED LAND IN GOLF COURSE ROAD AND RIVER ROAD
DARETON**

Please see below objection regarding proposed change.

Planning Proposal Addendum PP - 2013/1662 (L1/99) notes that Zone 'R5' includes Crown Land and Native Title also exists. It also notes that due to possible environmental impact and flooding implications, development 'is not anticipated in the short term.'

We would like to state our objection to the possible development of Crown Lands area due to the following concerns:

- It is a wildlife area where many native birds, echidnas, kangaroos frequent. Development of blocks between River Road and Golf Course Road will drive some of the existing kangaroos that frequent that area to neighbouring wildlife areas such as the Crown Land section.
- There are currently asbestos-like materials which has been left in that area in several large piles that requires removal.
- We built on our block with the understanding that the land between our block and the river would not be developed. We were told when purchasing that the land could not be sub-divided and therefore will remain bushland.

Should the Wentworth Shire Council attempt to acquire the Crown Land for other purposes we are concerned that it will impact our lifestyle and negatively impact the wildlife that use that corridor by further reducing bushland that can sustain local wildlife.

Secondly ,the reduction of land size referred to in the James Goldsworthy report, this report notes there is currently no block of 5000SQM available in the Wentworth Shire, therefore, to keep the current block sizes may be a point of difference to other blocks currently on the market and therefore increase demand for them when they are sub-divided. Comparative blocks which were referred to in the report were in Gol Gol. There is a higher demand for blocks in the Gol Gol/Buronga area where the infrastructure and services of Mildura are very close. Potential purchasers may be happy to travel a further distance from Mildura if they had additional land which is currently not available elsewhere on the NSW side of the river.

Kind regards

Rebecca & Nick Ferry

9.9 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - MARCH 2024

File Number: RPT/24/118

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 February 2024 and the planned activities for March 2024.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in February 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Detailed Report

Refer below for updates of the works completed in February 2024, and the planned activities for March 2024.

Project and Works Update for February 2024	
Roads	<p><u>Grid Replacement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 grids were replaced on the Old Anabranh Mail Road as part of Councils replacement program. <p><u>Heavy Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program, heavy grading was completed on the Roo Roo Road <p><u>Arumpo Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design ongoing Tenders for the Hire of Water Trucks, Hire of Land Plane/Earth Scoops and supply of Road Base material have been received and are under review.
Projects	<p><u>District Bulk Metering</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulk meters delivered. Installation planning underway, additional hydro-vac investigations required. <p><u>Junction Island Bridge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Island" side installation of walkway complete including grating. <p><u>Junction Island Footpath</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site visit of footpath undertaken, and alignment marked. Alignment modified to minimise vegetation clearance and avoid erosion areas.

Projects

- Procurement of materials and contractors commenced.

Wentworth Jockey Changerooms

- Changerooms construction complete to lock up stage.

Wentworth and Pooncarie Camp Kitchens

- Wentworth Camp Kitchen – Concept in discussions with community stakeholders.
- Pooncarie Camp Kitchen – Concept forwarded to community stakeholders, significant changes in scope proposed by stakeholders.

Pink Lake

- Technical specification and detailed design complete.
- Land tenure issues progressing, estimated tender period April.

Wentworth Effluent Disposal System (EDS)

- Installation of gangway complete.
- Installation sewer pump station switchboard complete.

Willow Bend Caravan Park

- Sewer works complete to eastern half of the project.
- All other services to commence in the eastern half of park.
- Western end caravan pads complete.
- Western end road pavement and kerbing complete.
- Retaining wall construction commenced.

Amenities Blocks

- Willow Bend Caravan Park - West and east amenities installed.
- All other buildings – ready for delivery.

Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1

- Technical specification and detailed design complete.

Buronga Toilet Block

- Scope being reviewed including permanent power supply rather than solar.
- Civil works tender document in preparation.

Pooncarie Toilet Block

- Scope reverted to original conventional toilets and reln drain.

James King Park Retaining Wall and Footpath

- Designs updated to reflect community consultation requirements.
- Procurement of materials commenced.
- Footpath requiring additional environmental approvals.

Dareton Toilet Block

- Underground Electrical mains installed.
- Roofing iron and laser lite installed.
- Sewer connection contractor awarded.

Wentworth Rowing Club Building

- Bar reinstatement works awarded.

