



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

The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website. Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and/or voice being webcast.

All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing personal information about another individual without their consent. Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments.

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

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

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

KEN ROSS
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

28 JUNE 2023

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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

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 17 May 2023 be confirmed as
circulated.



ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

17 MAY 2023

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:01pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

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

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Matthew Carlin (Director Health and Planning)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Tania Peel (Business Support Officer)
Deborah Zorzi (Governance Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Council Resolution

That Council notes the apologies from Cr Heywood and Cr MacAllister and grants the Leave of Absence Requests from Councillor Elstone 16 July 2023 – 18 August 2023 and Councillor Cooper 4 June 2023 -28 June 2023

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Elstone advised that he has a pecuniary interest in Item 9.13 as he sold property to applicant.

Councillor Cooper advised that he has a pecuniary interest in Item 9.13 as he sold property to applicant.

Councillor Linklater advised that he has non pecuniary interest in item 12.1

Councillor Beaumont advised that he has non pecuniary interest in item 9.7 as he is a board member of Wentworth District Community Medical Centre relative to request for reimbursement of WSC Plumbing and Drainage application fee.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the disclosures of interest.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 19 April 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 19 April 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr Rodd, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/23/254

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

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

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 8 May 2023

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 8 May 2023

Moved Cr Cooper, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/236

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. Elstone, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

Motion

That Council receives minutes from external committee meetings via email to all Councillors

Council Resolution

That Council receives minutes from external committee meetings via email to all Councillors

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON.

File Number: RPT/23/247

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

At the April 2022 Council Meeting, Council resolved to appoint Rosanne Kava as the Interim Chairperson of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee for a period of 12 months for the following reasons:

- Council needed to have a Committee appointed within six months of the December 2021 Council elections as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act); and
- The draft Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW required that the Chairperson be appointed via the NSW Government's prequalification scheme. At the time of appointing the Committee the draft guidelines had yet to be approved therefore Council was unable to access the prequalification scheme. In order to be compliant with the requirements of the Act to appoint the Chairperson for a period of 12 months until such time as draft guidelines have been approved and Council is able to appoint a Chairperson from the prequalification scheme.

However, since the Council meeting of April 2022 a number of amendments have been made to the guidelines including removing the need to appoint the Committee Chairperson from the NSW prequalification scheme, therefore it is recommended that existing interim Chairperson Rosanne Kava be appointed as the Chairperson for a further three years with an option for an additional four years in line with the terms of the two independent Committee members.

Recommendation

That Council appoint Rosanne Kava as Chairperson for a further three years with an option for an additional four years in line with the terms of the two independent Committee Members.

Council Resolution

That Council appoint Rosanne Kava as Chairperson for a further three years with an option for an additional four years in line with the terms of the two independent Committee Members.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED

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

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

Against the Motion: *Clr. Rodda.*

9.2 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/237

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

Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 – Conclusion of the Grace Period and updated guidance Circular 23-01

- The NSW Government is committed to keeping public places safe and accessible for all members of the community.
- The PSUP Act puts the onus on those responsible to manage their items and animals within risk-based timeframes or face strong regulatory action.
- The PSUP Act empowers authorised officers of council to take regulatory action when they reasonably believe property to be unattended, and that the property is causing a safety risk, or access issue, or amenity issue, or has been left in the same place, or substantially the same place, for too long.

Information about Ratings 2023-24 Circular 23-02

- The maximum boarding house tariffs for 2023-24 have been determined.
- The maximum interest rate payable on overdue rates and charges for 2023/24 has been determined.
- The Section 603 Certificate fee for 2023/24 has been determined.
- The statutory limit on the maximum amount of minimum rates for 2023/24 has been determined for commencement on 1 July 2023.

What this will mean for your council

- Councils should incorporate these determinations into their 2023/24 rating structures and Operational Plan Statement of Revenue Policies.

Section 603 Certificate

- Under section 603 of the Act, councils may issue a certificate as to the amount (if any) of rates, charges, etc. due or payable to the council for a parcel of land. Section

603(2) states the application must be accompanied by the approved fee. In accordance with the approved methodology, the approved fee for 2023-24 is determined to be \$95. This is an increase of \$5 from the 2022-23 fee.

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

2. Meetings

As listed

3. Upcoming meetings or events

As listed

4. Other items of note

Recommendation

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION REGION 4 NOMINATIONS

File Number: RPT/23/244

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

Wentworth Shire Council continues to be a member of the Murray Darling Association (MDA); a membership-based organisation representing local government and communities across the Murray-Darling Basin since 1944.

The MDA works with and for member councils, in collaboration with state based local government associations such as Local Government NSW, Joint Organisations and other local government affiliations.

Wentworth Shire Council sits within Region 4; there are 12 regions.

The MDA Region 4 Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held on 31 May 2023 at the Mildura Rural City Council.

Nominations are now being called for the position of Chair and Executive Committee members which need to be lodged by 20 May 2023.

Recommendation

That Council

1. Nominates delegate(s) for positions on the Executive Committee of MDA Region 4, and in doing so acknowledges its commitment to the nomination.
2. Determines if it will nominate a preferred delegate for the position of Chair of MDA Region 4, and in doing so acknowledges the obligations of the Region Chair and commits to providing the resources required to support the role of Chair.

Council Resolution

That Council

1. Nominates delegate Cr Elstone for a position on the Executive Committee of MDA Region 4, and in doing so acknowledges its commitment to the nomination.

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - APRIL 2023

File Number: RPT/23/268

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 April 2023 were \$520,538.05. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 74.95%. For comparison purposes 75.93% of the levy had been collected at the end of March 2022. Council currently has \$49,366,396.48 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 Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - APRIL 2023

File Number: RPT/23/289

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

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

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

Summary

As at 30 April 2023 Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$5,105,287.27 in other cash investments. Council received \$67,213.73 from its investments for the month of April 2023.

In April 2023 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.07% and it currently has \$8,253,399.60 of internal restrictions and \$32,150,451.88 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 Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 MARCH QUATERLY BUDGET REVIEW - THIRD QUARTER 2022 - 2023

File Number: RPT/23/242

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

If approved, the net result of variances for the March 2023 is an unfavourable operational variance of \$6,127,000 and a favourable capital variance of \$6,839,000 resulting in a total favourable budget variation of \$712,000.

This report was presented to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee on 5 May 2023 wherein the committee recommended that Council approve the recommendation.

Recommendation

That Council:

- Note the 2022/2023 Third Quarter Budget Review
- Note the proposed revised 2022/2023 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.
- Resolve to amend the 2022/2023 budget in accordance with the changes recommended in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period of 1 January to 31 March 2023.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- Note the 2022/2023 Third Quarter Budget Review
- Note the proposed revised 2022/2023 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.
- Resolve to amend the 2022/2023 budget in accordance with the changes recommended in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period of 1 January to 31 March 2023.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

File Number: RPT/23/253

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 \$160,000.00 for the 2022/2023 financial year for consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance.

Council approved a budget variation of \$30,000.00 at the 15 February 2023 Council Meeting, increasing the total amount available for 2022/2023 to \$190,000.

In this financial year, \$104,320.00 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 under delegated authority to date this financial year is \$3,943.00 and the total value of requests granted in full equals \$60,465.00 leaving a balance in the financial assistance program of \$19,564.38

Financial Assistance Program starting balance 2022/23	\$160,000.00
Annual fees & charges annual exemptions granted	\$104,320.00
Remaining balance	\$55,680.00
Granted under delegated authority to August 2022	\$ 739.00
Value of approved requests August 2022 Council Meeting	\$ 27,040.11
Granted under delegated authority to October 2023	\$ 907.00
Value of approved requests 16 November 2022 Council Meeting	\$15,464.00
Remaining balance as at 16 November 2022	\$11,529.89
Granted under delegated authority to 29 January 2023	\$771.00
Remaining balance as at	\$10,758.89
Value of approved requests – 15 February 2023 Council Meeting	\$17,960.89
Approved budget variation (15/2/2023)	\$30,000.00
Remaining balance	\$22,798.00
Granted under delegated authority to 3 May 2023	\$1,526.00
Remaining balance	\$21,272.00
Request applications received 1 February – 30 April 2023	\$1,707.62
Remaining balance if all approved	\$19,564.38

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 has 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.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Beaumont left Council Chambers at 7:24pm

Councillor Brian Beaumont returned to Council Chambers at 7:26pm

9.8 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/246

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Report Author: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council develops a Four (4) Year Delivery Program and a One (1) 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 (6) months. To better align with the Quarterly Budget Review Process, the Operational Plan progress report is also compiled on a quarterly basis.

New Actions added in the 3rd Quarter:

- 1.2.10 – Regional Tourism Activation Fund – Light State Project
- 1.2.11 – Dareton Early Settlers Museum Business Case
- 2.3.10 – General Flood Recovery Activities
- 2.5.09 – Parks, Gardens, Open Spaces Flood Recovery
- 3.2.25 – Roads, Bridges, footpaths Flood Recovery
- 3.2.26 – Alcheringa Tennis Courts Replacement
- 3.2.27 – Wentworth Sporting Complex Bowling Green Replacement
- 3.2.28 – Get Active NSW – Pine Road Sharedway
- 3.2.29 – Get Active NSW – Wood Street Sharedway
- 3.2.30 – Get Active NSW – Gol Gol Nth Road and Kingfisher Road Sharedway
- 3.5.14 – Buronga/Gol Gol Sporting Master Plan
- 3.5.15 – Rose Street Stormwater

The following Actions have been completed in this quarter:

- 2.2.09 – Dareton Men in a Shed
- 3.2.17 – Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer
- 3.4.14 – Sewer Pump Station #5

Other highlights for the quarter include the following:

- On going flood monitoring and preparation works as flood water continued down the Darling-Baaka and the Anabranch
- Commenced flood recovery operations for areas of the Shire no longer affected by flood water
- Wentworth Winedown Concert was held in February at the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens

- Visits to the Region by the Deputy Premier and the Regional Roads Minister for funding announcements and to officially open completed State Government Projects

20 projects that had previously stalled due to the flood recommenced during this quarter.

The report was presented to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee at its meeting held on 5 May 2023. The Committee recommended that Council notes the report.

Recommendation

That Council notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Council Resolution

That Council notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Moved Cr Beaumont, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 DRAFT 2023/2024 OPERATIONAL PLAN - ENDORSEMENT FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION.

File Number:	RPT/23/248
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:	4.3 An effective and efficient organisation

Summary

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (the Act), Council must have an annual Operational Plan adopted for each financial year, outlining the activities to be undertaken in that year, to achieve the commitments outlined in the Delivery Program.

The Operational Plan also includes the Statement of Council Revenue Policy and the Annual Fees and Charges in accordance with the Regulations.

Council is being asked to endorse the draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan for public exhibition. During the exhibition period the public are invited to provide feedback into the actions to be undertaken within the financial year. Public submissions are also invited on the proposed Rates and Annual Charges, as outlined in the Annual Statement of Revenue, and the Annual Fees and Charges.

The final version of all documents, together with all feedback received, will be presented to Council on the 28 June 2023.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan

That Council gives notice of its intention to adopt the following rates and annual charges, which are contained within the draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan:

- To make and levy an Ordinary Rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for residential, business and farmland categories of rates;
- To increase the Ordinary Rate by the maximum 3.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART)
- To increase waste water access charges by 3.70%
- To increase raw and filtered water access charges by 3.70%
- To increase water consumption charges by 3.70%
- To increase domestic waste charges by 3.70%
- To levy the fees and charges established in Part B of the Annual Statement of Revenue;
- That Council endorses the proposed new borrowings of \$2,000,000; and
- To charge the maximum interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

Motion

Council increase waste water access charges, raw and filtered access charges, water

consumption charges and the domestic waster charges by 2.5%

Moved Cr. Nichols

Motion Lost due to lack of Seconder

Council Resolution

That Council endorses the draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan

That Council gives notice of its intention to adopt the following rates and annual charges, which are contained within the draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan:

- To make and levy an Ordinary Rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for residential, business and farmland categories of rates;
- To increase the Ordinary Rate by the maximum 3.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART)
- To increase waste water access charges by 3.70%
- To increase raw and filtered water access charges by 3.70%
- To increase water consumption charges by 3.70%
- To increase domestic waste charges by 3.70%
- To levy the fees and charges established in Part B of the Annual Statement of Revenue;
- That Council endorses the proposed new borrowings of \$2,000,000; and
- To charge the maximum interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION FOR 2023/2024

File Number: RPT/23/292

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

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

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

Summary

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined a 2% increase to the Mayoral and Councillor fees for the 2023/2024 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2023.

Sections 248 and 249 of the *Local Government Act 1993* require Councils to fix and pay an annual fee based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2023/2024 financial year. If a Council does not fix a fee, the Council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

The Remuneration Tribunal classifies the Wentworth Shire Council as a Rural Council. As such, the minimum fee for a Councillor is \$9,850 and the maximum allowable is \$13,030. In addition to the fee paid as a Councillor, the minimum fee payable to the Mayor is \$10,490 and the maximum fee is \$28,430.

In June 2022, Council resolved to increase the fees for the 2022/2022 to the maximum amount. The fees for 2022/2022 are \$12,650 for Councillors plus an additional \$27,600 for the Mayor.

Recommendation

That Council sets the level of fees to be paid to the Councillors and Mayor in accordance with the schedule of fees determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunals

Council Resolution

That Council sets the level of fees to be paid to Councillors at \$13030 and Mayor at \$28430 in accordance with the schedule of fees determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunals.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.11 CHILD SAFE POLICY

File Number: RPT/23/255

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

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

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

A key outcome of NSW Government reforms arising from the findings of the *National Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* has been the introduction of new legislation and the adoption in NSW of 10 Child Safe Standards. The NSW Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) implements the Child Safe Scheme which commenced on 1 February 2022 requiring all Councils to become 'child-safe' organisations and use the Standards through their systems, policies and processes.

Council has drafted a Child Safe Policy to ensure compliance with the child protection legislation, committing to providing and actively promoting a safe environment for children and young people. Council has been developing systems, policies and processes in support of the Policy and implementation of the Child Safe Standards.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the Child Safe Policy in draft form and place the Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Council Resolution

That Council endorses the Child Safe Policy in draft form and place the Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12 CONFLICT OF INTEREST MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR COUNCIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

File Number:	RPT/23/256
Responsible Officer:	Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy
Responsible Division:	Finance and Policy
Reporting Officer:	Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy:	4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

The *Environmental Planning & Assessment (Conflict of Interest) Regulation 2022*, which commenced on 3 April 2023, introduced new requirements into the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulations 2021* (EP&A Regs 2021) to address conflicts of interest in council related development. These concerns evolved from a NSW Ombudsman report tabled in NSW Parliament in December 2020: *An inherent conflict of interest: councils as developer and regulator*

Recommendation

That Council endorses the Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development in draft form and place the draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Council Resolution

That Council endorses the Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development in draft form and place the draft Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At 07:33 pm Mayor Elstone and Councillor Steve Cooper left the Council Chambers.

Cr Linklater assumed the chair

9.13 DA2023/033 NEW DWELLING WITH STORAGE SHED AND CARPORT, AN ADDITIONAL STORAGE SHED WITH WET AREA, AND REMOVAL OF EXISTING DWELLING 163 POONCARIE ROAD LOT 4 DP 1239541 WENTWORTH

File Number: RPT/23/259

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning
Responsible Division: Health and Planning
Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

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

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

Summary

A development application (DA2023/033) was received by Council for a new dwelling with storage shed and carport, an additional storage with wet area and removal of existing dwelling to be located at 163 Pooncarie Road Lot 4 DP 1239541 Wentworth in close proximity to the river.

Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, dwellings are permitted with consent if located within the R5 Large Lot Residential zone.

Clause 7.9 of the WLEP 2011, was a site-specific clause created by a planning proposal which was referred to several state agencies. This clause allows dwellings to be located 30m from the lowest bank of the Darling River (waters edge at normal pool level) on land identified as "Riverton". The proposed dwelling has a setback of 44m from the lowest bank (water edge), which complies with the clause.

The proposed dwelling is located 3m from the high bank of the river, while the required river setback under clause 7.6 the WLEP 2011 is 30m from the high bank. Although clause 7.9 allows the proposed setback, some form of assessment is still required against clause 7.6. As part of the 7.6 assessment, a variation to the 30m river setback standard was required (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation).

Due to the variation being greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/033 being for a new dwelling with storage shed and carport, an additional storage shed with wet area, and removal of existing dwelling located at 163 Pooncarie Road Lot 4 DP 1239541 Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/033 being for a new dwelling with storage shed and carport, an

additional storage shed with wet area, and removal of existing dwelling located at 163 Pooncarie Road Lot 4 DP 1239541 Wentworth.

2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

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

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

At 07:37 pm Mayor Elstone and Councillor Steve Cooper returned to Council Chambers.

Mayor Elstone resumed the chair

9.14 DA2023/024 TWO STOREY DWELLING WITH GARAGE 10A CARBONE COURT LOT 1 DP 1233515 BURONGA

File Number: RPT/23/282

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

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

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

Summary

A development application (DA2023/024) was received by Council for a two storey dwelling with garage to be located at 10A Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1233515 Buronga in close proximity to the river.

Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, dwellings are permitted with consent if located within the RU5 Village zone.

The proposed alfresco area of the two storey dwelling encroaches 2.16m inside the established river front building line, as indicated within the WLEP 2011 mapping. Under clause 7.6 of the WLEP 2011, an alfresco area is not a development permitted within the river front area. Therefore, a request to vary the river front building line standard (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation) is required.

Due to the variation being non-numerical, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/024 being a for a two storey dwelling with garage located at 10A Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1233515 Buronga.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/024 being a for a two storey dwelling with garage located at 10A Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1233515 Buronga.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

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

Against the Motion: *Nil.*

9.15 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF APRIL 2023

File Number: RPT/23/266

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

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

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

Summary

For the month of April 2023, a total of ten (10) Development Applications and seven (7) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined Development Applications was \$878,598.00. This brings the year to date total to forty-two (42) Development Applications and seventeen (17) S4.55 applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$8,308,059.00.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the report for the Delegated Authority Approvals for the month of April 2023.
- b) Publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) Calls a Division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the report for the Delegated Authority Approvals for the month of April 2023.
- b) Publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) Calls a Division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

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

Against the Motion: *Nil.*

9.16 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - MAY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/249

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 April 2023 and the planned activities for May 2023.

Recommendation

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 ARTHUR STREET WATER TANKS MURAL

Cr Steve Cooper enquired if a mural could be painted on the water tanks at Arthur Street Wentworth and for the mural to represent Barkandji heritage.

10.2 DESTINATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Cr Jo Rodda requested that a copy of the Destination Management Plan be distributed to all Councillors

10.3 MONTHLY COUNCIL CONNECT PUBLICATION

Cr Jo Rodda enquired why the monthly publication has not been sent for a few months. General Manager to speak to David fry regarding the publication.

10.4 GREATER MURRAY DARLING JUNCTION INTERPRETIVE FACILITY INC. COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Cr Brian Beaumont would like to acknowledge the works of Brian Gorgan for his work with GMDJIF Committee and to advise that the committee will be winding up

10.5 SMALL PRINT IN REPORTS

Cr Susan Nichols advised that the print in some of the reports in the agenda is too small to read in future check size of print and enlarge if necessary

10.6 UPDATE REPORT WORKS ARTHUR, BENERLEY AND ADAMS STREET WENTWORTH

Cr Susan Nichols requested an update report on works to repair Arthur, Beverley and Adams Street Wentworth sites

10.7 MURRAY STREET UPDATE

Cr Susan Nichols requested a report updating where Murray street Project is at

10.8 STAFF ASSESSMENTS

Cr Susan Nichols enquired if staff assessments were being completed annually as wages keep rising . Assessments should be being completed annually by managers with their staff.

10.9 REPORTING DATES

Cr Jo Rodda requested data within the Mayoral and General Managers report be filled out up to the meeting date not the agenda closure date.

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.

Council Resolution

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

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 Undenominational Christians applying to become a regular user of Midway Centre Function Room for weekly Gospel Meetings. (RPT/23/251)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

12.2 River Road and Boeill Creek Road Flood Damage - Stabilisation Works PT2223/13. (RPT/23/252)

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

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

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 UNDENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIANS APPLYING TO BECOME A REGULAR USER OF MIDWAY CENTRE FUNCTION ROOM FOR WEEKLY GOSPEL MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/23/251

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: 2.1 Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (d) (iii) information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

The General Manager advised that Council approved the recommended discount fee of \$3,248.00 for a 13 month regular user agreement with Undenominational Christians.

12.2 RIVER ROAD AND BOEILL CREEK ROAD FLOOD DAMAGE - STABILISATION WORKS PT2223/13

File Number: RPT/23/252

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 178(1)(a) accepted the tender from Stabilco to carry out the supply and delivery for Contract PT2223/13 in the amount of \$269,495.60 inc GST, and authorises the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the council seal.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

8:12PM

NEXT MEETING

28 June 2023

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/23/366

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

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

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

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

Officer Recommendation

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

Attachments

1. Outstanding Actions as of 20 June 2023 [↓](#) 

Division: Committee: Ordinary Council Officer: Outstanding Action Items Report				Date From: Date To: Printed: Tuesday, 20 June 2023 1:53:10 PM	
Meeting	Item	Title	Item	Action Record (latest first)	
Ordinary Council 20/07/2022	10.5	<i>Darling Street Pavers</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont asked if Council should be focussing on the issue raised on Facebook with the pavers in Darling Street	20 Jun 2023 1:04pm Kelly, Jamie-Lee Project designs and options Delayed. Report to be finalised and presented at August Council Meeting prior to seeking Tenders	
Ordinary Council 26/10/2022	10.3	<i>Missing gutter</i>	Cr Daniel Linklater advised that the missing kerb at 74-78 Wood Street hasn't been replaced and it was advised it would be completed before the end of the year.	14 Jun 2023 11:36am Kelly, Jamie-Lee Contractor delayed on current works due to wet weather. Expected commencement July	
Ordinary Council 16/11/2022	10.1	<i>PS RUBY</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont requested that the future of the PS Ruby be placed back on the outstanding action list to be discussed at a future meeting.	20 Jun 2023 12:29pm Marsden, Gayle Report to be prepared for the July meeting	
Ordinary Council 16/11/2022	10.4	<i>GOL GOL Water Tower</i>	Cr Jo Rodda asked if the Gol Gol water tower could be used for a mural. The General Manager advised that it wasn't the first time a request had been made however there were some issues when it was investigated due to the tower location close to the highway and parking issues.	20 Jun 2023 12:27pm Marsden, Gayle Investigating light projection as an alternative option to painting	
Ordinary Council 15/03/2023	10.3	<i>Hard Waste Collection</i>	Cr Brian Beaumont requested a hard waste collection be considered.	20 Jun 2023 9:57am Rule, Simon An update will be provided to Council at the July Advisory Committee Meeting.	
Ordinary Council 15/03/2023	10.12	<i>Town Entrance Trees</i>	Cr Jane MacAllister advised the trees along the entrance to each of our townships are an important part of Wentworth shire because they do speak to our natural environment, who we are and our unique place at the junction of two rivers. Sometime ago Council decided to invest in trees that were not appropriate for the space they have been put in. Could Council consider reintroducing endemic species so that where box tress would ordinarily grow we plant box trees.	20 Jun 2023 10:33am Kelly, Jamie-Lee Reintroducing endemic native species will be taken in to consideration in future planting	

Division: Committee: Ordinary Council Officer: Outstanding Action Items Report				Date From: Date To: Printed: Tuesday, 20 June 2023 1:53:10 PM
Ordinary Council 17/05/2023	10.1	Arthur Street Water Tanks Mural	Cr Steve Cooper enquired if a mural could be painted on the water tanks at Arthur Street Wentworth and for the mural to represent Barkandji heritage.	20 Jun 2023 12:58pm Marsden, Gayle Investigating light projection as an alternative option to painting
Ordinary Council 17/05/2023	10.3	Monthly Council Connect Publication	Cr Jo Rodda enquired why the monthly publication has not been sent for a few months. General manager to speak to David fry regarding the publication.	20 Jun 2023 12:30pm Marsden, Gayle Marketing and Communications Officer is working on a quarterly publication for June 2023
Ordinary Council 17/05/2023	10.6	Update Report works Arthur, Benerley and Adams Street Wentworth	Cr Susan Nichols requested an update report on works to repair Arthur, Beverley and Adams Street Wentworth sites	14 Jun 2023 11:33am Kelly, Jamie-Lee Work undertaken to install new water supply valves & pipework completed on 17th & 18th June 10pm-4am

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/295

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Elstone for the period of 9 May 2023 – 28 June 2023.

Recommendation

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

Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Elstone for the period of 9 May 2023 – 28 June 2023.

Date	Meeting	Location
9 May 2023	AVL Buronga Hill Winery Site Visit	Buronga
10 May 2023	Mildura Regional Development Light State Business Information Forum	Mildura
16 May 2023	Community Consultation- After Party Wentworth Show	Wentworth
16 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
16 May 2023	Barrier Police District Commander Introduction Meeting	Video Conference
17 May 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
18 May 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Meeting	Video Conference
23 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
24 May 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
30 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
31 May 2023	Mildura Darling Association Region 4 Annual General Meeting	Mildura
6 June 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
10 June 2023	Sunraysia Sport Aircraft Club Fly In Dinner	Wentworth
15 June 2023	Dareton Primary Industries Institute Open Day	Dareton
21 June 2023	Essential Energy Meet and Greet	Video Conference
21 June 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
22 June 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Dinner	Broken Hill
23 June 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Meeting	Broken Hill
27 June 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
28 June 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

Attachments

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

File Number: RPT/23/311

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 was held on 5 May 2023 and the draft Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

The Committee considered the following item of business:

- Audit Engagement Plan
- Internal Audit
- Compliance Framework
- Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report
- September Quarterly Budget Review – Third Quarter 2022-2023
- Budget and Operating Plan Update

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 May 2023.

Additional Information

A meeting of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee was held on 5 May 2023. 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 new Internal Auditor RSD Audit presented to the Committee the proposed scope and methodology for their first audit engagement. They sought feedback and endorsement from the Committee to proceed as outlined in the audit

plan. The Committee endorsed the plan with works to commence in late June.
External Audit
<p>Principle</p> <p>That Council receives maximum value from its external audit activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Audit Office of NSW presented the Audit Engagement Plan for the planned 2022-2023 Audit of the Annual Financial Statements. The Committee provided input and feedback on the audit of the Annual Financial Statements as proposed by the external auditor.
Risk Management
<p>Principle</p> <p>That Council has an effective risk management framework that successfully identifies and manages the risks it faces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee endorsed the scope and methodology for the first audit by RSD Audit which will focus on completing an initial risk assessment to gain a greater understanding of Council, in addition to assessing the suitability of current risk management practices and reporting. This risk based approach is undertaken to ensure that potential internal audit projects being considered for inclusion in the Internal Audit Plan are addressing the key risk areas of Council.
Compliance
<p>Principle</p> <p>That Council has an effective compliance framework that ensures it is complying with its legal obligations and other governance and contractual requirements when undertaking its functions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Director Finance & Policy briefed the Committee on the status of Council's Compliance Framework including Council's Compliance Policy, the draft Compliance Manual that will be presented to Council for consideration in coming months and Council's operational procedure/processes for monitoring compliance.
Financial Management
<p>Principle</p> <p>That Council has an effective financial management framework, sustainable financial position and positive financial performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the budget briefing provided to Councillors at their advisory meeting on 26 April a similar briefing was provided to the Committee. 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 third quarter of the 2022-2023 Financial Year.
Strategic Planning
<p>Principle</p> <p>That Council has an effective framework that ensures it achieves its strategic plans and objectives under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the budget briefing provided to Councillors at their advisory meeting on 26 April some of the key actions for the 2023-2024 Operational Plan were highlighted, a

similar briefing was provided to the Committee.

- 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 2022-March 2023.

Performance Data and Measurement

Principle

That Council's performance management framework ensures that Council can measure its performance and if it is achieving its strategic goals.

- The Committee provided feedback to the General Manager on the benefits of providing appropriate performance indicators to help the Community measure the achievement of its strategic objectives while considering the quarterly Operational Plan progress reports.

Attachments

1. Minutes - Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee 05 May 2023 [↓](#) 



**AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

5 MAY 2023

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2023

1 OPENING OF MEETING 11.02 AM

2 PRESENT

MEMBERS

Roseanne Kava (Chair)

Diane Schmidt

Caroline Smith

Councillor Brian Beaumont (Non-Voting)

STAFF (non- voting members)

Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)

Tania Peel (Business Support Officer)

Deborah Zorzi (Governance Officer)

3 APOLOGIES

Ken Ross (General Manager)

4 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NIL

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held 3 February 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Committee Resolution

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held 3 February 2023 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved DS Schmidt, Seconded CS Smith

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2023

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Child Safety Policy Was Distributed To The Members Of The Board. To remain as outstanding until the policy has been approved.

BUSINESS ARISING - more detail to be noted in the minutes recording of the meeting to assist administration of minute taking

- Report to Council of matters discussed in ARIC meeting to be reviewed and amended by DFP. The Committee has requested that the minutes of the meeting included matter of discussion and salient point to provide Council greater detail of the meeting discussions.

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023****7 REPORTS****7.1 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

File Number: RPT/23/210

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

Summary

The Audit Engagement Plan outlines how the Audit Office of NSW through its accredited service provider Nexia intend to conduct the various audits that it is required to undertake as part of the end of financial year process for the 2022/2023 financial year. The Plan also outlines any key issues that may impact on this year audit.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the report.

Committee Resolution

That the Committee notes the report.

Moved CS Smith, Seconded DS Schmidt

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Manuel Moncada from the Audit Office of NSW spoke to the Audit Engagement Letter (AEP) focusing on some of the key areas for the information of the Committee. Manuel indicated that at this stage there was no plan to issue a Management Letter following the interim audit in June as the last Management Letter was only issued in December 2022 following the completion of the previous audit. In order to give Council time to action any of the issues raised in that Management Letter, the Audit Office will issue a Management Letter following the completion of the 2022/2023 audit.

A question was asked about the new auditing standard that was mentioned in the AEP and would it have any impact on Council and the audit deliverables. Manuel indicated that a lot of what the standard is asking to be done the Audit Office and their contractors are already doing this, however he did indicate there may be a request for additional information from Council in relation to Information Technology control and this will be done at the Interim Audit Stage in June and will not impact on the final audit.

A question was asked about the planning and timing of the audit and would Council and the Audit Office meet the statutory deadline this year. Both Manuel and the Director Finance & Policy indicated that the revaluation issues that impacted on last year's audit are not likely to be an issue this year.

Manuel indicated that there would be a big emphasis placed on the impact of the recent flooding especially on the carrying value of any impacted assets. The Director Finance and

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2023

Policy indicated that there was likely to be a significant impairment recorded in this years financials for damaged road assets.

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023****7.2 INTERNAL AUDIT**

File Number: RPT/23/235

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

Summary

Council's new Internal Audit provider RSA Audit will present the project scope for its initial internal audit focusing on Initial Risk Assessment and Audit Plan Development. The main objective of the audit is to develop the three year strategic internal audit plan.

Recommendation

The Committee notes the report.

Committee Resolution

The Committee notes the report and accept the recommendations to endorse the scope of the methodology for the first plan of the internal audit.

Moved DS Schmidt, Seconded CS Smith

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee Resolution

Motion - Report quarterly to ARIC for risks rated as high or above high which are identified in the internal audit and annually on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations.

Moved RK Kava, Seconded DS Schmidt

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr Beaumont asked RSD Audit representatives if the recommendations they make to Council, do they undertake a follow up on if the recommendations have been completed. RSD Audit representative stated that they don't do this as they believe that it is not the best use of their time, however they would do this if this is what Council wants but it would come at an additional cost.

Cr Beaumont asked about Councillors involvement in the process. The Director Finance and Policy indicated that a session was held with the previous Council to identify the key strategic risks for the organisation and that a similar session will be held with the new Council in the next couple of months.

A discussion was held regarding the reporting of outstanding actions from Audit reports. The Committee requested that they be provided with a report at each meeting on the status of any outstanding action that is rated high or above and that a report be prepared annually on the status of all outstanding actions.

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023****7.3 COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK.**

File Number: RPT/23/182

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

Summary

Section 428A(2)(a) requires Council to have an effective compliance framework that ensures that it is complying with its legal obligations and other governance and contractual requirements when undertaking its functions.

Council is currently in the process of finalising its compliance framework, once complete the framework will consist of the following:

- Compliance Policy;
- Compliance Framework Manual; and
- An operating procedure.

The framework applies to all Councillors and to all staff, commensurate with their roles, functions and delegated authority.

The Framework aims to create a strategic and consistent approach to the management of Council's compliance obligations.

Recommendation

The Committee notes the current progress of implementing a Compliance Framework and be presented to the July Meeting

Committee Resolution

The Committee notes the current progress of implementing a Compliance Framework.

Moved DS Schmidt, Seconded CS Smith

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Director Finance & Policy provided an update to the Committee on the current status of the Framework. He indicated that the Framework Manual to compliment the endorsed Council Policy was about 90% complete and that it will be presented to Council for review at the July Council meeting.

The Governance unit is also working on an operational manual for Council staff that will provide guidance on their compliance obligations including what to do if a non-compliance issue is identified, how to report it and the process required to rectify the matter.

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023****7.4 MARCH QUATERLY BUDGET REVIEW - THIRD QUARTER 2022 - 2023**

File Number: RPT/23/238

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

If approved, the net result of variances for the March 2023 is an unfavourable operational variance of \$6,127,000 and a favourable capital variance of \$6,839,000 resulting in a total favourable budget variation of \$712,000.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that Council:

- Note the 2022/2023 Third Quarter Budget Review
- Note the proposed revised 2022/2023 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.
- Resolve to amend the 2022/2023 budget in accordance with the changes recommended in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period of 1 January to 31 March 2023.

Committee Resolution

The Committee recommends that Council:

- Note the 2022/2023 Third Quarter Budget Review
- Note the proposed revised 2022/2023 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure.
- Resolve to amend the 2022/2023 budget in accordance with the changes recommended in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period of 1 January to 31 March 2023.

Moved CS Smith, Seconded DS Schmidt

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023**

7.5 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/166

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

Summary

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

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

New Actions added in the 3rd Quarter:

- 1.2.10 – Regional Tourism Activation Fund – Light State Project
- 1.2.11 – Dareton Early Settlers Museum Business Case
- 2.3.10 – General Flood Recovery Activities
- 2.5.09 – Parks, Gardens, Open Spaces Flood Recovery
- 3.2.25 – Roads, Bridges, footpaths Flood Recovery
- 3.2.26 – Alcheringa Tennis Courts Replacement
- 3.2.27 – Wentworth Sporting Complex Bowling Green Replacement
- 3.2.28 – Get Active NSW – Pine Road Sharedway
- 3.2.29 – Get Active NSW – Wood Street Sharedway
- 3.2.30 – Get Active NSW – Gol Gol Nth Road and Kingfisher Road Sharedway
- 3.5.14 – Buronga/Gol Gol Sporting Master Plan
- 3.5.15 – Rose Street Stormwater

The following Actions have been completed in this quarter:

- 2.2.09 – Dareton Men in a Shed
- 3.2.17 – Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer
- 3.4.14 – Sewer Pump Station #5

Other highlights for the quarter include the following:

- On going flood monitoring and preparation works as flood water continued down the Darling-Baaka and the Anabranck
- Commenced flood recovery operations for areas of the Shire no longer affected by flood water
- Wentworth Winedown Concert was held in February at the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**5 MAY 2023**

- Visits to the Region by the Deputy Premier and the Regional Roads Minister for funding announcements and to officially open completed State Government Projects 20 projects that had previously stalled due to the flood recommenced during this quarter.

Recommendation

That the Committee receives and notes the report

The Committee recommends that Council notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report.

Committee Resolution

That the Committee receives and notes the report

The Committee recommends that Council notes the Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report

Moved RK Kava, Seconded CS Smith

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Given that an additional 12 actions were added during the 3rd quarter and that only 18 had been completed it gave the impression that not a lot was being done. The Director Finance and Policy indicated that amongst the 124 progressing actions a fair percentage of those actions are annual actions that will be completed by the end of the year. He indicated that we will investigate options for the 2023/2024 reporting period around splitting the progressing action into annual actions and specific actions.

The Committee also provided feedback around the need for additional information to be reported to help measure progressing and/or outcomes.

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2023

7.6 BUDGET AND OPERATIONAL PLAN UPDATE.

File Number: RPT/23/211

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Report Author: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Summary

The Director Finance & Policy will provide an overview of the draft 2023/2024 Budget and Operational Plan noting that draft budget is not due to be considered by Council until 17 May.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the budget assumptions for 2023/2024

Committee Resolution

That the Committee notes the report.

Moved CS Smith, Seconded DS Schmidt

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5 MAY 2023

8 ACTIONS

9 NEXT MEETING

28 July 2023

10 CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 1:20 pm.

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/23/296

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Tania Peel - 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 23-04 to 23-05
2. Meetings
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed
4. Other items of note

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

1. Circulars

Circular 23-04

Changes to public access to council records under the *State Records Act 1998*

What's new or changing

- Changes to the *State Records Act 1998* (the Act) that take effect from 1 January 2024 will affect council records. Under the changes:
 - State records will be open to the public by default once they are 20 years old, unless they are closed via a Closed to Public Access (CPA) direction
 - Public offices (including councils) will be required to submit a plan in 2024 outlining their intention to transfer records that are required as State archives.
 - As a result of changes to the Act that took effect on 31 December 2022, parts of the Act governing public access, transfers and records that have strayed ('estrays') are now administered by Museums of History NSW (MHNSW), a new statutory body.
 - Other parts of the Act are administered by State Records Authority NSW (State Records NSW).

What this will mean for your council

- Councils will need to renew or register CPA directions with MHNSW well in advance of 1 January 2024 to ensure appropriate protection of sensitive information.
- During 2024, councils will need to submit a transfer plan to MHNSW.

Key points

- Changes to the parts of the Act administered by MHNSW are as follows:
 - Section 32(4): Transfer planning - this new section will require public offices (including councils) to plan for the transfer of records required as State archives into the State Archives Collection, and to submit a plan to MHNSW. This requirement will apply even if there is no intention to transfer records at the present time.
 - Section 50: Reduction in the Open Access Period - the Open Access Period for State records will reduce from 30 years to 20 years. The Act establishes a presumption that records in the Open Access Period should be open to public access.
 - Section 51: State records will become open to the public by default after 20 years - State records that are at least 20 years old will be open to public access if they are currently subject to an Open to Public Access (OPA) direction or do not have an access direction in place. There is no change to the capacity for a public office to apply a CPA direction or the requirement for CPA directions to be renewed every 5 years.
- The changes mean that from 1 January 2024:
 - State records that currently have a 30-year OPA direction registered will be open to the public once they are 20 years old
 - State records that are 20 or more years old and do not have an access direction registered will automatically be open to the public.
 - CPA directions that were made more than 5 years ago will need to be renewed before 1 January 2024 or the records will automatically be open to the public once they are 20 years old.

Circular 23-05

Ward boundary and name changes

What's new or changing

Councils must review their ward boundaries and notify the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) of any changes to ward boundaries and/or names by 5 October 2023.

What this will mean for your council

- Under section 211 of the Local Government Act 1993 councils that are divided into wards must keep ward boundaries under review to ensure the difference in elector numbers between wards does not exceed 10%. The attachment to this Circular provides further information regarding the calculation of the 10% variation to elector numbers within wards.
- Before altering ward boundaries, councils must: o consult the NSWEC and the Australian Statistician; and o prepare and publicly exhibit a plan detailing any proposed alteration (the ward boundary plan).
- Under section 277A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 ward boundary and name changes must be made by 5 October 2023 to be in effect for the 14 September 2024 ordinary elections unless the Electoral Commissioner otherwise approves in special circumstances.

Key points

Local government ordinary elections are to be held on **14 September 2024**.

- The last date for councils to make ward boundary alterations and name changes is **5 October 2023**.

- The NSWEC maintains a website to assist councils to review their ward boundaries and provide guidance on the process for consulting with it.
- Councils must publicly exhibit the ward boundary plan for at least 28 days and consider any submissions made during the 42 day consultation period.

1. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 9 May 2023 – 28 June 2023.

Date	Meeting	Location
9 May 2023	AVL Buronga Hill Winery Site visit	Buronga
10 May 2023	Local Rescue Committee Meeting (LRC)	Midway
10 May 2023	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting (LEMC)	Midway
16 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
16 May 2023	Barrier Police District Commander Introduction Meeting	Video Conference
16 May 2023	Community Consultation- After Party Wentworth Show	Wentworth
17 May 2023	Aboriginal Cultural Awareness and Understanding Workshop	Video Conference
17 May 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
18 May 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Meeting	Video Conference
23 May 2023	Regional Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Midway
23 May 2023	Crown Land Meeting	Wentworth
23 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
24 May 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
30 May 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
30 May-1 Jun 2023	Local Government Professionals Conference	Sydney
6 June 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
9 June 2023	Civic welcome Australian Bravery Association	Mildura
13-16 June 2023	National General Assembly Conference	Canberra
21 June 2023	Essential Energy Meet and Greet	Video Conference
21 June 2023	Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF).	Video Conference
21 June 2023	Advisory Meeting	Wentworth
22 June 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Dinner	Broken Hill
23 June 2023	Far West Joint Organisation Meeting	Broken Hill
27 June 2023	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
28 June 2023	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
28 June 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

2. 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 28 June 2023 – 19 July 2023.

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
28 June 2023	Wentworth Historical Society Book Launch “Saluting the service of Wentworth’s people”	Councillors, General Manager	Wentworth
28 June 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Councillors, General Manager, Directors	Wentworth
3 July 2023	Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc Meeting	Cr Rodda	Coomealla Club
6 July 2023	Wentworth Showgrounds User Group Meeting	Cr Beaumont, Cr Heywood, Cr Nichols	Wentworth
11 July 2023	Australian Inland Botanic Gardens Meeting	Cr Rodda	Mildura
14 July 2023	Pooncarie Sporting reserve User Group Meeting	Cr Heywood	Pooncarie
18 July 2023	Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group Meeting	Cr Beaumont, Cr Heywood, Cr Cooper	Wentworth
19 July 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Councillors, General Manager, Directors	Wentworth

3. Other items of note

Tourism Officers Report as at 5 June 2023

Dareton Markets:

- Dareton Markets was held on Saturday 27 May and was deemed a successful event with around 200-300 people attending over the course of the event.
- The next Dareton Markets will be held on Saturday 12 August.

The Smoke Show

- Planning for The Smoke Show is well underway.
- Attendees have secured almost 800 tickets for The Smoke Show so far – it is expected to attract around 1500-2000 patrons in total.
- So far, the event has only been advertised on social media – traditional methods of advertising including TV advertising and radio won’t start until next week. To already exhaust 800 tickets is a great achievement from only social media advertising.
- Facebook advertising also indicates that many people interested in the event aren’t from the area and are travelling to the event from out of the region. The Wentworth Grande Resort have reported that rooms are booking for the event.

- The current focus is to expand the trade show area with activities and businesses for attendees to take interest in.

Wentworth Winter Art Fest:

- Planning for the Wentworth Winter Art Fest is also well underway.
- The Recycled Runway fashion show has been very well received with multiple community members registering their interest in participating. A special under 16's category has also been introduced, with some of the schools in the region entering.
- Utilising the funding from West Darling Arts, Wentworth Shire Council will be providing children's art classes and mural run by Steve Hederics, a Paint + Sip session run by Studio De Vin, various local artists and dance groups, a special Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, caricature drawings, prizes for the Recycled Runway and other planned activities which aren't yet confirmed.
- The only concern at the moment is the lack of artists interested in being involved – there is currently only 12 artists with a stall.

Wentworth Show Afterparty

- The community consultation held on Tuesday 16 May was very successful with around 15 people attending.
- The feedback received was that the business owners and community members would like a Show 'Afterparty' however no extra food options are to be organised for Darling Street. Instead the current businesses will utilise more outdoor dining.
- Council will also provide a shuttle bus from the Showgrounds to Darling Street as well as extra security to minimise the risks associated with drinking. Live entertainment will also be provided and extra chairs and tables throughout the street.

Country Music Festival

- Mildura Entertainment has confirmed there will be an event hosted in Wentworth again this year for the Country Music Festival. The proposed date is a twilight event on Friday 29 September.
- Instead of hosting the event at the Wharf, the idea has been raised to host the event in Darling Street, with the street being closed off to cars. The stage will be located near the Crown Hotel with chairs and tables filling Darling Street.
- The shops will benefit from the extra crowd and local stallholders will be invited to attend to create atmosphere.

General Tourism Update

Why Not Winter in Wentworth?

- The webpage for Why Not Winter in Wentworth is almost complete and should be live within the next week, once all of the events have been confirmed on the cut-off date which is Monday 5 June.
- WRTI will be notified once the website is live to inform all businesses with events that the webpage is live for them to view so they can see their event on the page.
- A TV advertisement was put together to advertise both the Why Not Winter in Wentworth campaign and the Council's major events in July however it was requested that changes be made.

- Instead of changes being made, a brand-new TV advertisement is now being created and the two advertisements will run concurrently with the new advertisement focusing only on Why Not Winter in Wentworth.
- TV advertising has been purchased in the Broken Hill, Riverland and the Bendigo region which reaches Swan Hill, Echuca etc.
- It was decided that TV advertising would not be purchased in the Imparja area as it was more expensive and would be showcased to regions which would require 1-2 days of travel.
- Both TV advertisements will be provided to WSC to be posted on the social media channels. A small portion of budget has been allocated to boosting the videos.

Tourism Collateral

- The procurement process to have the tourism collateral professionally printed has been completed and the printing is set to go ahead within the next few weeks.
- Businesses should expect to receive the tourism collateral they have ordered by the end of June. Extra collateral will be available at the Wentworth Visitor Information Centre.





Destination and Visitor Economy Conference

- Two staff members attended the Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Manly from 29 – 31 May.
- The conference program consisted of various live speakers from state and national tourism entities, marketing companies, data analysts and tourism employees from LGA's within NSW.
- A highlight was Layne Beachley, surfing champion, presenting a motivational talk.
- Not only was the conference very informative and provided a great learning opportunity, but also presented many opportunities for networking with other tourism staff members.
- Next years Destination and Visitor Economy Conference conference will take place in May in Wagga Wagga.

Destination Riverina Murray

- The Destination Riverina Murray team including the board members will be in Wentworth and Surrounds from Monday 19 June – Wednesday 21 June visiting the area and hosting the board meeting at Lock 10 & Weir Restaurant.
- A meeting will be held with Sarah Hope, Business Development Manager, followed by a small tour around the area to showcase what the region has to offer and discuss upcoming projects.

Attachments

1. Circular 23-04  
2. Circular 23-05  



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 23-04 / 25 May 2023 / A860043
Previous Circular	21-33 <i>Compliance with records management provisions and transfer of local government records to the State Archives Collection</i>
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Joint Organisation Executive Officers / governance and records management staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information / Council to Implement

Changes to public access to council records under the *State Records Act 1998*

What's new or changing

- Changes to the *State Records Act 1998* (the Act) that take effect from 1 January 2024 will affect council records. Under the changes:
 - State records will be open to the public by default once they are 20 years old, unless they are closed via a Closed to Public Access (CPA) direction
 - public offices (including councils) will be required to submit a plan in 2024 outlining their intention to transfer records that are required as State archives.
- As a result of changes to the Act that took effect on 31 December 2022, parts of the Act governing public access, transfers and records that have strayed ('estrays') are now administered by Museums of History NSW (MHNSW), a new statutory body.
- Other parts of the Act are administered by State Records Authority NSW (State Records NSW).

What this will mean for your council

- Councils will need to renew or register CPA directions with MHNSW well in advance of 1 January 2024 to ensure appropriate protection of sensitive information.
- During 2024, councils will need to submit a transfer plan to MHNSW.

Key points

- Changes to the parts of the Act administered by MHNSW are as follows:
 - Section 32(4): Transfer planning - this new section will require public offices (including councils) to plan for the transfer of records required as State archives into the State Archives Collection, and to submit a plan to MHNSW. This requirement will apply even if there is no intention to transfer records at the present time.
 - Section 50: Reduction in the Open Access Period - the Open Access Period for State records will reduce from 30 years to 20 years. The Act establishes a presumption that records in the Open Access Period should be open to public access.

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- Section 51: State records will become open to the public by default after 20 years - State records that are at least 20 years old will be open to public access if they are currently subject to an Open to Public Access (OPA) direction or do not have an access direction in place. There is no change to the capacity for a public office to apply a CPA direction or the requirement for CPA directions to be renewed every 5 years.
- The changes mean that from 1 January 2024:
 - State records that currently have a 30-year OPA direction registered will be open to the public once they are 20 years old
 - State records that are 20 or more years old and do not have an access direction registered will automatically be open to the public.
- CPA directions that were made more than 5 years ago will need to be renewed before 1 January 2024 or the records will automatically be open to the public once they are 20 years old.

Where to go for further information

- Advice on access directions is available on the [Public access to records section](#) of the MHNSW website.
- Councils can review or renew existing access directions and register new directions through the Service Portal operated by MHNSW and State Records NSW. The Service Portal is available via the [Agency Services webpage](#).
- Email transfer@mhnsw.au for advice and assistance with these new requirements.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary, Local Government

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Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 23-05 / 5 June 2023 / A855318
Previous Circular	19-24 – Ward boundary and name changes
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Governance staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information / Response to OLG / Council to Implement

Ward boundary and name changes

What's new or changing

- Councils must review their ward boundaries and notify the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) of any changes to ward boundaries and/or names by **5 October 2023**.

What this will mean for your council

- Under section 211 of the *Local Government Act 1993* councils that are divided into wards must keep ward boundaries under review to ensure the difference in elector numbers between wards does not exceed 10%. The attachment to this Circular provides further information regarding the calculation of the 10% variation to elector numbers within wards.
- Before altering ward boundaries, councils must:
 - consult the NSWEC and the Australian Statistician; and
 - prepare and publicly exhibit a plan detailing any proposed alteration (the ward boundary plan).
- Under section 277A of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* ward boundary and name changes must be made by **5 October 2023** to be in effect for the **14 September 2024** ordinary elections unless the Electoral Commissioner otherwise approves in special circumstances.

Key points

- Local government ordinary elections are to be held on **14 September 2024**.
- The last date for councils to make ward boundary alterations and name changes is **5 October 2023**.
- The NSWEC maintains a website to assist councils to review their ward boundaries and provide guidance on the process for consulting with it. The website is available [here](#).
- Councils must publicly exhibit the ward boundary plan for at least 28 days and consider any submissions made during the 42 day consultation period.