	<p><u>Dareton to Namatjira Sharedway</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of sharedway commenced. • Tender for solar lighting being prepared. <p><u>George Gordon Sporting Complex Netball Court Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball courts surface complete. • Line marking commenced. <p><u>Buronga Shared Path</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared path construction continuing from Chaffey Bridge towards the riverfront. • Retaining wall design complete <p><u>Wentworth Cadell Street Kerb Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey and design complete. • Landholder notifications complete. • Procurement of works commenced.
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Projects and Works scheduled for March 2024

Roads	<p><u>Arumpo Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation and procurement of culverts. • Clearing of vegetation within the proposed new road alignment to commence. • Pushing up of material in the new gravel pits in readiness for the contractor to commence crushing and pugging for the entire project. <p><u>Maintenance Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works scheduled to be completed on the Ivanhoe and Dockerty Roads. <p><u>Red Hill Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation and re-shaping of existing road surface to improve drainage. • 150mm overlay of class material 1.42km in length x 5.5m wide. • Works will commence from the Low Darling Road, Council have targeted this area as it is heavily clay-based which prohibits the use of the road even after minor rain events. <p><u>Keenans Drive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded by the Fixing Local Roads Program. • Project extent 830m, commencing at the Silver City Highway intersection through to the end of the new bitumen seal at the end of the Old Wentworth Road • Works include removal of existing plum trees to create a better line of sight from Keenans Drive intersection, stabilization of existing sub-base to cater for increased heavy vehicle use, bitumen seal 7.2m wide and new line marking. <p><u>TfNSW Highway Heavy Patching</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled maintenance works to be undertaken on the Silver City and Sturt Highways to repair damaged sections.
	<p><u>District Bulk Metering</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of straight replacement flow meter (Pooncarie).

<p>Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of contractors to undertake installation to commence. <p><u>Junction Island Bridge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge complete in early March in readiness for Footpath to commence. <p><u>Junction Island Footpath</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation removal to be complete along footpath alignment. • Crusher dust to be procured and delivered to site. • Contractor procurement underway. <p><u>Wentworth Effluent Disposal System (EDS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of installation works. • Commissioning of pump and pump station. <p><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western end to be completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Asphalt installed. ○ Power bollards installed. ○ Roll out grass installed. ○ Retaining Wall installed. • All other services to be completed to eastern end. <p><u>Amenities Blocks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting delivery to other sites. • Pooncarie Toilet Block delivery in April. <p><u>Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender to be advertised. <p><u>Buronga Toilet Block</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil works package to be advertised. • Assessment review undertaken on electrical supply (power mains vs solar). <p><u>Pooncarie Toilet Block</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement documentation to be issued to contractors. • Building foundations to be installed.
<p>Projects</p>	<p><u>Pink Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender documentation to be prepared, awaiting resolution of land tenure issues prior to advertising. <p><u>Dareton to Namatjira Sharedway</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of construction of sharedway • Solar lighting tender to go to VendorPanel. <p><u>Dareton Toilet Block</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewer and water mains connection to be completed. • Toilet pans, basins and urinal to be fitted. • External doors and hardware ordered. • External and internal perforated screens to be installed. • Project on schedule to be completed prior to Coomealla Centenary Celebrations.

	<p><u>James King Retaining Wall and Footpath</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials to be delivered for retaining wall. • Contractor to be engaged for retaining wall. • Footpath environmental assessment to be underway. <p><u>George Gordon Sporting Complex Netball Court Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball courts line marking to be completed. • Area around netball courts to be upgraded (grass and concrete). • On track to be completed in readiness for the commencement of netball season. <p><u>Buronga Shared Path</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sections of the path, other than the section near the Buronga Slipway, to be completed. • Buronga Slipway section of the path, subject to review and redesign. <p><u>Wentworth Cadell Street Kerb Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerb & Channel works to be awarded. <p><u>Wentworth Jockey Changerooms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joinery and fit out to be undertaken. <p><u>Wentworth and Pooncarie Camp Kitchens</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wentworth Camp Kitchen – awaiting stakeholder review of concept design. • Pooncarie Camp Kitchen – further concept drawings being prepared for reissue to stakeholders. • Building surveyor brief being prepared for both kitchens. <p><u>Wentworth Rowing Club Building</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar reinstatement works underway to be completed by Easter Regatta.
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Flood Recovery Works

Flood Recovery	<p><u>Junction Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works awarded. • 12-week lead time on supply of the lamp post light heads. • Providing no delays with the lights, works will be completed for the Junction Rally. <p><u>Wentworth Wharf & Riverfront</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amended RFQ sent out and closed 4th March.
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Attachments

1. Red Hill Road [↓](#)
2. Junction Island Bridge & Sturt Hwy Shoulder Grading [↓](#)
3. Jockey Changerooms [↓](#)
4. Wentworth EDS [↓](#)

5. Willow Bend Caravan Park - Western End [↓](#)
6. Willow Bend Caravan Park - Road and Retaining Wall

06/03/2024 11:40



08/03/2024 12:07















10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - CONTRIBUTION TO MILDURA HEALTH FOUNDATION

File Number: RPT/24/149

Councillor Cr Daniel Linklater has indicated his intention to move the following motion:

Motion

That Council contribute to the Mildura Health Foundation and become a Gold partner by donating \$50,000 from next years budget.