Where to go for further information

- More information is available on the NSWEC's website [here](#).
- Contact Data Analytics and Geospatial Services Team (Manager, Omar Altaie) at the NSW Electoral Commission on 9290 5999 or via email redistribution@elections.nsw.gov.au.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary, Local Government

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Attachment

To ascertain if there is a difference greater than 10% in the number of electors between wards, councils need to determine the percentage variation between the numbers of electors between wards.

The most efficient way to ascertain if there is a variation of greater than 10% is as follows:

1. Find the difference between the ward with the most electors and the ward with the fewest electors
2. Divide that difference by the number of electors in the smallest ward (that is, the ward with the fewest electors)
3. If the result is more than 10%, follow the ward boundary alteration processes

For example: a Local Government Area where the largest ward has 10,000 electors, and the smallest ward has 9,000 electors:

- Ward A: 10,000 electors (largest ward)
- Ward B: 9,000 electors (smallest ward)
- Ward C: 9,400 electors
- Ward D: 9,600 electors

Difference between Ward A and Ward B: $10,000 - 9,000 = 1,000$

Difference as a percentage of Ward B (smallest ward): $1,000/9,000 = 0.111$ (**11%**)

In the above example, there is a variation of more than 10% between the number of electors in two wards of the Area. As the variation is greater than 10%, the council is required to alter its ward boundaries in compliance with section 211 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

9.2 SUNRAYSIA SAFARI CROSS COUNTRY RALLY 2023 REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

File Number: RPT/23/300

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Tania Peel - 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 to provide financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind support of daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins) for the 2023 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally to be held from 4 September to 11 September 2023. Council approved financial sponsorship and provision of Wentworth Showgrounds for the event in 2022.

Recommendation

That Council provide financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind support of daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins) from 4 September to 11 September 2023 for the Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a request for financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind support of daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins) from 4 September to 11 September 2023 for the Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally.

Background

Financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds plus in kind support was requested and granted for the 2022 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally for the amount of \$20,000 (ex GST) plus approximately \$7141 of in kind support.

Report Detail

Council is in receipt of a request from Rally Management Australia for financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind support of daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins), a copy of which is attached for reference.

The event will be held from Monday 4 September to Monday 11 September 2023 inclusive.

Based on 2022-2023 charges, the following costs (add 5% for 2023-2024 charges) for in-kind support would need to be considered:

- Access charges for the Showgrounds - \$170 per area/per day - \$4080
 - Rubbish bin hire (including one empty per day) - \$25 per bin - \$625
 - Unpowered site camping fees (for two people) - \$26 per site - \$2340
 - Power \$96
- Total of \$7141.00 (plus 5% for 2023-2024 charges) not including cost of staff to prepare and service the Showground prior to the event and the cost of hiring cleaners to clean the showers and toilets during the event.

Options

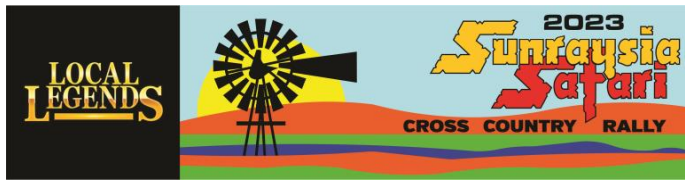
- a) Approve the sponsorship and provisions of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins) and approve a budget variation to the Tourism & Promotions budget for \$20,000
- b) Partially approve the sponsorship and provisions of the Wentworth Showgrounds and approve a budget variation for the same amount of the sponsorship
- c) Not approve sponsorship

Conclusion

Council is in receipt of a request to provide financial sponsorship and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds (including in kind support of daily cleaning of toilets, showers and emptying of rubbish bins) for the 2023 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally to be held from 4 September to 11 September 2023. Council approved financial sponsorship and provision of Wentworth Showgrounds to them in 2022.

Attachments

- 1. 2022 Sunraysia Safari Report to Council and Request for Ongoing Assistance in 2023  



2022 SUNRAYSIA SAFARI REPORT TO COUNCIL, AND REQUEST FOR ONGOING ASSISTANCE IN 2023

Dear Councillors,

I wanted to take the opportunity to report back to you following the 2022 Sunraysia Safari, and submit a formal request for ongoing assistance for the 2023 edition.

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude, on behalf of all participants in the event, for the council's ongoing support and assistance. The event simply couldn't be staged without it. Likewise, the enthusiasm and encouragement from the local communities, the landowners, businesses, and everyone involved in helping to run the rally have created something that is so unique and special, and is an absolute showcase of the Wentworth Shire. We often get too caught up in the "tangibles" in relation to events (participants, dollars spent etc.), but an element that I feel cannot be underestimated is the concept of community spirit and pride, and the psychological boost the locals receive from having a World Class Motorsport event literally in their backyards. We certainly see that, not just during the event, but in the leadup and setup of the rally, which is a year-round process.

It has been quite a long and hard slog to keep the Sunraysia Safari alive, after the Covid enforced cancellations of 2020, and 2021. Financially, it placed us under immense pressure (as we were unable to generate any income through our normal business activities for 2 years), but we were grimly determined not to let our competitors, officials and the local communities down, after they have supported us since so strongly since the rally began in 2017. The torrential rain during the event (which resulted in two days of competition being suspended on safety grounds) further tested our resolve, but I'm very pleased to report that 2022 Sunraysia Safari was still an overwhelming success, and has set the foundations for an even bigger and better event in 2023, and beyond.

In providing a summary of 2022, I must begin by acknowledging how amazing the new pavilion is, and how many of our participants figured it had been built specifically for hosting the rally! It is so perfect for our purposes that we honestly could not have designed it any better. On the surveys from our competitors there were several comments about the pavilion specifically, and people wanting to thank the Wentworth Shire for providing such an amazing venue. It was used more than originally anticipated, in that as a result of the two days of



competition being suspended, we held several meetings, additional meals, and even a “Q and A” session with some of the elder statesmen of our sport, which was considered a real highlight. I must also acknowledge the fantastic support of the Wentworth Show Society, and Annette Fraser from the Wentworth Shire Council. Many years ago, we were asked by the council to provide a submission to support the grant application for funding of the pavilion, and I hope in some way we were able to contribute to what is an amazing building.

In addition to our own reporting and documentation processes, we also requested competitors complete a brief survey, so that we could provide information to council with regard to the economic impact and additional benefits the Sunraysia Safari delivers to the Wentworth Shire. It should be pointed out that the following information is based on the data received from those surveys; whilst we are aware that not everyone completed a survey those people, their accommodation and expenditure have not been estimated in our figures, so the actual figures would be higher. Indeed, we have also not applied any coefficients to the estimated economic benefit (as is common practice with such reports to councils); our figures are “raw”.

Firstly, the 2022 Sunraysia Safari had a confirmed participation of at least 423 people, made up of competitors, officials, service/support crews, family members, and locals who assisted with the running of the event in some capacity. We had officials and competitors from every state and territory in Australia, and in fact a team also came from New Zealand! The majority were from other parts of NSW (not local to the Sunraysia region), closely followed by Victoria.

In terms of accommodation, whilst some chose to take advantage of the excellent facilities for camping at the Wentworth Showgrounds, the vast majority stayed at Hotels/Motels, Caravan Parks, and short-term rentals (Air BnB, holiday rentals etc.). In fact, every single room at all of the motels in Wentworth and surrounds were totally booked out; I know this because the Coomealla Club tried to find a room for some additional officials that came to the event, and they couldn't get anything on this side of the river (they had to stay in Mildura)! The event booked out the entire Coomealla Club Motel for officials, and with competitors and others included, the event generated a staggering 1096 Bed nights across the Wentworth region in the week of the event!!

The economic impact of the event is also a very impressive number! Based on competitor surveys, and our own event budgeting, the 2022 Sunraysia Safari delivered over \$568,000 to the Wentworth region. Again, that is the “raw figure” (without any coefficient being applied), and does not capture the entire expenditure attributable to the rally (due to not all participants submitting



surveys, and other expenses we incur that are not spent locally). We are very proud of that figure, and the fact that it is distributed to businesses and community groups right across the Wentworth Shire, which is a unique aspect to our event that not many others can accomplish.

Our Social Media, Digital Marketing and TV Documentary all delivered best ever figures, despite the rally being two days shorter than usual. Our social media reach was over 36,000 Worldwide for the week of the event alone, with every update or post reaching several thousand viewers. To give that some context: a round of the Australian Rally Championship averages a social media reach of 4500-5000 people, so we're achieving figures over 7 times higher than that! The unique nature of the Sunraysia Safari, combined with the stunning locations and community interest has really resonated with people all over the World.

The same applies to the TV documentary, which was screened multiple times in Australia on the Seven Network, and TV 3 in New Zealand. Whilst viewer figures are not available (they don't monitor the viewer numbers across all the channels), the fact that we only schedule a single screening, and the network chooses to add "encore" screenings (due to the quality and popularity of the documentary), is a testament to the quality of the production, the level of interest we have generated, and the event concept that we've created here.

So, overall, the 2022 Sunraysia Safari was a resounding success by almost any measure (including rainfall if you ask the farmers!!), and totally vindicated our near fanatical stubbornness and determination to keep the event going, in spite of all the challenges we were presented with in the previous years.

REQUEST FOR ONGOING ASSISTANCE FOR THE 2023 SUNRAYSIA SAFARI

Having put the 2022 event "to bed", planning is already well advanced for the 2023 Sunraysia Safari, which the competitive sections being run from September 6-9. Our Course Surveys have been delayed a little in waiting for the floodwaters to recede (we're hoping to run a day over on the Anabranche to support the community there, but as you'd know, access is still near impossible), but we remain on target, with the rest of the course being designed and set. We're greatly buoyed by a record number of competitors already nominating to compete in the rally, in fact for the first time ever we're expecting a full capacity field. That increase will further enhance the economic benefit to the Wentworth Shire, and accommodation will very much be at a premium for the week of the event!





Unfortunately, like most events and businesses, the increased costs we're encountering due to "cost of living pressures" and general inflation have had an impact on our budget. For example, our fuel bill for the Course Surveys has doubled (due to rising Diesel prices), and the overall event fuel bill will now be over \$25,000, over \$10,000 more than previous years. Our Medivac Helicopter has almost doubled in price (again with fuel a major factor), and almost every cost centre of the event has gone up. That won't affect our ability to deliver another brilliant event, but we need to generate additional support to ensure that nothing is compromised.

With that in mind, I would like to request that the Wentworth Shire Council maintains its very generous support of the Sunraysia Safari in 2023, with a cash contribution of \$20,000 (to assist with part of the cost of production of the TV documentary), and provision of the Wentworth Showgrounds from Monday September 4-Monday September 11 (including daily cleaning of toilets and showers, and emptying of rubbish bins) as "in kind" support. This request is for the same amount of sponsorship and "in kind" support that was requested and provided by the Wentworth Shire Council in 2022.

I hope I have been able to demonstrate the absolute value the Sunraysia Safari provides to the Wentworth Shire, and the communities within it; not just in a financial sense, but also in "Civic pride" and other social measures. We're extremely proud of the event that we've created, and equally proud to be conducting the event in this region every year.

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact me. I thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours Faithfully,

Troy Bennett

Event Director

Sunraysia Safari Rally



9.3 2023 WESTERN DIVISION OF COUNCILS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

File Number: RPT/23/365

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
 Reporting Officer: Tania Peel - 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 2023 Western Division of Councils Annual Conference will be held from 9-11 August 2023 in Cobar.

Recommendation

That Council determines attendees to the 2023 Western Division of Council's Annual Conference to be held in Cobar from 9-11 August 2023.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The 2023 Western Division of Councils Annual Conference will be held from 9-11 August 2023 in Cobar. The purpose of this report is to bring the conference to the attention of council to identify which delegate(s) will attend. Mayor Elstone and Cr Nichols are the Council's delegates on the Western Division of Council's. Mayor Elstone will be on leave of absence at this time.

Background

The Western Division forum represents an excellent opportunity for Council to network with Western NSW community leaders. It will also offer firsthand experience regarding issues each community faces and provide an outline of the local-based solutions that are being adopted to deal with these challenges. The Western Division has over the years been an effective lobby group. Member Councils include Balranald, Broken Hill, Bourke, Brewarrina, Central Darling, Cobar, Walgett and Wentworth. These councils make up the Far North West and Far West Joint Organisations.

Conclusion

Attendance at the conference would be beneficial to Wentworth Shire Council as mutual interests and issues will be discussed and it will also provide an opportunity to network with other Councils with similar issues.

Attachments

Nil

9.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - MAY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/305

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 May 2023 were \$1,192,712.43. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 87.44%. For comparison purposes 88.96% of the levy had been collected at the end of May 2022. Council currently has \$47,380,021.25 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

Detailed Report

The purpose of this report is to indicate to Council the position in relation to the rate of collections and the balance of cash books.

Reconciliation and Balance of Funds held as at 31 May 2023

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

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 May 2023	\$ 1,177,094.40
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 31 May 2023	\$ 6,595,110.22
Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 31 May 2023	
Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 5,327,476.38
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 31 May 2023	\$ 2,444,728.24
Trust Fund Balance	\$ 823,006.87
Investments	
Total Investments as at 31 May 2023	\$ 44,112,286.14
TOTAL	\$ 47,380,021.25

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of May 2023 were \$1,192,712.43. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 87.44%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 31 May 2023 is as follows:

	Rates and Charges	
Levies		
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2022 - Rates / Water	1,015,628.18	
Rates and Charges Levied 20 July 2022	9,715,491.57	\$ 10,731,119.75
+ Additional Water Charges	1,405,079.97	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	147,454.79	
+ Additional Charges	133,850.48	
- Credit Adjustments	19,625.42	
- Abandonments	1,708.35	\$ 12,396,171.22
Deductions		
- Payments	10,673,494.72	
- Less Refunds of Payments	7,853.33	\$ 10,665,641.39
		\$ 1,730,529.83
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	95,218.14	
Council Subsidy	77,900.06	\$ 173,118.20
Total Rates/Water Charges Outstanding		\$ 1,557,411.63

Note: For comparison purposes 88.96% of the levy had been collected at the end of May 2022.

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

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

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
Rates			
302.02	4/05/2023	4.95	Write off interest - Ratepayer made payment into water account instead of rate account
Water			
298-0203	15/05/2023	333.90	Unable to access property and readings were not obtained. When Council obtained a reading after 2 years the usage was high. The charge has been reduced by calculating the allowed kls at the lower tariff.
1462	12/04/2023	40.94	Incorrect meter reading entered
886	11/04/2023	351.78	Incorrect meter reading entered

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	\$ 213,738.13	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 579,885.05	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,443,661.41	28/04/2023
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,202,021.58	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 649,732.67	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,072,690.03	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,463,498.63	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 701,483.83	25/09/2028
				TOTAL	\$ 7,326,711.33	

Overtime and Travelling

Month	May	Pay Periods	22,23 & 24				
Overtime from 15 April 2023 to 26 May 2023							
Overtime							
	Time and a Half		Double Time		Double Time 1/2		Total
Department	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount	
Animal Services	29.00	1,409.33	45.25	\$ 2,995.81	4.00	\$ 290.40	\$ 4,695.54
ANZAC Day	13.50	666.94	5.00	\$ 254.02			\$ 920.96
Civil	20.00	898.23	7.00	\$ 472.08			\$ 1,370.31
Council Roads	476.50	21,806.24	174.00	\$ 10,664.30			\$ 32,470.54
Indoor Building Maintenance	6.50	403.91	0.50	\$ 41.43			\$ 445.34
Indoor Engineers	20.50	1,360.63	2.75	\$ 227.84			\$ 1,588.47
Landfill Transfer Stations	3.00	169.57	7.00	\$ 589.63			\$ 759.20
Parks & Gardens	14.50	613.40	24.00	\$ 1,461.46			\$ 2,074.86
Private Works	1.50	63.25	34.50	\$ 2,049.33			\$ 2,112.58
RMS Roads	2.00	91.19	0.00	\$ -			\$ 91.19
Tourism & Events	2.50	123.99	8.00	\$ 540.25			\$ 664.24
Water & Waste Water	68.00	3,517.23	80.50	\$ 5,710.07			\$ 9,227.30
Workshop	4.00	224.13	5.00	\$ 373.54			\$ 597.67
							\$ -
							\$ -
Total	661.50	31,348.04	393.50	25,379.76	4.00	290.40	\$ 57,018.20
Travel Allowance							
Water/Wastewater	Kms	Amount					
	104.2	\$ 83.76					
Total	104.2	\$ 83.76					
Grand Total							
		57,101.96					

Conclusion

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

Attachments

Nil

9.5 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - MAY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/308

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

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

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

Summary

As at 31 May 2023 Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$5,380,021.25 in other cash investments. Council received \$68,137.67 from its investments for the month of May 2023.

In May 2023 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 4.23% and it currently has \$8,040,222.62 of internal restrictions and \$31,294,108.39 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Detailed Report

Purpose

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

Matters under consideration

As at 31 May 2023 Council had \$47,380,021.25 invested with Nine (9) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation. This is an increase of \$274,733.98 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.

Breakdown of Total Funds Available

Financial Institution	Amount	Percentage of Available Funds
AMP	\$2,000,000.00	4.22%
Bank of Queensland	\$3,000,000.00	6.33%
Bendigo Bank	\$5,267,735.11	11.12%
Commonwealth Bank	\$4,000,000.00	8.44%
IMB Bank	\$1,000,000.00	2.11%
Macquarie Bank	\$5,112,286.14	10.79%
ING Bank	\$9,000,000.00	19.00%
National Australia Bank	\$9,000,000.00	19.00%
Westpac	\$8,000,000.00	16.88%
Northern Territory T-Corp	\$1,000,000.00	2.11%
Total	\$47,380,021.25	100.00%

Investments on Hand as at 31 May 2023

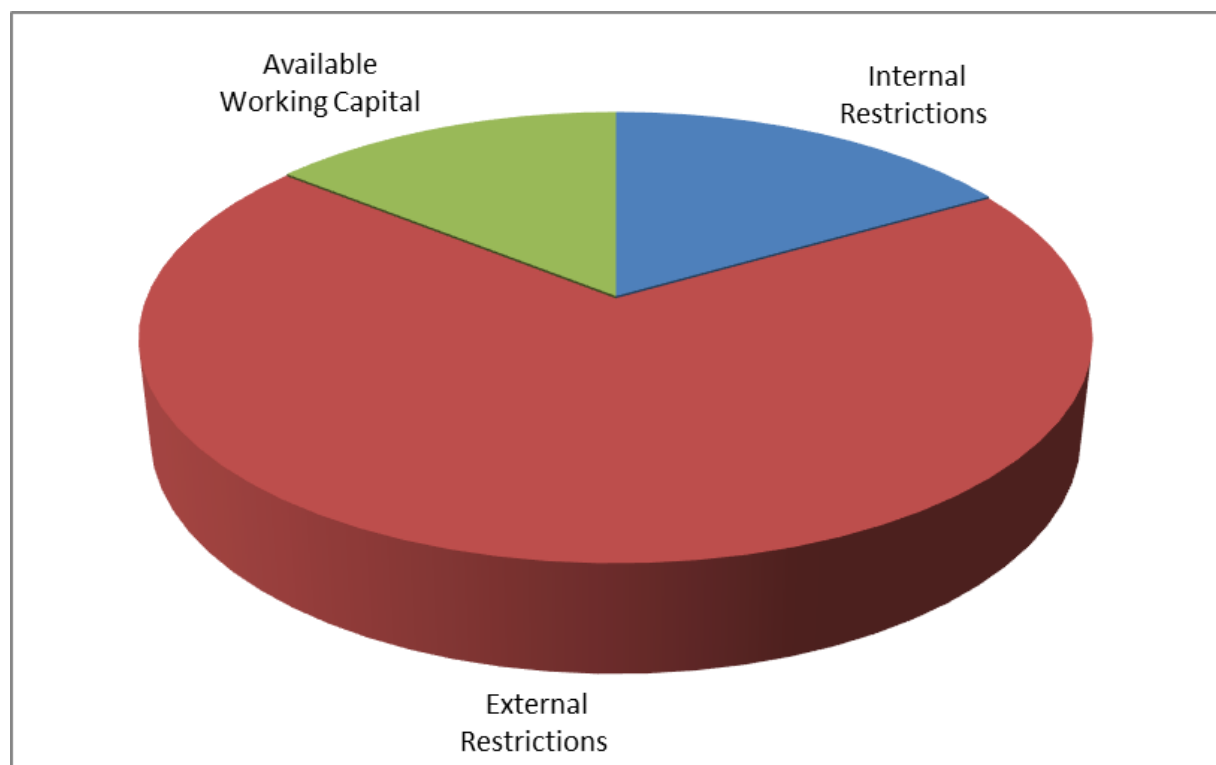
Wentworth Shire Council						
Investments on Hand as at 31 May 2023						
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Investment Type	Amount Invested	Rating
AMP	23/09/2022	25/09/2023	4.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB
AMP	5/09/2022	5/09/2023	4.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB
Bank of Queensland	15/03/2023	14/03/2024	4.45%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Bank of Queensland	9/02/2023	9/02/2024	4.70%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Bank of Queensland	6/04/2023	3/10/2023	4.75%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Bendigo Bank	24/02/2023	23/02/2024	4.70%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Bendigo Bank	22/12/2022	22/12/2023	4.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Commonwealth Bank	15/06/2022	15/06/2023	4.16%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Commonwealth Bank	2/11/2022	2/11/2023	4.44%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Commonwealth Bank	2/11/2022	2/11/2023	4.44%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Commonwealth Bank	30/01/2023	30/01/2024	4.69%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
IMB Bank	9/03/2023	9/06/2023	4.59%	Floating Rate Note	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
Macquarie Bank	6/09/2022	6/09/2023	4.09%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
Macquarie Bank	4/10/2022	4/10/2023	4.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
Macquarie Bank	5/10/2022	5/10/2023	4.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
National Australia Bank	18/10/2022	18/10/2023	4.30%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	11/03/2022	11/03/2024	1.85%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	20/02/2023	20/02/2024	4.85%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	15/06/2022	15/06/2023	3.70%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	3/01/2023	3/01/2024	4.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	15/12/2022	15/12/2023	4.35%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	27/02/2023	23/01/2024	4.92%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	27/02/2023	27/02/2024	5.00%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
National Australia Bank	20/02/2023	20/02/2024	4.85%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
ING Bank	31/03/2023	2/04/2024	4.68%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	5/04/2023	4/04/2024	4.68%	Term Deposit	\$ 2,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	19/04/2022	19/04/2024	3.09%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	20/03/2023	19/03/2024	4.45%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	19/12/2022	19/12/2023	4.50%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	23/03/2023	22/03/2024	4.60%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	18/05/2023	17/05/2024	4.90%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
ING Bank	26/05/2023	27/05/2024	4.94%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	A+
NT T-Corp	15/03/2022	15/06/2023	1.35%	Fixed Bond	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	3/06/2022	3/06/2023	3.19%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	25/11/2022	27/11/2023	4.43%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	28/12/2022	26/07/2023	4.28%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	24/08/2022	24/08/2023	4.12%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	27/02/2023	27/07/2023	4.46%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	27/02/2023	27/02/2024	4.98%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	24/08/2022	24/08/2023	4.12%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Westpac Banking Corporation	11/03/2022	11/03/2024	1.92%	Term Deposit	\$ 1,000,000.00	AA-
Total					\$ 42,000,000.00	
Other Cash Investments						
Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Rating	
Bendigo Bank - Operating A/c	N/A	Ongoing		\$ 3,267,735.11	BBB+	
Macquarie Bank (4) - Ongoing	3/12/2020	Ongoing	3.35%	\$ 2,112,286.14	A+	
Total Funds Available					\$ 47,380,021.25	

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

Restrictions

Internal Restrictions		
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,294,469.28	
- Doubtful Debts	\$115,011.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$1,076,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$768,086.12	
- Caravan Park Loan Facility	\$1,286,439.02	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$8,040,222.62
External Restrictions		
- Water Fund	\$11,698,210.73	
- Sewer Fund	\$4,927,697.32	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$535,742.91	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$663,375.97	
- Unexpended Grants	\$12,801,738.84	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$213,700.14	
- Loan Guarantee Reserve	\$3,460.91	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$550,181.57	\$31,294,108.39
Day to Day Liquidity		\$8,045,690.24
Total Funds Available		\$47,380,021.25

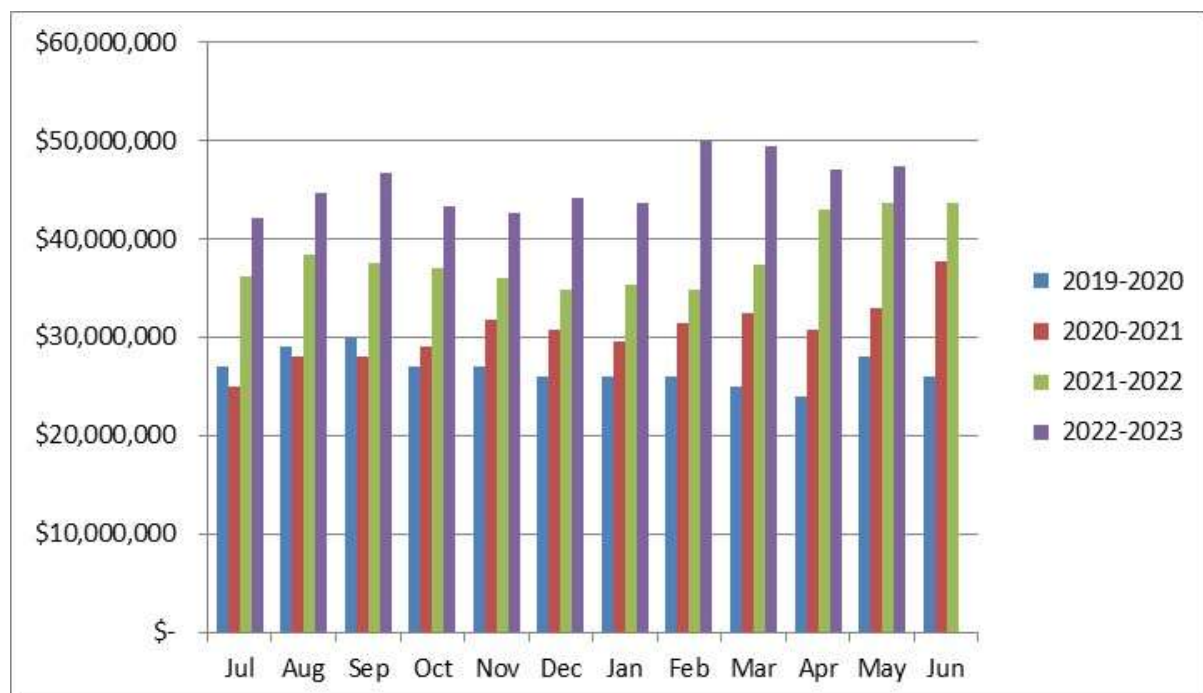
Breakdown



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 31 May 2023

Grant	Amount
Library Infrastructure Grant	\$229,748.81
SCCF Wentworth Rowing Club	\$49,126.04
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Astronomy Park	\$656,000.21
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Pooncarie Racecourse	\$3,200.00
EDS Grant	\$59,090.59
Fixing Local Roads Grants - Stage 3	\$211,529.51
Murray Darling Basin Upstairs Area	\$123,536.27
Resources for Regions Round 8	\$412,076.35
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 3	\$800,837.74
Pooncarie Menindee Road	\$2,525,201.98
Transport for NSW Pothole Repair Program	\$639,700.89
Rural Fire Service Levy	\$43,445.89
Resources for Regions Round 9	\$2,749,427.71
Flood Recovery AGRN 1043	\$688,449.93
Rural Local Road Repair Program	\$3,610,366.92
Total	\$12,801,738.84

Total Funds Invested

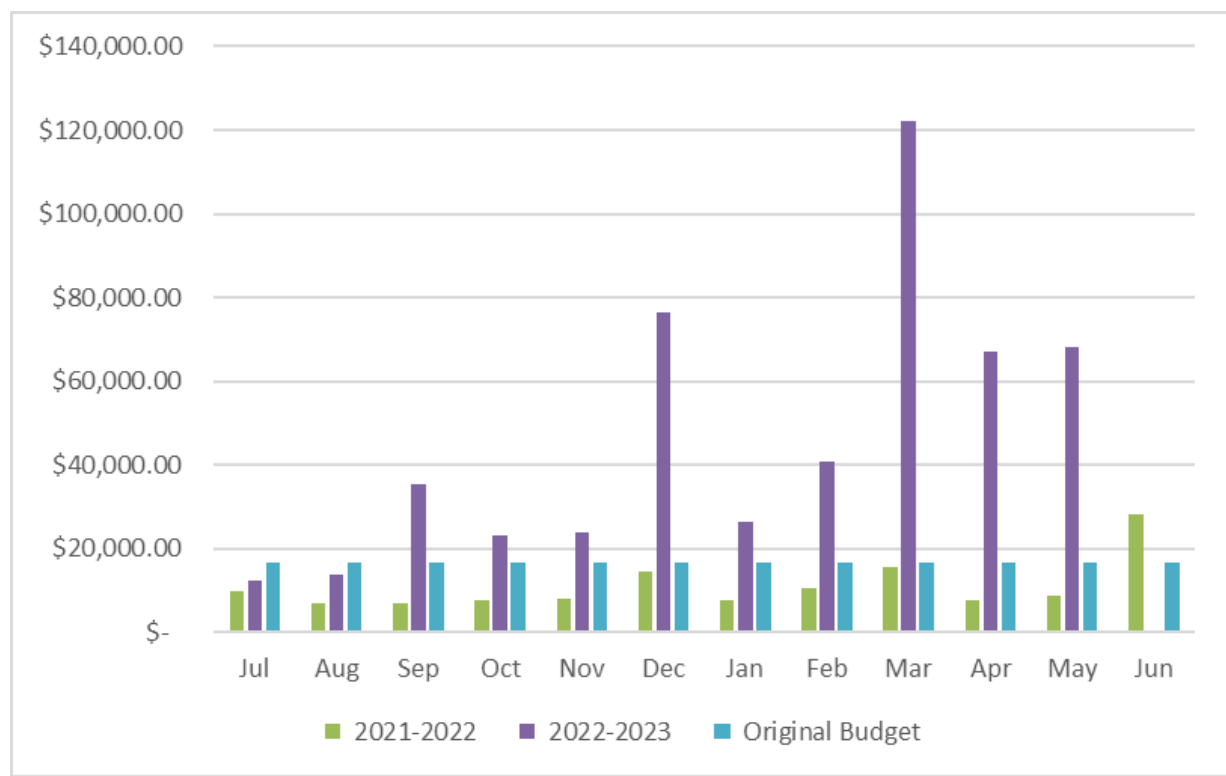


Two (2) deposits and One (1) other account matured or provided interest in May earning Council \$68,137.67 in interest. The budget for May was \$16,666.67. Year to date Council has received \$509,933.53 in interest. The budget for the current financial year is currently set at \$200,000.00.

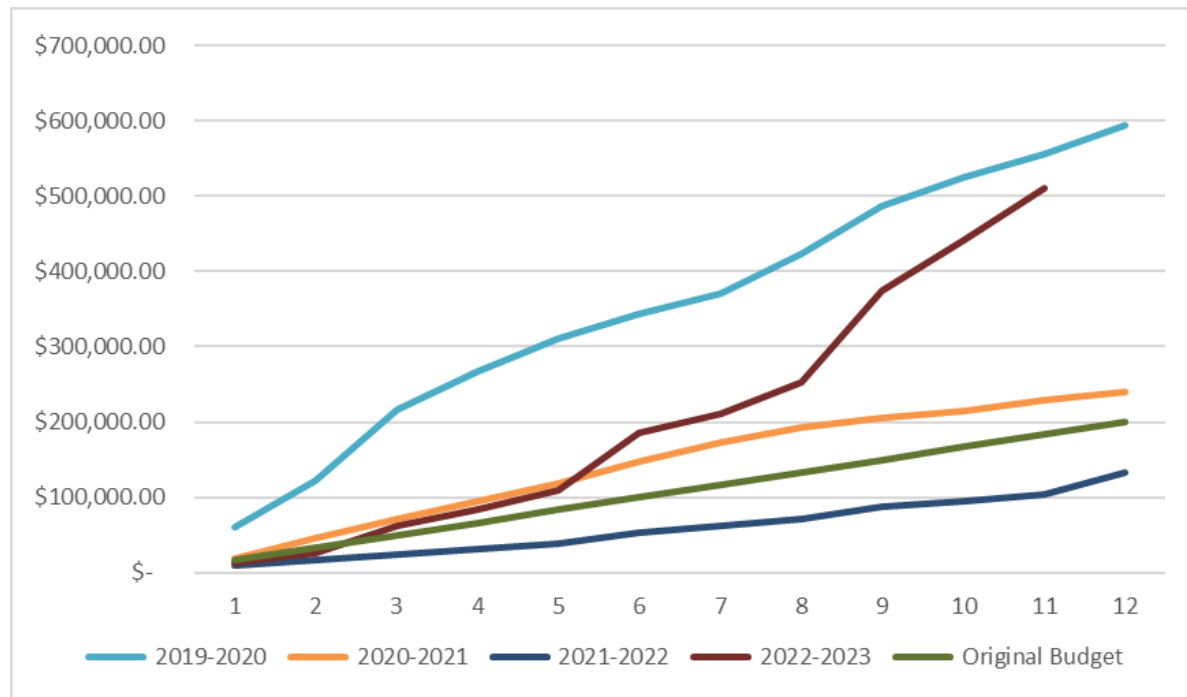
Investment Revenue in May 2023

Investee	Date Invested	Date of Maturity	Effective Interest Rate	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
Term Deposits					
ING Bank (7)	18/05/2022	18/05/2023	3.11%	\$1,000,000.00	\$31,100.00
Commonwealth Bank (6)	27/05/2022	26/05/2023	3.01%	\$1,000,000.00	\$30,017.53
Other Cash Investments					
Macquarie Bank	3/12/2020	Ongoing	3.10%	\$2,112,286.14	\$7,020.14
Total					\$68,137.67

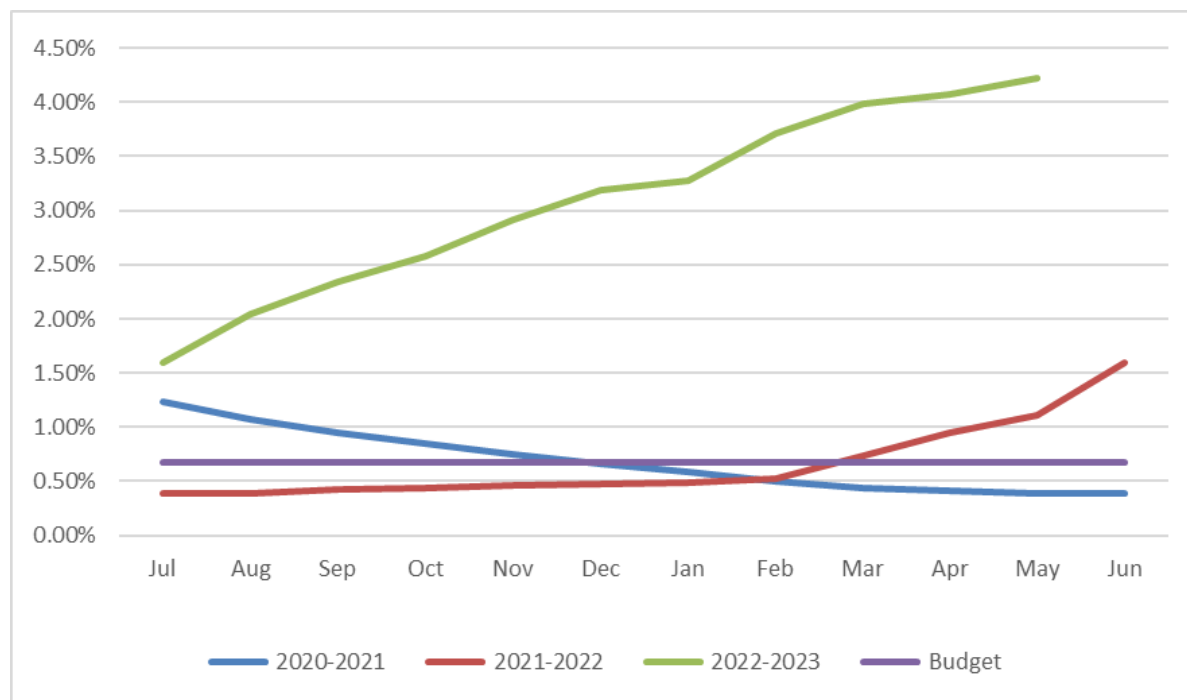
Investment Revenue received in May 2023



Total Interest received July 2022 – June 2023



For May 2023 Council's investments returned an effective average rate of 4.23%. Year to date the effective average rate has been 3.08%. The budget for 2022-2023 was set at 0.67%. The Reserve Bank chose to raise the Cash Rate by 0.25% to 3.85% during May. Currently Council Investments are outperforming the cash rate by 0.38%.



Conclusion

The Director Finance & Policy certifies that all investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy. Council is investing its funds prudently to optimise returns and reduce exposure to risk in accordance with legislation and its own investment policy.

Attachments

Nil

9.6 ADOPTION OF THE 2022-2026 DELIVERY PROGRAM/2023-2024 OPERATIONAL PLAN

File Number: RPT/23/310

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

Following the presentation of the Draft 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan to the May Ordinary Council Meeting, the Draft Plan was placed on public exhibition for 28 days as required under the *Local Government Act*.

Council is now required to consider all submissions received prior to adopting the 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan. This includes the following:

- The 2023-2024 Annual Statement of Revenue and the Annual Fees and Charges.
- The making and levying of rates and charges including:
 - 3.70% increase in the Ordinary Rate for 2023-2024
 - 3.70% increase in Sewer Access Charges for 2023-2024
 - 3.70% increase in Water Access Charges for 2023-2024
 - 3.70% increase in Domestic Waste Charges for 2023-2024
 - 3.70% increase to Water Consumption Charges for 2023-2024
 - Charge the maximum interest rate on Overdue Rates and Charges

Recommendation

- a) That Council adopts the 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan, as amended, having considered submissions received.
- b) That Council resolves to increase ordinary rate income for the 2023-2024 year by the maximum 3.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART)
- c) That Council resolves to make and levy an ordinary rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for Residential, Business and Farmland categories of rates under Section 534, 535, 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) for the 2023-2024 year including:

Farmland category

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Farmland except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as Farmland, Dry Land Grazing and Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

Farmland

- An ordinary rate of 0.00185599 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, in accordance with

Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$600.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 34.62% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$1,223,586

Farmland – Dry Land Grazing

- An ordinary rate of 0.00150306 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Dry Land Grazing in accordance with Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$600.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 19.98% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$783,609

Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

- An ordinary rate of 0.03225436 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline, in accordance with Section 515 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$95.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 42.01% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$15,151

Residential Category

Wentworth

- An ordinary rate of 0.00321164 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to base amount of (\$240.00) for each assessment. The amount accounts for 42.41% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$344,049

Buronga

- An ordinary rate of 0.00265344 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Buronga, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 28.73% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$472,394

Gol Gol

- An ordinary rate of 0.00294698 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 24.33% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$637,954

Gol Gol East

- An ordinary rate of 0.00281207 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol East, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$360.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 22.69% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$418,946

Pooncarie

- An ordinary rate of 0.01507824 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 43.84% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$23,575

Dareton

- An ordinary rate of 0.01861786 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Dareton, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 45.36% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$81,677

Rural Residential

- An ordinary rate of 0.00236864 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Rural, in accordance with Section 516 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 24.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$525,677

Business Category

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Business except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as Business, Mourquong; Business, Trentham Cliffs; Business, Arumpo; Business, Wentworth; Business, Pooncarie (including all of the lands within the locality of Pooncarie sub categorised as Business Pooncarie except those lands within the township of Pooncarie).

Business

- An ordinary rate of 0.00503586 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 18.01% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$281,779

Business, Wentworth

- An ordinary rate of 0.00802806 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/24 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 38.08% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,000

Business, Mourquong

- An ordinary rate of 0.16431420 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Mourquong, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for

each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.11% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$270,597

Business, Trentham Cliffs

- An ordinary rate of 0.00469617 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Trentham Cliffs, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act 1993, be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 3.93% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$12,225

Business, Arumpo

- An ordinary rate of 0.06126544 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Arumpo, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 1.27% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$82,411

Business, Pooncarie

- An ordinary rate of 0.05876975 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 518 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.02% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$826,797
- d) That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for the 2023-2024 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
 - e) That Council resolves to make ad levy fees and charges for Water Services for the 2023-2024 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
 - f) That Council resolves to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for the 2023-2024 year under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on each parcel of rateable land of which the service is available as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
 - g) That Council resolves to fix the Fees and Charges schedule for the 2023-2024 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
 - h) That Council resolves to charge the maximum interest rate on overdue rates and charges.
 - i) That Council resolves to approve Appendix A – Bodies Granted Exemptions automatic fee waiver as part of the 2023-2024 Financial Assistance Program as set out in the Schedule of Fees and Charges.
 - j) That Council resolves to approve borrowings for 2023-2024 of \$2,000,000 as outlined in the Annual Statement of Revenue.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to adopt the 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan which includes the Annual Statement of Revenue and the Annual Fees and Charges.

Background

In accordance with the *Local Government Act*, Council must have an annual Operational Plan, adopted before the beginning of each financial year, outlining the activities to be undertaken in that year, as part of the Delivery Program.

The Operational Plan includes the Annual Statement of Revenue, in accordance with the Regulations.

The Operational Plan must be prepared as a sub-set of the Delivery Program. It must directly address the actions outlined in the Delivery Program and identify projects, programs or activities that the council will undertake within the financial year towards addressing these actions.

The Operational Plan must include a detailed budget for the activities to be undertaken in that year.

Matters under consideration

Following the May Ordinary Council Meeting, the Draft 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan was placed on public exhibition for 28 days as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

Council is now required to consider all submissions received prior to formally resolving to adopt the 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2022-2023 Operational Plan, make and levy Rates and Charges, and set the schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2023-2024 financial year.

Each rate and charge is to be made by resolution of Council and is to be made for a specified year. In order for the rate or charge to be collected it must have been made by a resolution of Council before 1 August in the year for which the rate or charge is made.

The making and levying of rates and charges are made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* for the 2021/22 financial year and includes the maximum rate of increase for the Ordinary rate which is the pegged amount of 2.00%

Council proposes to levy an ordinary rate for the following categories and sub-categories:

- Farmland
- Farmland – Dry Land Grazing
- Farmland – Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline
- Residential – Wentworth
- Residential – Buronga
- Residential - Gol Gol
- Residential - Gol Gol East
- Residential – Pooncarie
- Residential – Dareton
- Residential - Rural Residential
- Business
- Business – Wentworth

Council proposes to levy fees and charges for the following as set out in the annual statement of revenue:

- Sewer Services for the 2023-2024 year
- Water Services for the 2023-2024 year
- A Domestic Waste Management charge for the 2023-2024 year under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) on each parcel of rateable land of which the service is available
- Fix the fees and charges schedule for the 2023-2024 year

There has been a number of changes made to the draft Operational Plan. These include the following:

Change	Impact
--------	--------

Budget Changes	
Get Active NSW Footpath Projects	Increase Revenue \$574,190 Increase Capital Exp \$574,190
Stronger Country Communities Round 5	Increase Revenue \$650,000 Increase Cap Exp \$650,000
Emergency Services Contribution	Increase Op Exp \$6,445 Decrease Cash \$6,445
Dareton Pool Painting	Increase Cap Exp \$20,000 Decrease Cash \$20,000
Total Impact of Budget Changes	Increase Revenue \$1,224,190 Increase Cash Exp \$ 6,445 Increase in Surplus \$1,217,745 Increase in Cap Exp \$1,244,190 Decrease in Cash \$ 26,445
Fees & Charges	
PS Ruby	Removed PS Ruby Fee Schedule
603 Certificate Fee	Increased from \$90 to \$95 as set by the Office of Local Government
Landfill	Decreased Commercial rate from \$166.00 to \$160.40 in line with lower than expected increase in MRCC landfill rate.
Operational Plan Actions	
Added 3 new actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Get Active NSW footpath project • Review PS Ruby Operating Model • Review Attraction & Retention Strategies

At the time of writing this report there had been no submissions received regarding the draft operational plan during the public exhibition period. Any further submissions received between the date of preparing this report and the close of submissions will be detailed in a supplementary late report.

Conclusion


Council is being asked to:

- Adopt the 2022-2026 Delivery Program/2023-2024 Operational Plan, as amended, having considered submissions received.
- Resolve to increase the general rate income for the 2023-2024 year by the maximum 3.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART).
- Resolve to make and levy an ordinary rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for Residential, Business and Farmland categories of rates under Section 534, 535 & 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the 2021/22 year as listed.

- d) Resolve to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for the 2023-2024 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
- e) Resolve to make and levy fees and charges for Water Services for the 2023-2024 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
- f) Resolve to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for the 2023-2024 year under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* on each parcel of rateable land of which the service is available as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue.
- g) Resolve to fix the fees and charges schedule for the 2023-2024 year as set out in Annual Statement of Revenue.
- h) Resolve to charge the maximum interest rate on overdue rates and charges.
- i) Resolve to approve Appendix A – Bodies Granted Exemptions automatic fee waiver as part of the 2023-2024 Financial Assistance Program as set out in the schedule of fees and charges.
- j) Resolve to approve borrowings for the 2023-2024 year.

The final version of the Operational Plan must be uploaded to Council's website within 28 days of being approved.

Attachments

1. Delivery Program 2022-2026 & Operational Plan 2023-2024 [↓](#) 

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL



ANABRANCH
BURONGA
COOMEALLA
CURLWAA
DARETON
ELLERSLIE
GOL GOL
MONAK
POMONA
POONCARIE
RUFUS RIVER
TRENTHAM CLIFFS
WENTWORTH

Delivery Program

2022-2026



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Our Objectives

- 1 *Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region*
- 2 *Wentworth Shire is a great place to live*
- 3 *Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment*
- 4 *Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civil leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner*

Our Values

HONESTY & INTEGRITY

ACCOUNTABILITY &
TRANSPARENCY

RESPECT

QUALITY & COMMITMENT



Mayor's foreword

“

On behalf of Councillors and staff I am pleased to present our Delivery Program and Operational Plan for the period 2022/2023 to 2025/2026.

- Cr Tim Elstone
Mayor of Wentworth Shire Council

”



The Program and Plan outline our vision and priorities for the future aligned to the four strategies identified in the Community Strategic Plan.

It demonstrates Council's responsibility towards achieving the community's vision. Each CSP strategy has a number of principal objectives and actions assigned to them in the Delivery Program.

It enables the community to see exactly how Council spends its funds and the kinds of

services and activities that they can expect to be provided in the coming years. It provides a clear framework around Council's performance and enables us to be open and accountable to the public.

As we emerge on the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic, Council's aim is to focus on what matters most – our community.

Council continues to work hard to deliver the services you need and advocate for the best outcomes for the Wentworth Shire.

Council is committed to creating opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome, valued and safe and can participate in all aspects of community life.

Many of the services we provide such as water, waste collection, parks, roads, footpaths and drainage are all critical components of our day to day life.

This means it is essential that we provide the services that our community needs in the most efficient way possible.

Wentworth Shire Council is experiencing rapid growth and it is Council's responsibility to ensure the services and infrastructure needed by our community are available and continue to evolve as we continue planning for our future.

During this version of the Program and Plan Council is planning on undertaking the following exciting projects:

- Civic Centre Redevelopment
- Pooncarie – Menindee Road Upgrade
- Willow Bend Caravan Park Redevelopment
- Buronga Landfill expansion
- Road Upgrades
- Water, Sewerage and Stormwater upgrades

Many of these projects will be completed by Council partnering with both the Federal and State governments and will we continue to work cooperatively with all levels of government, local business and our community as so much more can be accomplished when we work together.

This will be the first Delivery Program and Operational Plan for this term of Council, following the recent local government elections in December 2021 and provides a good overview of our priorities for the next four years.

As an organisation, we continue to be in a strong financial position to deliver the actions outlined in this document and meet our ongoing commitment to the community.

This document is the product of teamwork by Councillors, staff and valuable community input. It is a vital document that keeps the community informed of Council's direction.

Throughout the duration of the Delivery Program, Council will continue to report and update the community on the progress of these objectives and actions through our quarterly progress reports and the annual report.

The Delivery Program is intended to be a living document, designed to be responsive from year to year, and to provide a guide to the overarching program of work being undertaken by Council.

Cr Tim Elstone
Mayor of Wentworth Shire Council

Wentworth Shire Council | Delivery Program 2022-2026

Wentworth at a glance



8.04% of our population identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (State average is 3.44%)



Proclaimed a Shire on 23 January
1879

Area (sq. km)
26,256

27.9%
Mining is the largest industry sector with (\$363,285,000) gross revenue

Largest industry of Employment is Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing with **23.5%** of the population

7,487
Estimated Residential Population (2021)

29.51% of homes are owned outright

3 Libraries

1 Hospital

8 Schools

1 TAFE Campus

2 Aerodromes

45.48%
Working age Residents (30-64 yrs old) : **2,860**
(state average is 45.46%) : Employed Residents

4.5% Unemployment Rate (2022)

Year 12 education as the highest form of education

Wentworth Shire residents

28.7%

vs.

Other areas of NSW

52.13%

\$75,544
per capita Gross Regional Product

The Median Wage for Households:
Wentworth
\$1,066/wk

State (excl. Greater Sydney)
\$1,434/wk

Greater Sydney
\$2,077/wk

The individual median wage is **\$716** per week with **28.1%** of people earning over **\$1,500** per week.

43 years old

is the Median Resident age (State median is 39)

28.54% of Residents are aged under 25 (State average is 30.05%)

20.42% of Residents are aged over 65 (State average is 17.59%)



29.99% of families earn over \$130,000 vs. state average of 43.86

WORTH SEEING WORTH DOING!
WENTWORTH and surrounds



422km
ADELAIDE

583km
MELBOURNE

1,044km
SYDNEY

599km of sealed road

1,429km of unsealed road

Based on data from the 2021 Census data. *Data collected from Remplan and ABS

Councillors

Wentworth Shire is represented by nine Councillors who are elected every four years.

The Councillors elect the Mayor every two years.