Background

Since April 2023, patients from Mildura and its surrounding regions, including the Wentworth Local Government Area have had access to radiation treatment at the Mildura Health Icon Cancer Centre. For our community in Far West NSW, it means that patients no longer have to travel hundreds of kilometres to Adelaide, Bendigo or Melbourne.

The Mildura Health Foundation appeal is for construction of the Dr Julie Zrna Centre, which will provide 10 self-contained and fully furnished one and two bedroom apartments for use by patients and their family or carer while undergoing radiation treatment at the Mildura Health Icon Cancer Centre. They will be available to all public and private cancer patients who are receiving radiation treatment.

This will be of particular benefit to patients who may reside in Pooncarie, our rural zone, or anyone who would otherwise find it difficult to travel daily to the treatment centre in Mildura. It will make it less likely that people will choose to delay treatment, and more likely that those who need to access radiation treatment can do so with maximum comfort and support.

This is a commendable initiative to support patients, and one that Wentworth Shire Council, would be proud to partner with.

Mildura Health Foundation Limited is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not For Profit Commission.

Attachments

1. Mildura Health Foundation - Accommodation for Cancer Patients[↓](#)



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[Contact us](#) [Our supporters](#) [Donate](#)

Appeal #1

Patient Accommodation

Patient Accommodation for Cancer Patients

We want radiation patients to focus on their treatment and recovery, rather than matters such as where to stay for the night if they live outside Mildura.

That is why we need your help to build and



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[Donate](#)

The apartments will be available to all private and public patients who are receiving radiation treatment at Mildura Health Icon Cancer Centre.

patients, their families and carers, can walk into a comfortable and safe setting and be at ease to focus on their recovery.



Access to cancer care and accommodation locally



About us

Patient Accommodation Appeal

Contact Us

Our supporters

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- incorporates a procedure room, nurses' station, consulting rooms and a patient education room, allowing doctors from across the country to speak with patients via webcam. —

To help ensure patients are further supported, we want to provide them with a place to stay during their radiation treatment, an often emotionally and physically draining experience, across many weeks.

Having the peace of mind knowing there are beautiful, functional apartment for patients to go stay in a home away from home, can make all the difference.



Would you like to donate?

Your donations will help achieve great health outcomes for our community.

By donating to Mildura Health Foundation you are helping to support patients travelling to Mildura to access radiation treatment at Mildura Health Icon Cancer Centre.

[Click to donate](#)



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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 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tenders for Replacement Plant 900 - Front End Loader (Waste Handler) VR2324/900. (RPT/24/120)

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

12.2 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tenders for Replacement Plant 525 - Single Cab 4.5 Tonne Gross Vehicle Mass Truck with Crane - VR2324/900. (RPT/24/121)

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 Arumpo Road Reconstruction - Road Base Material - PT2324/07. (RPT/24/126)

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 Arumpo Road Reconstruction - Plant Hire Tenders. (RPT/24/127)

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 Contract Negotiations Wentworth / Baaka View Caravan Park. (RPT/24/152)

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

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL**12.1 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT
PLANT 900 - FRONT END LOADER (WASTE HANDLER) VR2324/900**

File Number: RPT/24/120

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.

**12.2 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT
PLANT 525 - SINGLE CAB 4.5 TONNE GROSS VEHICLE MASS TRUCK WITH
CRANE - VR2324/900**

File Number: RPT/24/121

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.

12.3 ARUMPO ROAD RECONSTRUCTION - ROAD BASE MATERIAL - PT2324/07

File Number: RPT/24/126

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division:

Reporting Officer: Jarrod Roberts - Manager Works

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.

12.4 ARUMPO ROAD RECONSTRUCTION - PLANT HIRE TENDERS

File Number: RPT/24/127

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Jarrod Roberts - Manager Works

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.

12.5 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WENTWORTH / BAAKA VIEW CARAVAN PARK

File Number: RPT/24/152

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support 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: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

17 April 2024