Cr Tim Elstone
Mayor



Cr Daniel Linklater
Deputy Mayor



Cr Jane McAllister



Cr Steve Heywood



Cr Susan Nichols



Cr Jo Rodda



Cr Brian Beaumont



Cr Peter Crisp



Cr Steve Cooper

As the community's representative the role of a Councillor is to:

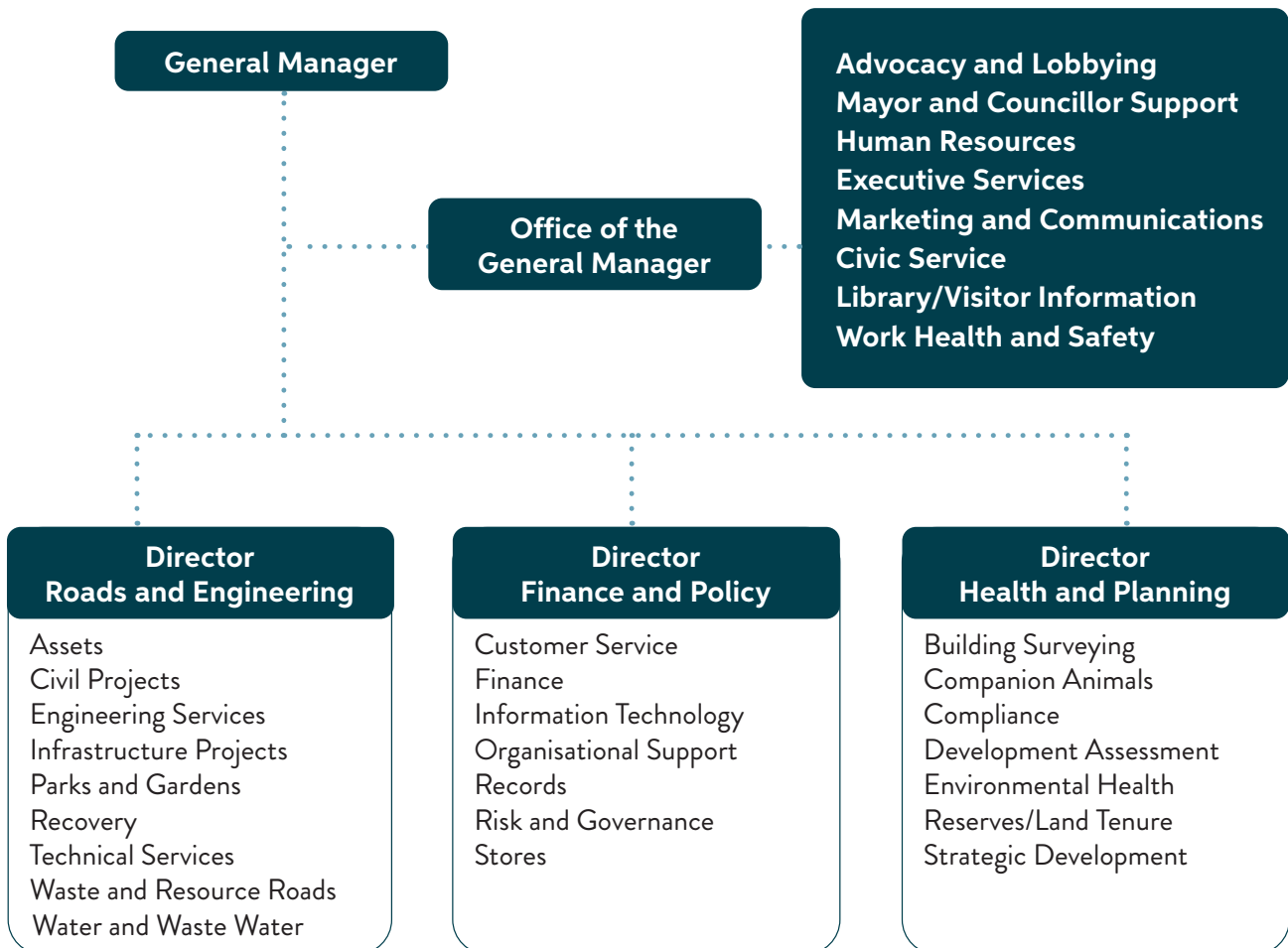
- Be an active and contributing member of the governing body;
- Make considered and well-informed decisions as a member of the governing body;
- Participate in the development of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework;
- Represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community;
- Facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body;
- Uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body;
- Make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a Councillor

Services

In order to deliver on its responsibilities in the Community Strategic Plan, the many separate activities that Council provides for residents, ratepayers, workers and visitors are broken into the following key services:



Organisation overview



Executive Team



Ken Ross | General Manager

Commenced as General Manager 20 May 2019 (started at Wentworth Shire Council in 2002), 36 years' experience in Management, Health and Planning and Building Surveying.

Holds Associated Diploma in Applied Science and Diploma Environmental Health and Building.

.....



Geoff Gunn | Director Roads and Engineering

Commenced as Director Roads and Engineering 26 August 2019 (started at Wentworth Shire Council in 2016), 31 years' experience in Engineering and Management of municipal operation areas.

Holds a Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering.

.....



Simon Rule | Director Finance and Policy

Commenced as Director Finance and Policy 26 March 2014 (started at Wentworth Shire Council in 2008), 21 years' experience in financial management in public operations.

Holds a Bachelor Degree in Arts (Information Management) and Masters of Professional Accounting.

.....



Matthew Carlin | Director Health and Planning

Commenced as Director Health and Planning 28 January 2020, 8 years' experience in leading and managing teams in Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Services.

Holds a Bachelor Degree in Applied Science, Bachelor of Laws and Masters of Environmental and Business Management.

Achieving the vision for 2032

The consultation and engagement activities undertaken to inform the Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus - Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 resulted in the formation of the following concise and ambitious vision for the region:

Wentworth Shire will work together to create a thriving, attractive and welcoming community.

Community strategies



Quadruple Bottom Line

The quadruple bottom line underpins the Community Strategic Plan, helping to categorise the priorities that have been identified by the community.

Our strategies link directly to the quadruple bottom line, which are as follows:



Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

ECONOMIC



Wentworth Shire is a great place to live

SOCIAL



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

ENVIRONMENTAL



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

CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Council's guiding principles

The aim of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework is to improve the way the Council's planning meets community's needs.

The Framework recognises that most communities share similar aspirations; however, each Local Government Area has a uniqueness to their geographical location, demographics and culture.

The implementation of the framework is conducted differently by all councils across NSW.

The Local Government Act requires Council to carry out its functions in a way to support local communities to be strong, healthy and prosperous.

The following general principles apply to the core functions of Council to:

- Provide strong effective representation, leadership, planning and decision-making;
- Carry out functions that provide the best possible value for residents and ratepayers;
- Plan strategically, using the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework, for the provision of effective and efficient services and regulation to meet the diverse needs of the local community;
- Apply the IP&R Framework in carrying out functions to achieve desired outcomes and continuous improvements;
- Work co-operatively with other councils and the State government to achieve desired outcomes for the local community;
- Manage lands and other assets so that current and future local community needs can be met in an affordable way;
- Work with others to secure appropriate service for local community needs;
- Act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interest of the local community; and
- Be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff.

The following principles apply to decision-making. Council will:

- Recognise diverse local community needs and interests;
- Consider social justice principles;
- Consider the long-term and cumulative effects of actions on future generations;
- Consider the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- Be transparent and accountable for decisions; and
- Promote community participation by actively engaging with the local community.

The following principles of sound financial management apply to Council:

- Spend in a responsible and sustainable manner, aligning general revenue and expenses.
- Invest in responsible and sustainable infrastructure for the benefit of the local community.
- Have effective financial and asset management, including sound policies and processes for the following:
 - Performance management and reporting;
 - Asset maintenance and enhancement;
 - Funding decisions; and
 - Risk management practices.
- Have regard to achieving intergenerational equity, including ensuring policy decisions are made after considering their financial effects on future generation and that the current generation funds the cost of its services.

Council continuously advocates on behalf of our community and has on-going conversations with State and Federal Governments, as well as the private sector, to ensure we protect, enhance and improve:

- The services and facilities that our community require today and into the future;
- Our natural environment; and
- The promotion of business opportunities that can generate local jobs.



2022/2023 flooding

Above average rainfall across the Murray Darling Basin catchments during 2022 resulted in the Wentworth Local Government Area experience its first flood event since 2016.

The main impacts were felt through late spring and into mid-summer, parts of the Shire were still experiencing inundation into early Autumn of 2023.

The extent of the flood waters saw both the Murray and Darling-Baaka Rivers in flood at the same time in nearly 30 years.

The Murray River eventually peaked in late December 2022 with the Darling-Baaka River peaking about three weeks later. With the Darling-Baaka River returning to normal river levels, this allowed flood water to start draining out of the lower lakes and into the Great Darling Anabranch leading to property and road inundation through late Summer and into early Autumn of 2023.

The slow moving nature of the flood as it moved downstream provided Council and local residents ample time to prepare for the coming flood water.

Flood preparation works undertaken by Council to protect Council and Community assets include the following:

- Old Wentworth Road - section of road opened over the Fletchers Lake Creek to relieve flood water pressure
- Renmark Road - emergency works undertaken on a 500m section of road fronting the Wentworth Aerodrome to prevent floodwaters back flowing into the Aerodrome. This work involved raising the road surface level by approx. 400mm and blocking the existing under road major culverts.
- Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer - power to the showground complex shut off and

removal of switch board undertaken due to flood water inundation. Construction of protection bund surrounding the sewer pump station and fire service infrastructure.

- Willow Bend Caravan Park - relocation of office block building to Darling Street prior to flood period. Additional stockpiles and civil materials relocated.

The total direct cost incurred by Council for flood preparation work has been \$1,625,352. Fortunately works undertaken following previous floods including the building of levee banks around low lying areas of Wentworth and Buronga resulted in the townships escaping relatively unscathed.

Council estimates that more than 1,000 properties have suffered some form of flood inundation, fortunately it appears that the inundation of houses was minimal however damage to other buildings, crops and other property infrastructure was wide spread with more than a dozen properties in the Boeill Creek area having to evacuate, resulting in them being displaced for more than two months.

Fortunately, the majority of Council assets were spared, with the worst affected areas being parks and open spaces along riverfront areas and some sixty-three (63) roads being impacted resulting in road closures and Council having to undertake flood diversion measures to protect local properties.

The overall impact of the flood is still being assessed. While some businesses suffered direct impacts due to being inundated, significant losses have been incurred by businesses due to the indirect inputs of the flood.

Businesses who rely on the river to generate income (houseboat operators for example) were unable to use/access the river for many months.

Other businesses such as accommodation providers were significantly impacted due to the reduction in visitors who travel to the Region to enjoy what the rivers have to offer. The Christmas period of 2022/2023 was one of the quietest in recent memory.

As the clean up commences the recovery process is expected to take some time with the true cost not known for a couple of years. The flood has also impacted on Council's ability to achieve the actions outlined in the 2022/2023 Delivery Plan and Operational Plan with Council staff being redirected to flood preparation works.

At one stage, 19 projects had either been stalled or deferred. While the majority of these have since been recommenced it is anticipated that a number of these actions that were expected to be completed in the 2022/2023 financial year will be carried over into the 2023/2024 financial year.



2022 - 2026 Delivery Program Objectives

- Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries
- Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities
- Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained
- A well informed, supported and engaged community
- High quality connectivity across the region
- Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development
- Minimise the impact on the natural environment
- Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency
- A strong, responsible and representative government
- Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future
- To have a strong sense of place
- Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire
- Encourage lifelong learning opportunities
- Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people
- Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making and advocating processes
- Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination
- An effective and efficient organisation
- Use and manage our resources wisely
- Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life
- To have a safe community

The four-year Delivery Program is reviewed annually to determine which objectives set out in the Community Strategic Plan can be achieved within Council's available resources, and an Operational Plan of actions for the coming financial year is created.

As part of the ongoing monitoring and review of the Delivery Program, Council considers key external issues and influences that may affect what is required to be delivered for the community over the next four years.

The issues and influences identified and any others that arise over the next four years will be required to be monitored and any impacts from there will be included in future Operational Plans.

This ensures Council's long-term planning is consistent with current and future needs of the community.

The Operational Plan 2023-2024 is the second year of the Delivery Program 2022-2026. It outlines the actions that will be undertaken for each objective and determines who has primary responsibility for each action.

Throughout the duration of our four-year Delivery Program, we will continue to report and update the community on the progress of these initiatives and more, through our quarterly progress reports and the annual report.

Our Capital Works investment will continue to be significant with more than \$39 million to be spent on building, renewing and maintaining our assets.

As an organisation we continue to be in a strong financial position to deliver the programs outlined in this plan and meet our ongoing commitment to our community.

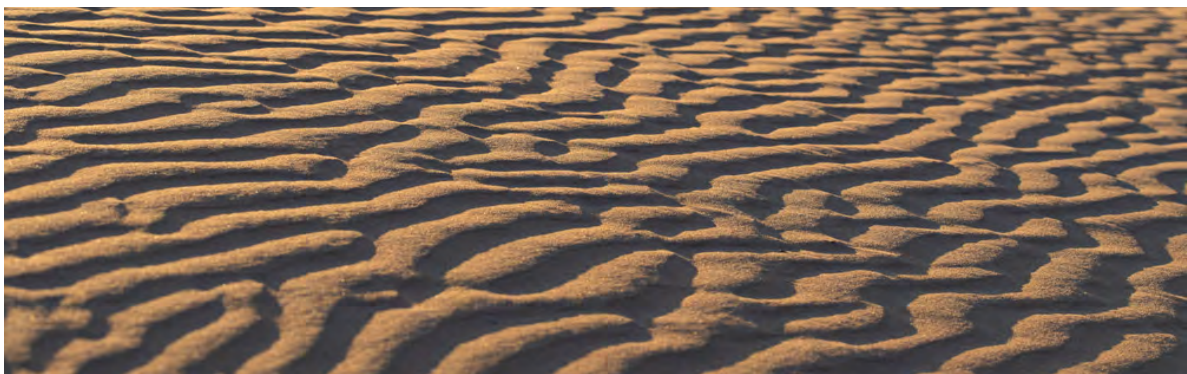
Council continues to work hard to ensure that all of its services and infrastructure will contribute to achieving the aspirations and priorities of the community and, in doing so, this will contribute to the health and wellbeing of our community.

We do this in collaboration with you and our major partners and stakeholders.

As well as Council's objectives and actions, this document contains a thorough breakdown of Council's operational and capital works budget, aligning to the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Sustainability and resilience are key themes underpinning Council's direction and have also been embedded in Council's planning and budgeting process.

This plan is another step towards a more effective, efficient and inclusive organisation that is committed to listening to key stakeholders, planning effectively and making the best decisions for the future of our Shire.



Community engagement is how we reach out and encourage our community to talk with us about the plans, projects and policies we develop on their behalf.

Community engagement helps us make decisions; it builds relationships and trust; builds a sense of belonging; and keeps the community informed.

The feedback we receive from the community is considered along with legislation, policies, technical assessments, financial, environmental and social impacts.

We are committed to providing opportunities for everyone in our community to help us make informed decisions.

We look forward to finding new ways to connect and work with you.

Council is mindful that the Community Strategic Plan is the community's document and not a Council document, with the Wentworth Shire community being the most important external stakeholder to be considered by Council in its planning for the future.



“The Delivery Program is a statement of Council’s commitment to the community and is the single point of reference for all principal activities undertaken by the elected council during its term of office”

Three levels of government

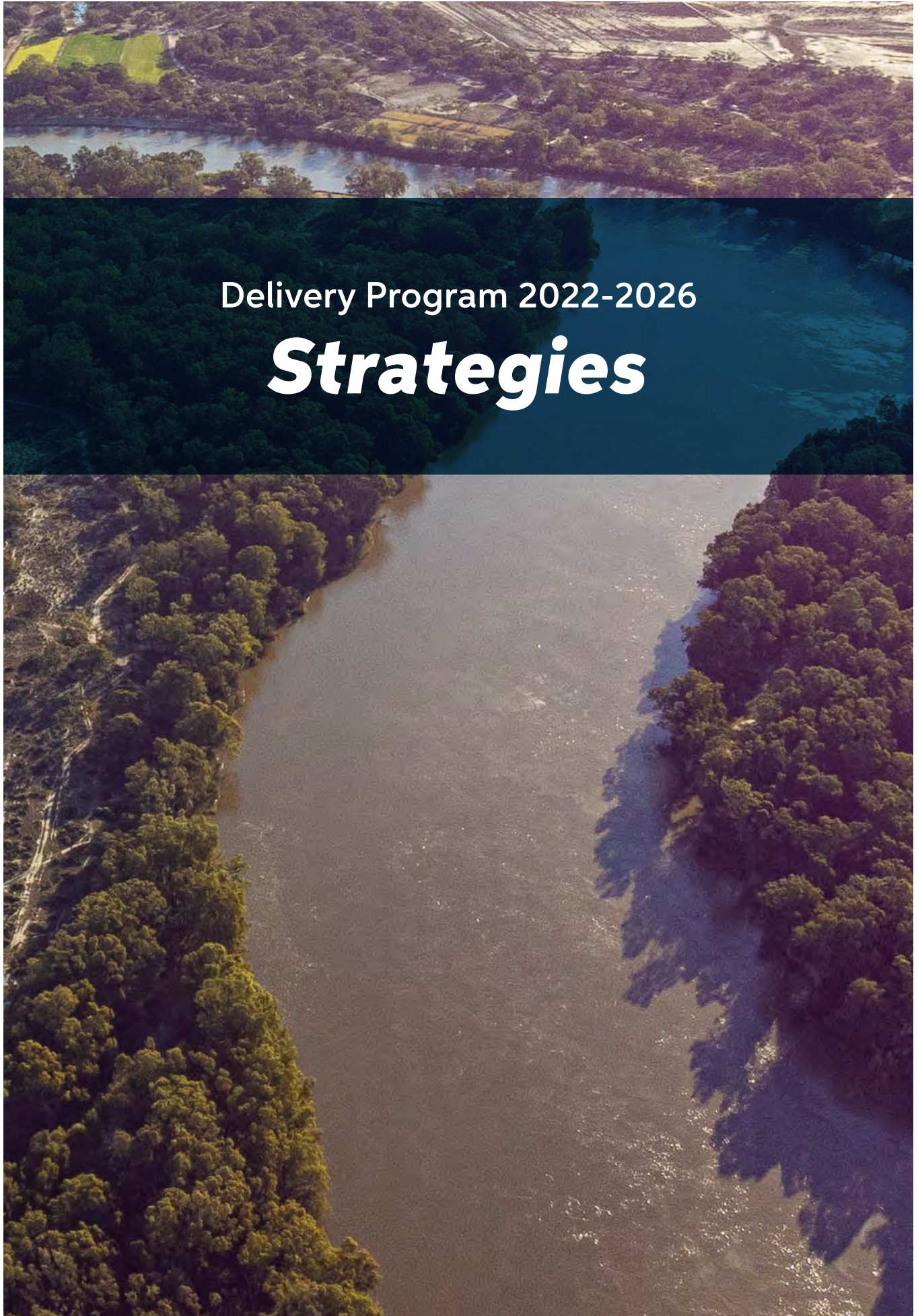
Australia has three levels of government that work together to provide residents with the services that they need.

Each level of government is responsible for providing services and each level collect money through taxes, rates or charges to pay for those services.

Each level may be fully responsible for providing certain services, but often two or three levels of government share responsibility.

The three levels of government are demonstrated below.

<p>FEDERAL</p> <p>Has broad national powers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defence • Bankruptcy & Insolvency • Trade & Commerce • Census & Statistics • Postal & Telecommunication Services • Quarantine • Foreign Policy • Taxation • Copyright • Immigration
<p>STATE</p> <p>Has its own government and its own constitution, and has power to look after laws not covered by the federal government.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Health • Transport (Railways, Registrations, Highways & Public Transport) • Emergency Services • Public Housing • Utilities • Mining & Agriculture • Consumer Affairs • Prisons • Forests • Maritime
<p>LOCAL</p> <p>Is responsible for providing services and infrastructure within its local area. Council responds to federal and state legislation and makes decisions based on identified community needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Services • Urban & Regional Planning • Community Services & Facilities • Transport (Local & Regional Roads, Footpaths, Car Parking) • Recreation Facilities • Environment & Waste Management • Tourism (Promotion, Visitor Information Services) • Economic Development • Stormwater Drainage • Water & Waste Water



Delivery Program 2022-2026

Strategies

How to read this plan

This diagram explains the key headings and terminology used in the following pages of this Plan.

STRATEGIES

These are the community's long-term priorities and aspirations for the Shire. They contribute to achieving the Shire's vision. Council has a custodial role in working towards realising these outcomes, however, is not wholly responsible for achieving them. Other partners, such as state agencies and community groups have an important role to play in achieving these strategies.



ECONOMIC

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

OBJECTIVES

Provides specific focus points to achieve the community strategies.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS

1.1- Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries.

Annual Actions

- Advocate for the local businesses on issues which further business and career opportunities for all
- Support economic growth and expansion across the Shire through improvement of local infrastructure and the identification of land for commercial and/or industrial use

Specific Actions

- Progress Actions from the Sustainable Wentworth Strategy
- Progress Actions from the Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020
- Progress Actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan
- Progress Actions from the Dareton Revitalised Strategy

1.2- Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination.

Annual Actions

- Provide Visitor Information Centre Services
- PS Ruby Operations
- Contribute to the promotion of tourism in the Wentworth Region through the management of Willowbend Caravan Park
- Continue to engage with and support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW Riverina-Murray and Mildura Regional Development

Specific Actions

- Develop promotional material to market the Shire as a conference and events destination
- Develop a Destination Management Plan/Tourism Strategy
- Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment
- Promote investment in a variety of accommodation options
- Finalise development of a Shire Events Manual

1.3 - High quality connectivity across the region.

Annual Actions

- Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links

Specific Actions

- Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile phone connectivity

1.4 - Encourage lifelong learning opportunities.

Annual Actions

- Undertake a program of activities and services that facilitate learning opportunities at Council's library services
- Advocate for the development and provision of local education, training and lifelong learning opportunities

Specific Actions

- Advocate for improved school services across the Wentworth Shire

ACTIONS

These are how we plan to achieve each objective. The Delivery Program & Operational Plan outline how the actions can be achieved.

ANNUAL ACTIONS

Actions that Council will undertake across each year of the Delivery Program that contribute to achieving the long-term objectives.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS

Actions that Council will undertake in a specific year(s) over the four (4) years of the Delivery Program. These are reviewed and updated annually.

Our economy



ECONOMIC

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

Community Outcome

We are a growing region with an expanding sense of opportunity, and we want to capitalise on those possibilities for the benefit of all.

Economic opportunities and partnerships facilitate growth of our local and regional economy, attracting investment to the region and fostering local business and employment.

You told us what you wanted

“

Major employment opportunities for businesses

Build other infrastructure and services to attract visitors to enhance the tourist experience

Make our riverfront a feature

Promote the natural attractions within the Shire

More riverfront attractions and improved wetlands and national parks

Completion of the Willow Bend Caravan Park as it's vital for tourism in the region

”

“

Bring tourist dollars to the town and the local community and business

Continuing to grow as it has over the last three years

Bigger and more developed with additional services

We need money spent here and not in Victoria

Larger population, more tourists

The vision must be for economic change to the community

”

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS	
1.1– Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for the local businesses on issues which further business and career opportunities for all Ensure that land is suitably zoned, sized and located to facilitate a variety of development that is supported by strategic and affordable infrastructure
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, review and update Strategic Planning documents as required Drought Resilience Plan
1.2– Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Visitor Information Centre Services PS Ruby Operations Continue to engage with and support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW Riverina-Murray, Mildura Regional Development and Wentworth Regional Tourism
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment Promote investment in a variety of accommodation options Deliver a program of Community Events Review PS Ruby Operational Model
1.3 – High quality connectivity across the region	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile phone connectivity
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
1.4 – Encourage lifelong learning opportunities	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a program of activities and services that facilitate learning opportunities at Council's library services Advocate for the development and provision of local education, training and lifelong learning opportunities Advocate for improved school services across the Wentworth Shire
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

1.5 – Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice including offering apprenticeships and traineeships• Identify opportunities to promote the benefits of employing people of all abilities and backgrounds
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

- Urban & Regional Planning
- Tourism & Economic Development
- Community
- Civic Governance
- Corporate Services



Our community



SOCIAL

Wentworth Shire is a great place to live

Community Outcome

We are committed to strengthening our diverse population by creating new opportunities for connection, creativity and inclusion by encouraging initiatives that strengthen our collective sense of self.

Social connectedness is a very strong indicator of perceived quality of life and happiness in a community. Council hopes, through the Delivery Program, to contribute to community connectedness in the Shire.

This will be reflected in the pride that residents have in telling people where they live, their good relationships with their neighbours, their participation in community life, how safe they feel, how much they volunteer, and of their sense of history and identity.

You told us what you wanted

“

Better access to healthcare services and facilities

Another school in Buronga or Gol Gol to accommodate growth in the area

More aged care facilities to accommodate our aging population

Stronger police presence

An enhanced events calendar so residents have more to do

”

“

Childcare facilities for families

Better communication and engagement with the community

Continued improvement of the Shire's presentation

More public artwork that improves Wentworth's presentation

”

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS	
2.1 – Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledge and celebrate Seniors Week and International Day of People with Disabilities Support the community to develop a range of community activities that focus on diversity, access, inclusion and capacity building Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community Identify opportunities to promote and celebrate Wentworth Shire as a welcoming and inclusive community
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
2.2 – Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a program of activities and services that facilitate opportunities for vulnerable members of the community at Council's library services Continue to collaborate with Government Agencies and other organisations to support the provision of health services across the Region Advocate for the provision of social services that meet the needs of all our community including families, children, youth, people with disability and the aged Promote and foster an accessible community that encourages access by people of all abilities. Promote the benefits of healthy eating and an active lifestyle Our buildings and spaces are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all community members
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement recommendations of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan
2.3 – To have a safe community	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Public Health Function Companion Animals & Buronga Pound Operations Provide Building Compliance Function In partnership with the RFS undertake hazard reduction works Continue to engage with the Local Area Command on key community safety issues Facilitate the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure a co-ordinated approach by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies In partnership with Transport for NSW continue to identify and resolve road and pedestrian safety issues
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement strategies to embed NSW Child Safe Standards across the organisation

2.4 – A well informed, supported and engaged community

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently communicate the role of Council to the community Provide regular updates of Council's achievements, strategic objectives and actions utilising a variety of platforms and communication channels Communicate funding opportunities available for the community
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Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
------------------	---

2.5 – We have a strong sense of place

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and update the amenity of the Shire to meet community expectations for clean and well-presented public spaces and townships
----------------	--

Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects
------------------	---

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

- Public Order
- Recreation
- Community
- Regulatory
- Corporate Services
- Civic Governance



Our environment



ENVIRONMENTAL

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

Community Outcome

Creating liveable communities means striking a balance between activities that support infrastructure development and others that enhance our quality of life.

As custodians of this land for future generations, we have an obligation to treat the natural environment with care and to minimise human impact on the surrounding environment to ensure a sustainable and healthy community.

You told us what you wanted

“

Better planning for infrastructure to support growth

An environmentally sustainable Shire

Proper monitoring and management of projects to ensure timely progression and reporting

A better waste management system that incorporates recycling and green waste bins

”

“

More green spaces included in new developments

Better maintenance of Council assets and infrastructure

Stronger effort to protect our natural environment and waterways

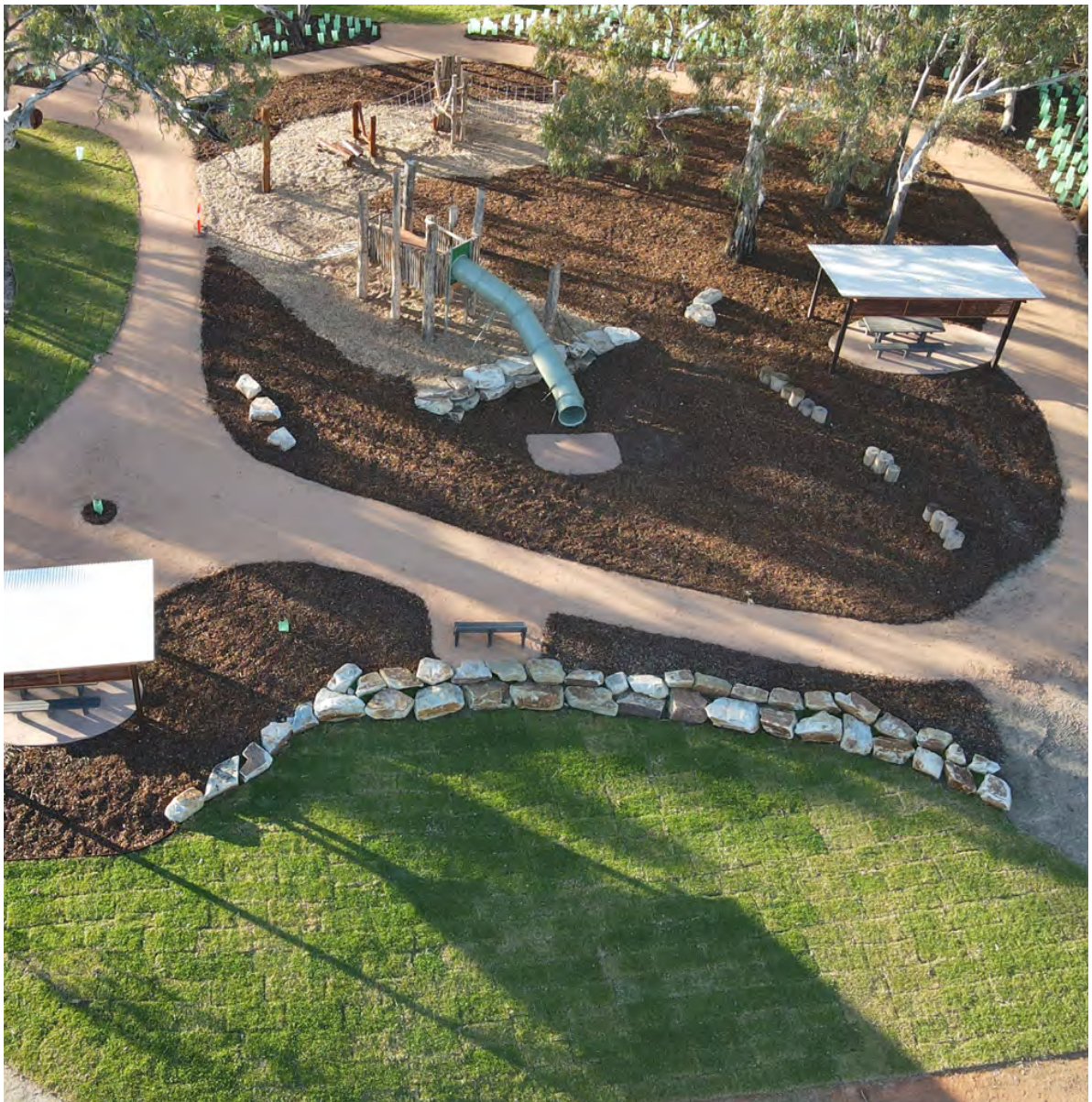
Better water pressure and quality

”

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS	
3.1 – Our planning decisions and controls ensure the community benefits from development	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver timely services for the assessment of Development Applications and planning proposals
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop, review and update Strategic Planning documents as required
3.2 – Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Tenure Program • Maintain transport network including Roads, Bridges and Footpaths • Maintain community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities.
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans
3.3 – Minimise the impact on the natural environment	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake actions identified in the Western Weeds Action Plan • Monitor and investigate Illegal Dumping Activities as required • Support the activities of the Murray Darling Association • Advocate for the sustainable management of the Darling-Baaka River and the Menindee Lakes
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote environmental activities for the community to participate in • Flood Plain Management Study
3.4 – Use and manage our resources wisely	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide best practice water, waste water and stormwater management infrastructure • Provide and promote resource recovery and recycling initiatives • Encourage businesses and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify strategic partnerships in order to introduce cost-effective recycling and green waste collection services • Undertake a review of energy efficiency and the use of renewable resources across Council facilities and assets • Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan
3.5 – Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire	
Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to the Federal and State governments for adequate funding for the delivery of key projects and the provision of essential infrastructure for the Region • Plan for appropriate infrastructure and services that support current and future needs
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise Civic Centre Redevelopment • Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan • Undertake a review of current and future sporting needs within the Shire

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

- Water & Sewer
- Environment
- Public Order
- Urban & Regional Planning
- Transport
- Civic Governance
- Corporate Services
- Recreation
- Tourism/Economic Development



Our leadership



CIVIC LEADERSHIP

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

Community Outcome

We are a responsible Council, committed to building strong relationships.

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision-making.

In order to operate a large organisation with a diverse range of services, a large portfolio of assets and a multitude of statutory requirements, Council must have a robust and well-managed governance framework and administration functions.

Council is committed to creating a well-managed and operated organisation that is equipped with the resources required to deliver effective services.

You told us what you wanted

“

A council that's in tune with the needs of the community

Transparency, honesty, integrity in the Council and its staff

A council that looks after all its constituents in a similar manner

A more diverse council to reflect the current Shire demographics

Good decision-making by all who are in charge of our future

”

“

More community boards to support local businesses

Inform the community and get community input

Staff who are capable and passionate about the area

Proactive councillors, those who can make a vision reality, and be willing to influence change

Broader community consultation

”

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS**4.1 – Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure that feedback is captured and considered in an open, transparent and inclusive manner**

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake community engagement activities and provide opportunities for participation in decision making where appropriate, in-line with Council's adopted Community Engagement Strategy Implement actions outlined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

4.2 – A strong, responsible and representative government

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Council is accountable to the community, meets legislative requirements and supports the Councillors to undertake their civic responsibilities Support Councillors to undertake ongoing professional development
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

4.3 – An effective and efficient organisation

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage the community on a regular basis to ensure that Council is providing services that deliver value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community Staff are supported to deliver high quality services to the community Ensure the organisation is well led and managed through the implementation of Good Governance, Risk Management and Compliance Frameworks
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor compliance with NSW Modern Slavery obligations

4.4 – Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the work of the Wentworth Interagency Group Foster strong partnerships with all levels of government, peak bodies, agencies and the community Support cultural, recreational and community interaction opportunities through the Financial Assistance Program
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

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

Annual Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a strong financial position that supports the delivery of services and strategies and ensures long term financial sustainability • Provide accurate and timely financial reports, monthly, quarterly and annually • Be the best employer that we can be by attracting, developing and retaining skilled staff to ensure a capable and effective workforce • Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan • Implement sound asset management practices to ensure adequate provision is made for the maintenance and long-term replacement of Council's infrastructure assets
Specific Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review attraction and retention strategies

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

- All Council Services





Wentworth Shire Council

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wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL



ANABRANCH
BURONGA
COOMEALLA
CURLWAA
DARETON
ELLERSLIE
GOL GOL
MONAK
POMONA
POONCARIE
RUFUS RIVER
TRENTHAM CLIFFS
WENTWORTH

Operational Plan

2023/2024

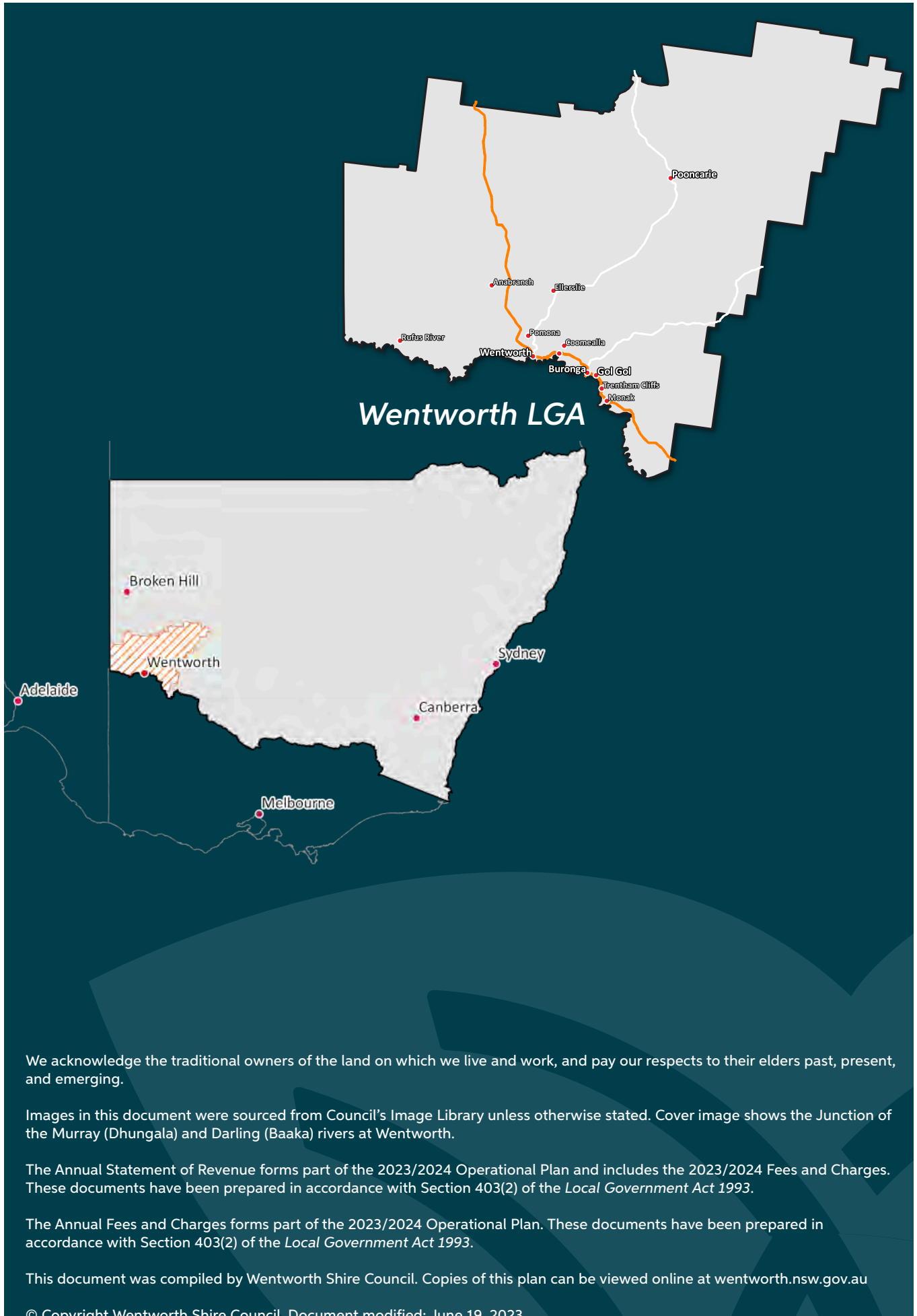


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Our Objectives

- 1 *Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region*
- 2 *Wentworth Shire is a great place to live*
- 3 *Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment*
- 4 *Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civil leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner*

Our Values

HONESTY & INTEGRITY

ACCOUNTABILITY &
TRANSPARENCY

RESPECT

QUALITY & COMMITMENT



Overview

The Operational Plan is Council’s action plan for achieving the community priorities outlined in the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program. The Operational Plan is prepared each year and identifies the projects, programs and activities that Council will conduct to achieve the commitments outlined in the Delivery Program.

As part of Council’s Delivery Program and Operational Plan, a detailed breakdown of Council’s finances helps to give context to the planned projects and activities and details the funding required for Council’s services and functions for the 2023/2024 financial year. Council will report on the budget for 2023/2024 quarterly as required.

Overall, the Operational Plan and budget continues to deliver a high standard of service for the residents and ratepayers of the Wentworth Shire.

The projected financial results for the Operational Plan and Delivery Program periods form the initial years of Council’s Long-Term Financial Plan. The Plan is part of Council’s Resourcing Strategy and models Council’s performance over a ten-year timespan.



2023/2024 Council Snapshot



133.45

Full-time
equivalent staff



\$31
million

Operational
budget



\$78
million

Budget forecast



\$47
million

Capital budget



117

Planned actions



3.70%

Rate increase

Achieving the vision for 2032

The consultation and engagement activities undertaken to inform the Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus - Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 resulted in the formation of the following concise and ambitious vision for the region:

Wentworth Shire will work together to create a thriving, attractive and welcoming community.

To ensure we, as a community, can work toward achieving this vision, four strategic objectives have been developed around the quadruple bottom line which aims to balance social, environmental, economic and governance aspects of strategic plans.

Underpinning each objective is a range of supporting strategies that outline high-level approaches to achieving the objectives and delivering the vision.



Quadruple Bottom Line

The quadruple bottom line underpins the Community Strategic Plan, helping to categorise the priorities that have been identified by the community.

Our strategies link directly to the quadruple bottom line, which are as follows:



Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

ECONOMIC



Wentworth Shire is a great place to live

SOCIAL



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

ENVIRONMENTAL



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

CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Financial information

Budgeted Income Statement Summary	2023/2024 Budget
Income from Continuing Operations	
Rates & Annual Charges	\$10,187,193
User Charges & Fees	\$7,089,144
Interest & Investment Revenue	\$1,692,950
Other Revenues	\$1,104,113
Grants - Operating	\$14,311,336
Grants - Capital	\$26,313,558
Net Gains from the disposal of assets	\$100,000
Total Income	\$60,798,294

Expenses from Continuing Operations	
Employee Benefits	\$11,077,890
Borrowing Costs	\$473,028
Materials & Contracts	\$7,448,686
Depreciation & Amortization	\$8,465,001
Other Expenses	\$3,698,171
Total Expenses	\$31,162,777
Operating Result from Continuing Operations	\$29,635,517
Discontinued Operations	\$0
Net Operating Result from Continuing Operations	\$29,635,517

Funding Requirements	2023/2024 Budget
Expenditure	
Operating Expenditure	\$31,162,777
Capital Expenditure	\$46,699,027
Total Expenditure	\$77,861,804
less depreciation (incl. in expenditure)	\$8,465,001
2023/2024 Cash Requirements	\$69,396,803

Cash Requirements funded from:	
Operational Revenue	\$50,056,286
Borrowings	\$6,000,000
Retained Earnings	\$500,000
Council Restricted Reserves	\$12,840,517
2023/2024 Total Funding	\$69,396,803

Projected Balances (Council Cash Reserves)	
Projected opening cash balance 01/07/2023	\$50,000,000
Less projected Cash deficit	\$10,939,429
Projected cash balance at 30/06/2024	\$39,060,575
Represented as:	
- Cash on hand	\$1,060,575
- Short Term Investments	\$5,000,000
- Long Term Investments	\$33,000,000

For Council to live within its means and achieve financial sustainability the annual budget must be balanced and in alignment to Council's long-term financial position. To ensure that Council lives within its means and that annual operations do not deplete financial reserves, Council's budget for 2023/2024 includes the following assumptions:

Rates and Annual Charges

- The Ordinary Rate will be increased by the maximum 3.70% (as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART)).
- Waste water access charges will be increased by 3.70%.
- Raw and filtered water access charges will be increased by 3.70%.
- Domestic waste charges will be increased by 3.70%.
- Water consumption charges will be increased by 3.70%.
- Interest will be charged on overdue rates and annual charges as approved by the Minister for Local Government.

Borrowings

Borrowed funds enable the cost of acquiring assets to be spread over a longer period of time, thus easing the burden on current ratepayers.

In the 2023/2024 financial year there will be loan borrowings of up to \$9,500,000 to help fund capital requirements for the:

- Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment (approval to loan funds via Council resolution Oct 2022) - \$5,500,000
- Willowbend Caravan Park (Loan approved as part of 2022/2023 budget) - \$2,000,000
- Stormwater Infrastructure Upgrades - \$2,000,000

Restricted Reserves

Council will utilise the following restricted reserves to fund capital expenditure during the 2023/2024 financial year:

Future Development Reserve

\$500,000 to fund the Civic Centre Redevelopment.

Loan Reserve

\$3,500,000 from previously approved loan to fund the Civic Centre and Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment Projects.

Capital Projects Reserve

\$500,000 to fund the Wentworth Civic Centre Project.

Unexpected Grants Reserve

\$8,340,517 of prepaid grants to fund capital projects.



Contribution to CSP objectives

In line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Council's expenditure has been aligned with the Objectives established within the Community Strategic Plan.

The financial expenditure figures depicted in the following table provide an indication of how Council's expenditure in 2023/2024 is aligned to the Community Strategic Plan.

The following pages provide the details of each Operational Plan action, including the description, the strategy that it is aligned to, the responsible officer, the source of funding and the budget amount for the financial year.



Strategy 1



ECONOMIC

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

Strategy 2



SOCIAL

Wentworth Shire is a great place to live

Strategy 3



ENVIRONMENTAL

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

Strategy 4















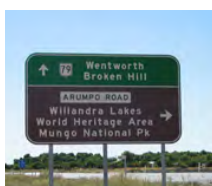

CIVIC LEADERSHIP

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



Capital Expenditure

The following major projects will be undertaken during 2023/2024:

	Wentworth Civic Centre \$7,828,292		Local Roads & Community Infrastructure \$2,068,621
	Pooncarie-Menindee Road \$6,000,000		Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment \$2,000,000
	Resources for Regions \$5,129,369		Plant Replacement \$2,000,000
	Roads Projects \$4,604,459		Sewer Upgrades \$1,340,701
	Light/State Bruce Munro Installation \$3,745,463		Stronger Country Communities \$1,335,299
	Stormwater Upgrades \$2,600,000		Water Upgrades \$779,143
	Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade - Arumpo Road \$2,400,000		Wentworth EDS \$700,000

2022/2023 flooding

During the 2023/2024 financial year the ongoing management of flood recovery remains a top priority.

The flood recovery program is a multi-faceted, highly involved process with the timing of work dependent on receiving approval and funding for each of the individual projects as well as contractor and resource availability.

With the region declared a natural disaster zone, repair work to our community infrastructure has commenced. Assessments of the impacts is ongoing and a number of assistance measures have been announced by State and Federal Governments. However, it will be some time before Council can fully quantify the impacts or determine exact timeframes for when damaged assets can be restored.



What we have done so far (as of Ordinary Council Meeting 19 April, 2023):

- **Buronga EDS**
 - Switchboard has been reinstated
 - Damaged electrical components have been replaced with pump station currently operational
- **Flood Affected Sign Replacement – Various Locations**
 - Affected signs been removed
 - Signs to be catalogued and quotes obtained to replace
- **Fotherby Park**
 - The underground power supply to the Possum statue, some park lights, and the visitor information board has been lost. Contractor engaged to rectify.
 - Contractor engaged to undertake the painting of some park assets – works completion scheduled for late April.
- Awaiting delivery of replacement seating
- Power bollards being modified, will be operational by Easter
- **Junction Park**
 - Awaiting underground electrical repairs to be completed
 - Painting is underway of Park assets
 - BBQ replaced
 - Awaiting delivery of replacement seating
 - Existing seating is still serviceable and remains on-site until replacement seating arrives
 - Viewing platform works identified by the Tonkin structural assessment have been completed
 - Bank erosion remedial works are in discussion

- **P.S Ruby**
 - Power to the Ruby should be restored by 17 April
 - 2 x boat mooring poles were uprooted during the flood period
 - Contractor engaged to replace and undertake general clean-up of the site, PS Ruby is securely moored
 - Flooding caused bank erosion on the north side between the water and fence. Result has 4 x mooring poles exposed to further erosion.
 - Access ramp to the Ruby became detached during flooding and is underwater next to the boat – contractor engaged with other site works to retrieve the ramp
- **Wentworth Rowing Club**
 - Building electrical assessment undertaken and passed - power restored
 - Building structurally assessed and passed
 - Pressure washing internally & externally completed
 - Flood-affected components internally and externally gutted and removed
 - Discussions are currently in progress regarding directions of the rebuild
- **Wentworth Showgrounds**
 - Main electrical switchboard installed on a metal gantry & raised just above 1956 to mitigate effects of future flooding
 - Power restored
- **Wentworth Ski Reserve**
 - Pressure washing of site completed
 - Some minor painting works required – completion scheduled for after Easter
 - Replacement Boat ramp solar light
 - Toilet block requires major rebuild
 - RFQ being compiled
 - 2 x Portable toilets placed on site
- **Wentworth Wharf & Riverfront**
 - All pressure washing completed
 - Wharf power restored
 - Houseboat bilge pump is operational
 - Stage 1 Painting works of park assets completed. Stage 2 Painting work scheduled for completion by Easter
 - Underground power supply lost to the park lamp posts, lights under the wharf and some ground lights
 - Park lights come under Essential Energy who are rectifying the issue
 - Ground lights and lights under the wharf require major works – works will be undertaken following higher priority sites
 - Awaiting delivery of replacement seating
 - BBQ's operational
 - Power bollards being modified, will be operational by Easter

What we still have to do:

Including but not limited to, the following:

- Unsealed road network – heavy grading - approximately \$3 million. Assessments ongoing
- River Road, Boeill Creek Road, Amaroo Road reconstruction (to commence late May) - 1.5km, total cost expected to be approximately \$1.5 million.
- Reinstate log bridge road
- Showgrounds – re-instatement of electrical switchboards above the 1956 flood level
- Park reinstatement works including the clean up of paths, pressure washing surfaces, painting and minor repairs of buildings and minor infrastructure
- Playgrounds – repair or replacement of playgrounds at Junction Park, Fotherby Park and Wentworth riverfront
- Reinstatement of the Buronga EDS switchboard
- Rowing club and ski reserve toilet block building repairs

Immediate clean up and emergency restoration and repair works have so far cost \$535,000.





Operational Plan 2023/2024

Actions

📍 Australian Inland Botanic Gardens, Buronga



STRATEGY 1

ECONOMIC

Our economy



ECONOMIC

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region

STRATEGY 1

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
1.1– Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries		
Annual Actions	Advocate for local businesses on issues which further business and career opportunities for all	General Manager
	Ensure that land is suitably zoned, sized and located to facilitate a variety of development that is supported by strategic and affordable infrastructure	Director Health & Planning
Specific Actions	Develop, review and update Strategic Planning documents as required	Director Health & Planning
	Drought Resilience Plan	Director Finance & Policy
1.2– Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination		
Annual Actions	Provide Visitor Information Centre Services	Team Leader VIC
	PS Ruby	General Manager
	Continue to engage with and support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW Riverina-Murray, Mildura Regional Development and Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.	Manager Tourism & Promotion
Specific Actions	Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil Works Ablution Block Upgrade 	Manager Engineering Services
	Deliver a program of Community Events	Manager Tourism & Promotion
	Early Settlers Museum Business Case	Director Finance & Policy
	Regional Tourism Activation Fund – Light State	
	Review PS Ruby Operational Model	General Manager
1.3 – High quality connectivity across the region		
Annual Actions	Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links	General Manager
	Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile phone connectivity	
Specific Actions	N/A	

1.4 – Encourage lifelong learning opportunities		
Annual Actions	Deliver a program of activities and services that facilitate learning opportunities at Council’s library services	Team Leader Library Services
	Advocate for the development and provision of local education, training and lifelong learning opportunities	General Manager
	Advocate for improved school services across the Wentworth Shire	
Specific Actions	N/A	
1.5 – Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities		
Annual Actions	Promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice including offering apprenticeships and traineeships	Manager Human Resources
	Identify opportunities to promote the benefits of employing people of all abilities and backgrounds	
Specific Actions	N/A	

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 1

\$849,991

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 1

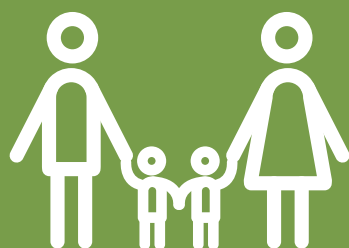
\$5,745,463

Measuring Progress

- Average development application approval time
- Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment completed on time and on budget
- Wentworth Shire Staff profile
- Number of Library Programs Delivered







STRATEGY 2

SOCIAL

Our community



SOCIAL

Wentworth Shire is a great place to live

STRATEGY 2

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
2.1 – Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life		
Annual Actions	Acknowledge and celebrate Seniors Week and International Day of People with Disabilities	Manager Tourism & Promotion
	Support the community to develop a range of community activities that focus on diversity, access, inclusion and capacity building	Director Finance & Policy
	Identify opportunities to promote and celebrate Wentworth Shire as a welcome and inclusive community	
	Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community	General Manager
Specific Actions	N/A	
2.2 – Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people		
Annual Actions	Deliver a program of activities and services that facilitate opportunities for vulnerable members of the community at Council's library services	Team Leader Library Services
	Continue to collaborate with Government Agencies and other organisations to support the provision of health services across the Region	General Manager
	Advocate for the provision of social services that meet the needs of all our community including families, children, youth, people with disability and the aged	
	Promote and foster an accessible community that encourages access by people of all abilities	Director Finance & Policy
	Promote the benefits of healthy eating and an active lifestyle	
	Our buildings and spaces are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all community members	Manager Engineering Services
Specific Actions	Implement recommendations of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Active NSW Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pine Road Sharedway Wood Street Sharedway Wood Street and Gol Gol Nth Road Sharedway Silver City Highway Dareton Sharedway 	Manager Engineering Services

2.3 – To have a safe community		
Annual Actions	Provide Public Health Function	Director Health & Planning
	Companion Animals & Buronga Pound Operations	
	Provide Building Compliance Function	
	In partnership with the RFS undertake hazard reduction works	Manager Works
	Continue to engage with the Local Area Command on key community safety issues	General Manager
	Facilitate the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure a co-ordinated approach by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies	
	In partnership with Transport for NSW continue to identify and resolve road and pedestrian safety issues	
Specific Actions	Develop and implement strategies to embed NSW Child Safe Standards across the organisation	Director Finance & Policy
2.4 – A well informed, supported and engaged community		
Annual Actions	Consistently communicate the role of Council to the community	Manager Tourism & Promotion
	Provide regular updates of Council's achievements, strategic objectives and actions utilising a variety of platforms and communication channels	General Manager
	Communicate funding opportunities available for the community	Director Finance & Policy
Specific Actions	N/A	



2.5 – To have a strong sense of place		
Annual Actions	Maintain and update the amenity of the Shire to meet community expectations for clean and well-presented public spaces and townships	Manager Works
Specific Actions	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserve Upgrades • Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block • Pooncarie Toilet Block • Ski Reserve Rehabilitation project • Buronga Pump Track Stage 2 • Open Spaces Development • Greater Junction Viewing Platform • James King Park Riverfront • Flood Recovery Activities – Parks, Gardens & Open Spaces 	Manager Engineering Services

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 2	\$3,780,230
Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 2	\$4,776,050

Measuring Progress

Number of community updates provided by Council
 Number of road safety initiatives implemented
 % of public health inspections completed within legislative timeframes
 Number of building inspections completed.
 Demographic profile of those attending library services
 Number of library programs completed
 Number of visitors to Council libraries





STRATEGY 3

ENVIRONMENTAL

Our environment



ENVIRONMENTAL

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

STRATEGY 3

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
3.1 – Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development		
Annual Actions	Deliver timely services for the assessment of Development Applications and planning proposals	Director Health & Planning
Specific Actions	Develop, review and update Strategic Planning documents as required	Director Health & Planning
3.2 – Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained		
Annual Actions	Land Tenure Program	Director Health & Planning
	Maintain transport network including Roads, Bridges and Footpaths	Manager Works
	Maintain community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities	
Specific Actions	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans	Manager Works
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixing Local Roads – Log Bridge Road Pooncarie – Menindee Road Flood Recovery Activities – Roads, Bridges & Footpaths Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade Program – Arumpo Road Regional & Local Road Repair Program George Gordon Oval Car Park Pothole Repair Program 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buronga Wetlands Sharedway Footpath & Sharedways Wentworth Showgrounds Female Change Rooms Wentworth EDS Wentworth Rowing Club Showgrounds Kitchen Upgrade George Gordon Oval Netball Courts George Gordon Oval Female Change Rooms Pooncarie Reserve Kitchen Upgrade 	Manager Engineering Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting Complex Bowling Green Dareton Main Street Alcheringa Tennis Courts Carramar Drive Sporting Complex Cricket Nets 		Director Finance & Policy

3.3 – Minimise the impact on the natural environment.		
Annual Actions	Undertake actions identified in the Western Weeds Action Plan	Manager Works
	Monitor and investigate Illegal Dumping Activities as required	Director Health & Planning
	Support the activities of the Murray Darling Association	General Manager
	Advocate for the sustainable management of the Darling-Baaka River and the Menindee Lakes	
Specific Actions	Promote environmental activities for community participation	Director Finance & Planning
	Flood Plain Management Plan	Director Health & Planning
3.4 – Use and manage our resources wisely.		
Annual Actions	Provide best practice water, waste water and stormwater management infrastructure	Manager Works
	Provide and promote resource recovery and recycling initiatives	
	Encourage businesses and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible	Manager Tourism & Promotion
Specific Actions	Identify strategic partnerships in order to introduce cost-effective recycling and green waste collection services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress Buronga Landfill Expansion 	Manager Engineering Services
	Undertake a review of energy efficiency and the use of renewable resources across Council facilities and assets	Director Finance & Policy
	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan	Manager Engineering Services



3.5 – Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire		
Annual Actions	Advocate to the Federal and State governments for adequate funding for the delivery of key projects and the provision of essential infrastructure for the region	General Manager
	Plan for appropriate infrastructure and services that support current and future needs	Director Roads & Engineering
Specific Actions	Finalise Civic Centre Redevelopment	General Manager
	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pink Lake Stormwater • Rose Street Stormwater • 3 Sisters Stormwater • Kingfisher Road Stormwater & Sewer Pump Station 	Manager Engineering Services
	LRCI Phase 3A projects	
	Wentworth Aerodrome Facilities Upgrade	
	OLG Flood Recovery Projects	
	Undertake a review of current and future sporting needs within the Shire. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buronga/Gol Gol Sporting Master Plan 	Director Finance & Policy

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 3

\$22,713,048

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 3

\$30,545,962

Measuring Progress

Civic Centre Redevelopment completed on time and on budget

Pooncarie-Menindee Road project completed on time and on budget

% of Capital works projects completed on time and on budget

Development Control Plan Reviewed and Updated accordingly

Number of land acquisitions completed.



STRATEGY 4

CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Our leadership



CIVIC LEADERSHIP

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

STRATEGY 4

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER
4.1 – Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure that feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making and advocating processes		
Annual Actions	Undertake community engagement activities and provide opportunities for participation in decision making where appropriate, in-line with Council's adopted Community Engagement Strategy	General Manager
	Implement actions outlined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan	Director Finance & Policy
Specific Actions	N/A	
4.2 – A strong, responsible and representative government		
Annual Actions	Ensure that Council is accountable to the community, meets legislative requirements and supports the Councillors to undertake their civic responsibilities.	General Manager
	Support Councillors to undertake ongoing professional development.	
Specific Actions	N/A	
4.3 – An effective and efficient organisation		
Annual Actions	Engage the community on a regular basis to ensure that Council is providing services that deliver value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community.	Director Finance & Policy
	Staff are supported to deliver high quality services to the community.	General Manager
	Ensure the organisation is well led and managed through the implementation of Good Governance, Risk Management and Compliance Frameworks.	Director Finance & Policy
Specific Actions	Continue to monitor compliance with NSW Modern Slavery obligations.	Director Finance & Policy
4.4 – Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future		
Annual Actions	Continue to support the work of the Wentworth Interagency Group	General Manager
	Foster strong partnerships with all levels of government, peak bodies, agencies and the community	
	Support cultural, recreational and community interaction opportunities through the Financial Assistance Program	Director Finance & Policy
Specific Actions	N/A	

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

Annual Actions	Maintain a strong financial position that supports the delivery of services and strategies and ensures long term financial sustainability	Director Finance & Policy
	Provide accurate and timely financial reports, monthly, quarterly and annually	
	Be the best employer that we can be by attracting, developing and retaining skilled staff to ensure a capable and effective workforce	Manager Human Resources
	Implement actions outlined in the Workforce Management Plan	
	Implement sound asset management practices to ensure adequate provision is made for the maintenance and long-term replacement of Council's infrastructure assets	Manager Engineering Services
Specific Actions	Review Attraction and Retention Strategies	Manager Human Services

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 4

\$6,974,277

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 4

\$1,750,783

Measuring Progress

Strong financial position maintained

Financial reporting obligations met

Annual Financial Assistance Program completed

Continue to provide support for Wentworth Interagency Group

Number Service level reviews completed

Quarterly Progress Reports completed on time

Engagement activities undertaken as per Community Engagement Strategy



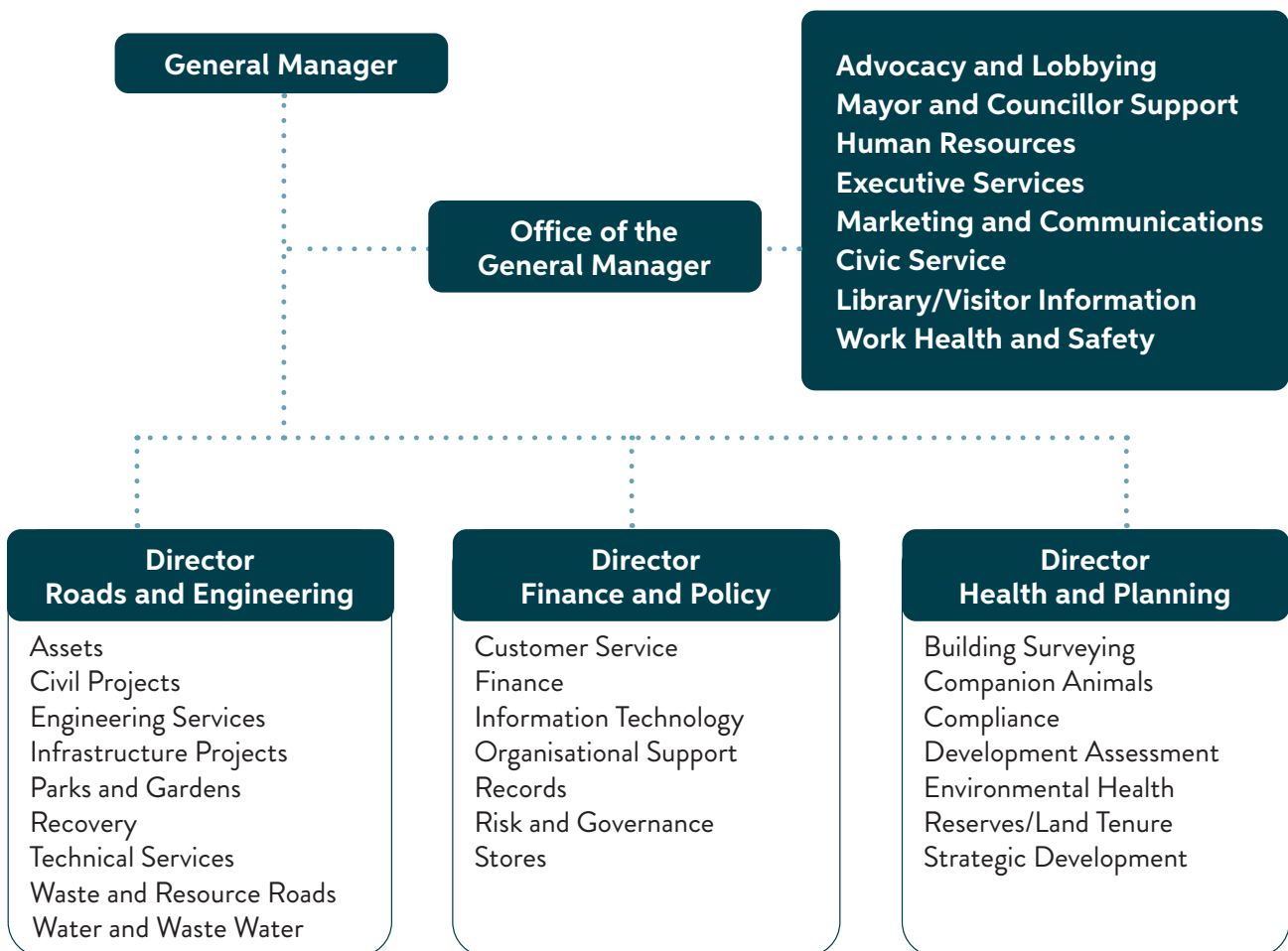
Workforce requirements

On 15 February 2023 Council adopted the existing structure consisting of 133.45 full time equivalents (FTE's).

The adopted structure consists of the general manager and three (3) directors, with each of these positions the subject of a standard contract of employment for Senior Staff. All other staff are employed in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award.

For the 2023/2024 financial year total employment costs are forecast to be \$11,077,890 which is a 3.20% increase on the previous financial year's budget.

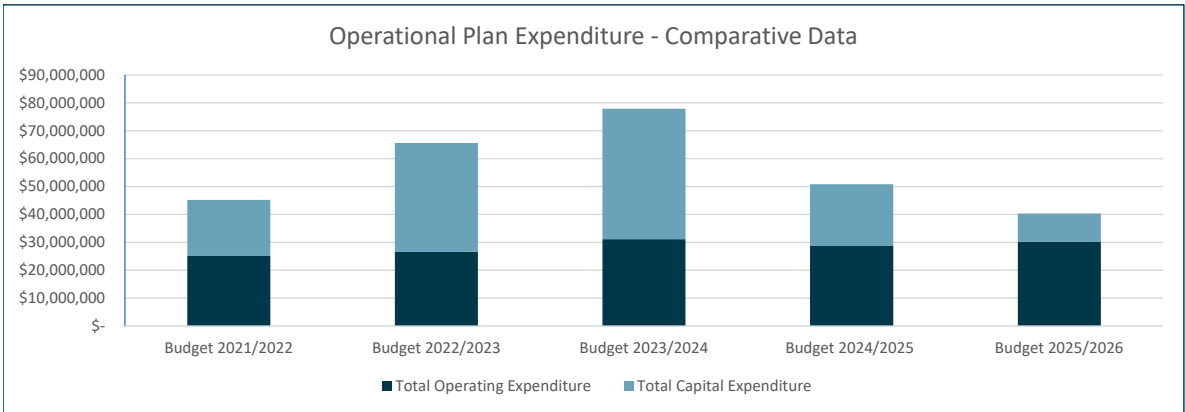
The following diagram depicts the Organisational Structure.



Future year estimates

The following graph provides a comparison of previous budgeted amounts, compared with the budget for the upcoming financial year and the projected future budgets for 2024/2025.

Based on the current Delivery Program projects and forecasts from 2023/2024 onwards the level of capital expenditure reduces as the current four-year Delivery Program council comes to an end.



	Budget 2021/2022	Budget 2022/2023	Budget 2023/2024	Budget 2024/2025	Budget 2025/2026
Total Operating Expenditure	\$ 25,124,643.00	\$ 26,616,364.00	\$ 31,162,777.00	\$ 28,715,188.00	\$ 30,251,786.00
Total Capital Expenditure	\$ 20,098,111.00	\$ 39,014,529.00	\$ 46,699,027.00	\$ 22,131,788.00	\$ 10,074,829.00

Further information

The Annual Statement of Revenue provides a full breakdown of revenue and contains the following required statements;

- a statement of the types of fees proposed to be charged by Council,
- a statement of Council’s proposed pricing methodology for determining the prices of goods and the approved fees for services provided by Council,
- the amounts of any proposed borrowings,
- the sources from which they are proposed to be borrowed, and
- the means by which they are proposed to be secured.

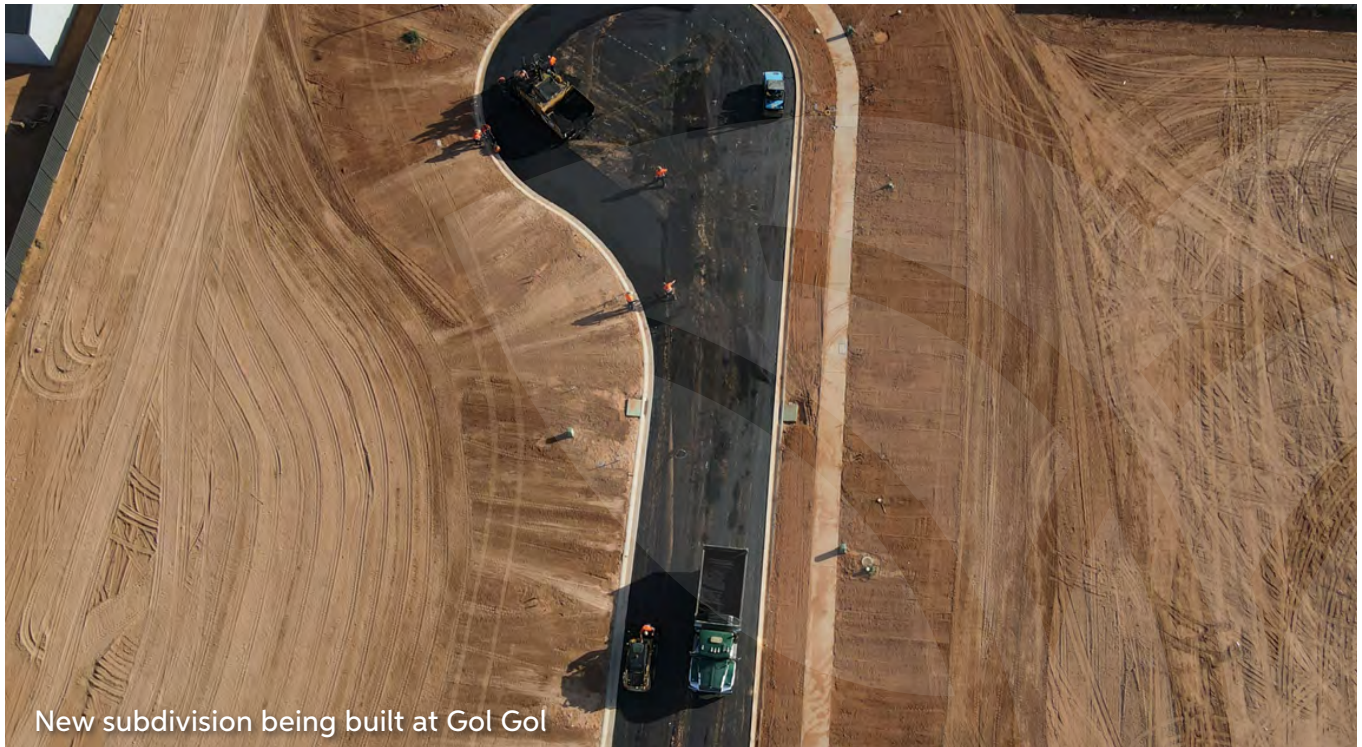
The Annual fees and charges document provides details of annual fees and charges for the 2023/2024 financial year.



Operational Plan 2023/2024 **Attachments**

📍 Sturt Desert Pea, Australian Inland Botanic Gardens, Buronga

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Statement of Revenue Policy

Introduction

The information referenced in this Statement of Revenue comes directly from Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP). The quality and quantity of services that Council provides to its citizens continue to grow despite an income that, in real terms, is decreasing. We are not alone in facing this predicament, but that does not lessen the size of the issue.

Despite these constraints, Council is determined to provide quality services at a level the community expects and at a price they are willing to pay. This will involve working closely with our community to provide services that best suit their needs.

In preparing the Long Term Financial Plan consideration was given to a range of economic and political factors that affect our finances and in turn our capability to maintain existing levels of service and long term financial sustainability.

Rating

Council rates are a form of taxation; they are not a fee-for-service. The Valuation of Land Act and the Local Government Act provide the legislative framework for valuing land and raising rates. All rateable land must be valued and rated. The Valuation of Land Act prescribes that the value of all properties be reassessed every 3 or 4 years to accommodate movements in land values. Council currently has its land revalued every 3 years. A revaluation establishes the value of a property relative to all other properties (ie: its market relativity).

Valuations in New South Wales are conducted by the NSW Valuer-General based on market movements and recent sales trends as required under the Valuation of Land Act.

When a local government area has been re-valued the property owner will be issued with a Notice of Valuation. Each Notice of Valuation contains both details of the property as they are recorded on the Valuer General's records and the land value at the common base date for all Valuer General valuations in the local government area.

The valuations are objective and impartial, and are based on the market for Land. The 'land value' represents the value that the 'fee simple' interest in the land, assumed to be vacant, would be if offered for sale. For 2023/2024, rates are based on property values as at 1 July 2022.

By virtue of section 494 of the Local Government Act, Council is required to make and levy an ordinary rate for each year on all rateable land in its area. This is a mandatory requirement.

A rate may, at Council's discretion, consist of:

- An ad valorem amount; which may be subject to a minimum amount of the rate; or
- A base amount to which an ad valorem amount is added.

The ad valorem amount of a rate

The ad valorem amount of a rate is to be levied on the land value of all land that is to be rateable to the rate and the rate in the dollar is to apply uniformly. The ad valorem amount of the ordinary rate may be the same for all classes or it may be different for different classes or sub classes.

Base charges and minimum amounts of rates payable

The Local Government Act allows the use of both different minimums and/or different base charges for different land use/localities. This provides additional flexibility in determining the distribution of the rating burden. It potentially enables better accommodation of 'equity' considerations but at the expense of the criteria of 'simplicity'. Greater flexibility also leaves council more vulnerable to lobbying for favourable treatment by special interest groups.

A base charge is a fixed rate levied equally against all properties. Rates based on property value are then levied to provide the additional revenue required by Council. The effect is to reduce the influence that property values have in determining the relative amounts paid by different ratepayers. By contrast, a minimum rate applies only to those properties with a value below a set threshold. The amount of rates payable by all properties with a value above that threshold is therefore determined solely by relative property values.

The higher the amount of a base charge or a minimum rate the lower will be the ad valorem rate for any given revenue target. As a result

higher valued properties may incur a greater or lesser share of the total rate burden depending on the level of the base charge or minimum rate. Applying a base rate charge will result in a different distribution between low, medium and high valued properties relative to the application of a minimum rate. The Local Government Act limits the amount of revenue that can be generated by a base charge or minimum rate. A base rate or minimum rate must not produce more than 50% of the total revenue derived for each class of property. Council has a base charge for each property class but currently does not levy a minimum charge.

Council must apply the ad valorem and base amount uniformly to every parcel of land within each property class but they can differ from property class to property class.

For well over two decades, councils in NSW have been restricted to a rate cap and this has made it increasingly difficult to achieve financial sustainability for Western Division Councils. Most of these councils have rates as a percentage of total revenue below 25%.

Rate increases over the last six years are detailed in the following table.

Table of years and rate increases and % of total revenue						
Rating Year	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Rate Pegging % Increase	2.30	2.70	2.60	2.00	0.70	3.70
Rateable Value	511,880,220	518,336,290	862,040,158	879,598,432	885,520,951	1,555,890,730
Total General Rate Income \$	5,146,523	5,324,988	5,460,635	5,673,409	5,724,454	6,039,427
Increase \$	164,455	140,986	138,450	212,774	51,045	314,973

Budget analysis

This section provides comments on the main expenses and revenues, and capital expenditure for 2023/2024.

Operating Revenue

Council has forecasted to generate \$60,798,294 in revenue for 2023/2024.

Extract of Operating Statement				
Operating Revenue	2024	2025	2026	2027
Rates & Annual Charges	\$10,187,193	\$10,498,074	\$10,764,913	\$11,038,423
User Charges & Fees	\$7,089,144	\$7,710,751	\$12,633,990	\$12,947,041
Interest	\$1,698,950	\$1,743,739	\$1,787,332	\$1,832,015
Grants & Contributions (Op)	\$14,311,336	10,422,182	\$10,655,862	\$10,895,384
Grants & Contributions (Cap)	\$26,313,558	\$3,677,921	\$679,606	\$681,334
Other Operating Revenue	\$1,104,113	\$1,107,474	\$1,128,920	\$1,130,360
Net gain/loss Disposal of Assets	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$60,798,294	\$35,260,140	\$37,750,624	\$38,624,557

Rating and Annual Charges

The total income that can be raised from levying rates on property is capped by the State Government via the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal. The current rate structure for Wentworth Shire Council will be maintained, rate assessments will be based entirely upon property valuations (ad valorem) but with base rates applying where appropriate. The continuing constraint of rate pegging imposed by the State Government limits Council's ability to provide additional services or borrow additional funds and has focused considerable attention to the need for and efficiency of each service provided. Council expects to raise \$10,187,193 from rates and annual charges for 2023/2024. This includes a special variation for Tourism which was approved in 1998 for \$10 per assessment.

Pensioners who hold a Pensioner Concession card and own and occupy rateable property in Wentworth Shire receive a mandatory rebate on their rates and annual charges. The State Government funds 55% of the rebate. This is expected to cost Council \$76,000 in 2023/2024.

Interest charges on unpaid rates and charges will accrue on a daily basis at the rate as determined by the Minister for Local Government in accordance with Section 566 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Hardship and ability to pay rates

Hardship is the difficulty in paying debts when repayment is due. Any person who cannot pay their rates or charges due to hardship can apply to Council for assistance at any time. Ratepayers are encouraged to seek assistance from Council as soon as practical. Council will consider each hardship application on its merits.

There are several ways Council may help a ratepayer who is experiencing financial hardship including, but not limited to:

- A payment plan or agreement (s564 of the Local Government Act) so that rates and charges (whether overdue or not) are paid on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.
- Interest may be waived or reduced for a set period of time.
- A pensioner rebate (additional to the legislated rebate) may be given.
- Interest, rates or charges may be written off, waived, reduced, or deferred for eligible applicants (s564, s 577, 601 Local Government Act)

Applications for a special variance to general income

The ability to introduce a special rate variation to General Income requires Ministerial Approval. The provision allows the raising of additional income over and above the rate cap for specific purposes and under strict guidelines.

Council can apply for additional income through these provisions, however at this stage there has been no thought given to doing so. In the future this option will be explored if deemed necessary.

User Charges and Fees

Many of the services provided by Council are offered on a user pays basis. Fees and Charges relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users. All fees in this category are annually reviewed and some of the general considerations for setting these fees include:

- Cost of the service or operation;
- Consumer Price Index;
- Other revenue sources which may fund the service;
- Laws and Regulations;
- Ability of the persons/groups using the service to pay;
- Benefit to the community (possible subsidy); or
- Benchmarking with others providing similar services

Council needs to be mindful of using fees and charges as an avenue to increase revenue to the extent that it can create issues around maintaining equitable access to services and facilities for residents. The Shire's relatively low population base does not provide a large market from which significant fees and charges can be obtained.

Statutory fees such as development assessment fees, planning certificates etc charged by Council are subject to direction through regulation and other state government controls. Council does not set these fees and does not have the power to vary the fee set. The majority of statutory charges do not provide for annual increase in line with CPI or the cost of providing the service and therefore excluding development related income, no growth in these fees has been included in the 2023/2024 budget.

The Roads and Maritime Services contract (RMCC) is classed as a fee for service and accounts for approx. \$1.7million of revenue annually. Council also operates the Buronga Landfill, it is expected that this operation will generate \$3,450,000 in revenue for 2023/2024. Overall Council expects to raise \$7,089,144 from user fees and charges for 2023/2024.

Interest on Investments

Council has an investment portfolio that varies in size from year to year however it is projected to be between \$40m and \$45m for the majority of 2023/2024. These funds are a mixture of unspent grants, reserve funds and general revenue. All investments are placed in accordance with the Minister's Order and Council's adopted investment policy. Interest earnings form a significant part of Council's revenue each year and are subject to fluctuations in interest rates as they respond to economic conditions.

Approximately \$42,000,000 of Council's cash reserves are currently either internally or externally restricted, this means that they have been set aside to fund specific expenditure. This gives Council the ability to strategically invest these funds in order to gain maximum returns whilst minimising risk. The remaining funds make up Council's available working capital which is required to fund day to day operations. Council also receives interest on outstanding rates and annual charges.

Council expects to receive \$1,692,950 from investment activities in 2023/2024.

Grants and Contributions

Council receives an annual Financial Assistance Grant from the Commonwealth as well as various grants from other State and Commonwealth Government departments. Council has assumed that it will continue to receive these grants, however, should these grants and subsidies be reduced Council's ability to provide the same level of service will be impacted.

Council also receives operating and capital grants from various funding bodies to help fund the following services:

- Roads maintenance and capital works
- Library Services
- Weeds
- Youth Week
- Rural Fire Services

Council will continue to seek grants and partnership funding for a range of well-aligned projects and programs, which will be reflected in the budgets as and when specific arrangements are confirmed.

Council collects monetary contributions from developers as a condition of consent on Development Applications to meet the demand for public amenities and public services created by new development. Authority to do this is provided by Sections 7.11 & 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW).

This form of revenue is difficult to predict and Council has adopted the prudent position of making no assumption that this source of funds can be relied upon for the purpose of forward forecasting of resources and financial sustainability. Successful increases in revenue through, grants, partnerships and developer contributions will be treated as windfalls.

The Local Government Financial Assistance Grants are paid to local councils to help them deliver services to their communities. The funds are paid annually by the Australian Government. Councils are free to use these funds at their discretion and are accountable to their ratepayers.

Following the 2013 independent review of local government in NSW the State Government has been refining the funding model for the Financial Assistance Grants in order to channel additional support to councils and communities with the greatest needs. Generally, councils and communities with the greatest need have the following characteristics:

- Rural and remote councils;
- With small and declining populations;
- Have limited capacity to raise revenue;
- Have financial responsibility for sizeable networks of local roads/infrastructure & diminishing financial resources; and
- Relative isolation

Funds are allocated by the State Government on the basis of the national principles as outlined in the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 (Cth)*. The ongoing challenge facing the government has been how to allocate a fairer share of the grant to disadvantaged councils when a fixed 30% of the grant must be allocated based on population increases/decreases.

Council has forecasted to receive \$40,624,894 in operating and capital grants in 2023/2024.

REVFINIF

Council will receive capital grants and contributions in 2023/2024 which will contribute to funding the following projects:

- Roads to Recovery Program
- Regional Roads Block Grant and Repair Program
- Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Projects
 - James King Park Riverfront Upgrade
 - Willowbend Caravan Park Ablutions Block
 - Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment
- Fixing Local Roads
 - Log Bridge Road
 - Keenan's Drive
- Stronger Country Communities
 - Wentworth Showgrounds Female Jockey Room
 - Carramar Drive Sporting Complex Cricket Nets
 - George Gordon Oval Netball Courts and Female Change Rooms
 - Wentworth Aerodrome Minor Upgrades
- Resources for Regions
 - Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment – Visitor Information Centre
 - Wentworth EDS
 - Reserves Upgrades
 - Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block
 - Pooncarie Toilet Block
 - Buronga Wetlands Sharedway
 - Buronga Pump Track Stage 2
 - Greater Murray Darling Junction Viewing Platform
 - Reserve Kitchen Upgrades
 - Wentworth Sporting Complex Bowling Green
 - Alcheringa Tennis Courts Upgrade
 - Open Spaces Developments
 - Wentworth Shire Footpaths and Sharedways
- Growing Local Economies
 - Pooncarie-Menindee Road Upgrade
- Crown Land Improvement Fund
 - Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment
 - Ski Reserve Rehabilitation
- NSW State Library Grant
 - Wentworth Library Relocation
- Pothole Repair Program
- Regional and Local Roads Repair Program
- Regional Tourism Activation Fund
 - Light State
- Remote Roads Pilot Upgrade
 - 24.5km Arumpo Road Reconstruction
- Flood Plain Study
- Get Active NSW
 - Wood Street Sharedway
 - Pine Road Sharedway
 - Wood Street & Gol Gol North Road Sharedway
- Flood Recovery Works
 - Roads
 - Open Spaces and Buildings

Council has an internally restricted fund of \$1,000,000 that can be used to contribute to funding applications as they become available.

Should the grant application process be unsuccessful, Council will have to use external borrowings to finance the works.

Other Revenue

Miscellaneous revenue is obtained from a variety of sources including insurance recoveries, property rentals, sale of assets etc. It is anticipated that other revenue will be maintained at current levels with an increase for CPI factored in. Council has budgeted to receive \$1,104,133 in 2023/2024.

Operating Expenditure

Council has forecasted \$31,162,777 in operating expenditure for 2023/2024.

Extract of Operating Statement				
Operating Expenses	2024	2025	2026	2027
Employee Costs	\$11,077,890	\$11,618,842	\$12,225,782	\$12,588,897
Materials & Contracts	\$7,448,686	\$3,857,911	\$4,479,464	\$4,753,780
Borrowings	\$473,028	\$850,093	\$804,168	\$834,538
Depreciaton & Amortisation	\$8,465,001	\$8,465,001	\$8,843,996	\$8,843,996
Other Operating Expenses	\$3,698,171	\$3,923,341	\$3,898,376	\$4,020,600
TOTAL	\$31,162,777	\$28,715,188	\$30,251,786	\$31,041,812

Employee Expenses

Employee expenses comprise approximately 40% of Council's operating costs with 133.45 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Staff. The salaries and wages budget calculation include an assumption that staff will take four weeks annual leave. Throughout any year salary savings resulting from staff vacancies and efficiencies will occur naturally.

The superannuation Guarantee Levy is currently at 10.50% and will progressively increase to 12%. Council has a number of staff in the defined benefit scheme and have been paying significantly increased contribution rates to fund this scheme.

Council Employee Leave Entitlements reserve is used to fund unanticipated changes in termination payments each year. The number of staff who might leave is difficult to predict and the budget has a provision added to represent the projected levels of retirements, to accommodate the challenges of an ageing workforce.

Council's policy is to fully fund the leave entitlements of staff in the Employee Leave Entitlements Reserve. In recent years the reserve has been used to assist in the funding of costs associated with the resignation/retirement of a number of long serving employees. Council has been fortunate in recent years that it has had enough surplus cash to fund 100% of this reserve. It is projected that the reserve will maintain a balance of 100% through 2023/2024. However, if surplus funds were to decrease Council may choose to review this policy.

Workers Compensation premiums increase and decrease significantly with claims history. Council continues to be proactive in order to minimise any potential for claims.

Organisational Structure

The 2023/2024 Operational Plan is based on the figure of 133.45 equivalent fulltime employees (FTEs). Councils total employee costs for 2023/2024 is expected to be \$11,077,890.

EXPENDITURE

Borrowing Costs

Wentworth Shire Council in the past has been debt averse and viewed the achievement of a low level of debt or even a debt free status as a primary goal. However, Council appreciates that the use of loan funding can be a critical component of the funding mix to deliver much needed infrastructure to the community. The beneficiaries of these projects will assist in their funding as their rates will be applied in part to repaying the loans. This is in contrast to current ratepayers bearing the entire burden in one year, possibly at the expense of other worthwhile expenditure.

Debt is seen as a method of more fairly spreading capital costs to deliver intergenerational equity. Keeping this in mind there are limits to the amount the Council can borrow without impacting on its financial sustainability and Council is mindful of not wanting to impose excessive debt on current or future generations.

Council's borrowing strategy projected in the LTFP is to restrict the debt service ratio to less than the industry benchmark of 20%. Before embarking on any new debt Council will consider the following:

- Debt financing is only to be used for clearly identifiable major projects and the Capital Works Program;
- Debt finance will not be used to meet operational shortfalls; and
- The period of repayment of debt finance shall not exceed the period over which the benefits are received from a project, or the life of the asset whichever is lesser

The principles of intergenerational equity are supported in respect of the Council contribution to the funding of major projects, the benefits of which will be shared by future generations.

Loans shall only be raised after taking into consideration future known specific capital funding requirements and, when raised, shall only fund the specific project or purpose approved.

Borrowing costs on current and projected loans and financing arrangements will total \$473,028 in 2023/2024.

Materials and Contracts

Materials and Contracts represent the principal costs used to deliver services to the community and are forecast to increase by 7% in 2023/2024 in line with increases in the Consumer Price Index. Materials and contracts are subject to variations in the market and particularly to petroleum prices. Such fluctuations impact on the price of petroleum and petroleum-based products (such as asphalt) and makes forecasting difficult. This years figure has also been increased to take into account the Pothole Repair program and the Regional & Local Roads Repair Program grants which are one-off operational grant expenditure. Budgeted expenditure for 2023/2024 is \$7,448,686.

Depreciation

Depreciation reflects the fact that an asset's cost is proportionally expensed over the time during which it is used. Depreciation has been based on the estimated useful life of assets and will be reviewed every year. Council continues to thoroughly review its residual values and estimated useful lives. Budgeted depreciation for 2023/2024 is \$8,465,001.

Other Expenses

Includes items such as audit fees, valuation fees, office expenses, software licences, insurances, electricity costs etc. These costs count for approximately 10% of Council operating expenditure and have been forecast to increase in line with increases in CPI each year except

for insurances, electricity costs and State Government Emergency Services levy which have been forecast to increase above CPI each year. Budgeted expenditure for 2023/2024 is \$3,698,171.

Expenditure Challenges

As part of the process of preparing the operational plan each year, Council critically reviews operating expenditure in order to identify areas where it could reduce spending without compromising service delivery. Community needs must be understood and are a key input into the annual operational plan, for many years Council has recognised the challenge of meeting community needs in a financially sustainable manner. This challenge has been divided into two elements (1) assess the gap in financial sustainability assuming community needs correspond to the current scope of services and service levels and (2) assess the impact of additional or enhanced services in line with changing or revised community needs.

Capital Expenditure

The challenge over the medium to long term is to achieve financial sustainability whilst still assisting the community to achieve its vision as established in the 10 year Community Strategic Plan. The challenge is to also adequately maintain existing assets before adding to the asset base, bearing in mind that new assets add to ongoing operational costs.

Substantial capital programs are in place to continue the renewal of Council's infrastructure network. The programs will ensure that these key asset groups meet or exceed Council's determined 'minimum' service levels and continue to provide the expected amenity to the community.

The capital works program prioritises projects based on asset condition, risk, community need and other opportunities as they arise with other entities. Over shorter periods, some areas of the Shire may require more capital works than others to reflect short term needs and opportunities.

The need for new assets is constantly assessed and verified against current population and development projects, community feedback and alternative means of supplying services. A further consideration is the priority of refurbishing existing assets that provide community benefits or operational services that require regular refurbishment to enable the overall safety and quality of the facility to be maintained.

Apart from funding constraints, Council has capacity constraints which determine the capital works program delivery timeframe. The constraints in project delivery include community consultation, state government approvals, design, procurement processes and availability of labour resources to project manage and implement the projects.

In addition to the renewal and expansion of Council's asset base delivered through the capital works program, Council undertakes a replacement (and, where appropriate) upgrade/ expansion program for its plant and equipment assets including motor vehicles, furniture, plant and IT hardware.

The budget for 2023/2024 has been developed through a process of consultation and review with Council and staff. As required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, the Operational Plan and Budget are for a one year period. The Long Term Financial Plan details Council's financial forecast for a 10 year period and budget estimates for the next four years are provided in the Delivery Program.

Capital Expenditure	2024	2025	2026	2027
Existing Infrastructure Renewals	\$8,502,201	\$8,726,135	\$8,702,222	\$8,842,910
Projects Carried forward from previous years	\$18,431,757	\$0	\$0	\$0
New Capital Expenditure	\$18,746,468	\$12,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000
Capital loan repayments	\$1,018,601	\$1,405,654	\$1,372,607	\$1,473,981
TOTAL	\$46,699,027	\$22,131,788	\$10,074,829	\$12,316,891

The Major Projects and Capital Expenditure Program for 2023/2024 will be \$46,699,027.

Capital works are funded from the following sources:

Loans/financing	\$6,000,000
Restricted Funds	\$12,840,517
Retained Earnings	\$500,000
Council Operations	\$11,385,968
Grants and contributions	\$15,972,542



Rate Levy 2023/2024

Council has received advice from the Minister for Local Government that the rate pegging limit for 2023/2024 is 3.70%. The maximum increase has been proposed.

The rating structure proposed is consistent with previous years and no changes have been forecast at this stage. Council has tried to spread its rate burden as evenly as possible across all ratepayers. While it is impossible to keep everyone satisfied, the proposed rating structure endeavours to make it as fair and equitable as possible.

The Tourism Special Rate will remain at \$10 per Assessment.

Statement with respect to each ordinary and each special rate proposed to be levied:

- No special Rates are proposed for 2023/2024.

In accordance with Sections 534, 535 & 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council resolves to make and levy an ordinary rate to comprise of a base rate and an ad valorem rating structure for 2023/2024 financial year for every parcel of rateable land within the Wentworth Shire Council as follows:

FARMLAND CATEGORY

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Farmland except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as:

- Dry Land Grazing
- Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

Farmland

An ordinary rate of 0.00185599 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, in accordance with Section 515 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$600.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 34.62% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$1,223,586.

Farmland – Dry Land Grazing

An ordinary rate of 0.00150306 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Dry Land Grazing in accordance with Section 515 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$600.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 19.98% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$783,609.

Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

An ordinary rate of 0.03225436 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Farmland, sub categorised Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline, in accordance with Section 515 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$95.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 42.01% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$15,151.

RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY

Buronga

An ordinary rate of 0.00265344 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Buronga, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 28.73% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$472,394.

Dareton

An ordinary rate of 0.01861786 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Dareton, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 45.36% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$81,677.

Gol Gol

An ordinary rate of 0.00294698 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 24.33% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$637,954.

Gol Gol East

An ordinary rate of 0.00281207 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Gol Gol East, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local*

Government Act 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$360.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 22.69% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$418,946.

Pooncarie

An ordinary rate of 0.01507824 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 43.84% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$23,575.

Rural Residential

An ordinary rate of 0.00236864 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Rural, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 24.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$525,677.

Wentworth

An ordinary rate of 0.00321164 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Residential, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to base amount of (\$240.00) for each assessment. The amount accounts for 42.41% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$344,049.

BUSINESS CATEGORY

Includes all of the lands within the local government area of Wentworth categorised as Business except those parcels of rateable land sub categorised as:

- Business, Arumpo
- Business, Mourquong
- Business, Pooncarie (including all of the lands within the locality of Pooncarie sub categorised as Business Pooncarie except those lands within the township of Pooncarie)
- Business, Trentham Cliffs
- Business, Wentworth

Business

An ordinary rate of 0.00503586 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 18.01% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$281,779.

Business, Arumpo

An ordinary rate of 0.06126544 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Arumpo, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 1.27% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$82,411.

Business, Mourquong

An ordinary rate of 0.16431420 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Mourquong, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local*

Government Act 1993 be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.11% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$270,597.

Business, Pooncarie

An ordinary rate of 0.05876975 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands with Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Pooncarie, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.02% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$826,797.

Business, Trentham Cliffs

An ordinary rate of 0.00469617 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Trentham Cliffs, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 3.93% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$12,225.

Business, Wentworth

An ordinary rate of 0.00802806 cents in the dollar on the land value of all rateable lands within Wentworth Shire Council categorised as Business, sub categorised Wentworth, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* be now made for the 2023/2024 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 38.08% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,000.

WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

It is necessary to increase Water & Waste Water by 3.70% per property for 2023/2024 to cover the cost of operational and capital expenditure required to provide this service to the ratepayers.

In accordance with Section 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council resolves to make and levy the following Water and Sewer Charges for each rateable property within Wentworth Shire Council.

- Water Access Charges will increase by 3.70% per rateable property in 2023/2024
- Sewer Access Charges will increase by 3.70% per rateable property in 2023/2024
- Water Consumption Charges will increase by 3.70% per rateable property in 2023/2024

Water charges

Filtered Water	Charge	Unit
Access Charge	\$318.50	per annum
Water Cost - 0-250kl	\$1.32	per kl
Water Cost - over 250kl	\$2.97	per kl
Raw Water	Charge	Unit
Access Charge	\$175.00	per annum
Water Cost - 0-700kl	\$0.47	per kl
Water Cost - over 700kl	\$1.17	per kl
The above proposed charges are for a basic 20mm connection.		

FLATS AND UNITS

The access charge will apply to all connections and to Namatjira and resident complexes such as flats. Each flat or unit will be levied at 20mm access charge for raw and filtered water.

The body corporate management committee will then be charged for actual water used. The body corporate will be responsible for the allocation of charges within the complex.

Access Charges are determined by the connection size as follows: -					
Filtered Water	Size (mm)	Assessments	Filtered Water Access Charge	Filtered Water Allowance 1st Step	Notional Income
Residential or Non Residential	20	2,562	318.50	250 kl	\$815,997.00
	25	32	498	500 kl	\$15,936.00
	32	8	815	750 kl	\$6,520.00
	40	18	1,274	1,000 kl	\$22,932.00
	50	16	1,991	1,750 kl	\$31,856.00
	80	2	5,096	4,000 kl	\$10,192.00
	100	1	7,963	6,250 kl	\$7,963.00
	150	0	17,296	14,000 kl	\$0.00
	200	0	30,750		\$0.00
					\$911,396.00
Raw Water	Size (mm)	Assessments	Raw Water Access Charge	Allowance 1st Step	Notional Income
Residential or Non Residential	20	2,416	175	700 kl	\$422,800.00
	25	42	273	1,400 kl	\$11,466.00
	32	12	448	2,100 kl	\$5,376.00
	40	19	700	2,800 kl	\$13,300.00
	50	17	1,094	4,900 kl	\$18,598.00
	80	3	2,800	11,200 kl	\$8,400.00
	100	2	4,375	17,500 kl	\$4,750.00
	150	0	9,506	39,200 kl	\$0.00
	200	0	16,900		\$0.00
					\$488,690.00

Rural 1(c) Raw Water				
Size of Connection		Access Charge	First Step \$0.27	Second Step \$0.82
20mm	235	\$239.50	0-2,000kl	2,001+ kl
Rural Raw Water Only	24	\$239.50	0-2,000kl	2,001+ kl
				\$62,030.50
Industrial Water				
Filtered		Up to 4,000kl	\$1.16	per kl
		Next 4,000kl	\$1.90	per kl
		Next 4,000kl	\$1.80	per kl
		Over 12,000kl	\$1.70	per kl
Total Water Access Charges				\$1,462,116.50

PENSIONER CONCESSIONS

Water pensioner concessions \$32,000

Sewerage Charges

Description	Assess	Charge	Notional Income	Pensioner Rebate
Sewerage Connected	1,909	871.50	\$1,663,694	\$29,500
Sewerage Unconnected	157	570.00	\$89,490	
Sewerage 1st Pedestal	32	871.50	\$27,888	
Sewerage Pedestal WC	747	122.00	\$91,134	
Sewerage Urinal	61	60.00	\$3,660	
Sewerage Church WC	38	65.00	\$2,470	
Sewerage 2 Flats	8	1,307.25	\$10,458	
Sewerage 3 Flats	3	1,743.00	\$5,229	
Sewerage 4 Flats	4	2,178.75	\$8,715	
Sewerage 5 Flats	4	2,614.50	\$10,458	
Sewerage 6 Flats	3	3,050.25	\$9,151	
Sewerage 7 Flats	3	3,486.00	\$10,458	
Sewerage 9 Flats	0	4,357.50	\$0.00	
Sewerage 10 Flats	1	4,793.25	\$4,793	
Sewerage 12 Flats	1	5,664.75	\$5,665	
Sewerage 14 Flats	0	6,536.25	\$0.00	
			\$1,943,262	\$29,500

DOMESTIC WASTE

Domestic Waste collection charges will increase by 3.70% per annum in order to keep up with the increased cost of collection.

In accordance with Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council resolves to charge the following Domestic Waste Management Charge for each rateable residential property within Wentworth Shire Council.

Garbage Charges				
Description	Access	Charge	Notional Income	Pensioner Rebate
Domestic Waste - Urban	2,293	261	\$598,473	\$26,000
Domestic Waste - Rural	1,007	318	\$320,226	\$6,000
			\$918,699	\$32,000

In accordance with Section 532 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council will adopt its rates and charges after public notice is given and after due consideration of submissions received.

Statement of the types of fees to be charged by Council and the amounts of each such fee:

Section 612 of the *Local Government Act 1993* prohibits Council from determining a fee until it has given public notice of its draft delivery and operational plans for the year in which the fee is to be made and has considered any submissions received. Council will adopt the 2023/2024 fees and charges schedule on 28 June 2023, after consideration of all written submissions by residents and ratepayers.

Refer to attached document for the fees and charges schedule.

Statement of Council's Pricing Policy with respect to the goods and services provided by it

Reference is made to Council's Pricing Policy in its Annual Fees and Charges 2023/2024. The Pricing Policy is related to the degree of cost recovery, having regard to the following factors:

- Equity objectives
- User pays principle
- Cross subsidisation objectives
- Financial objectives
- Customer objectives
- Resource use objectives
- GST

Council's broad policies on revenue are:

- Council will ensure all rates, fees and charges will be levied equitably;
- Council supports the user pays principle in assessing the levying of fees and charges and the amount to which they are set, while considering the needs of those in the community who are unable to meet their own needs; and
- Council will pursue all cost effective opportunities to maximise its revenue base.

The pricing policy referred to in the Annual Fees and Charges for 2023/2024 is based on a selection of one of the following choices:

- The pursuit of full cost recovery (100% of identified costs).
- The application of partial cost recovery (reflecting the impact of public good constraints and/or community service obligations).
- The application of zero cost recovery (reflecting an inability to charge a fee).
- The application of a reference price (a fee or charge set by statute or regulation).
- The pursuit of a commercial rate of return on capital invested (to reflect the capital risks involved in the provision of a particular service).

Statement of the amounts or rates proposed to be charged for the carrying out by Council of work on private land

Council may by agreement with the owner or occupier of any private land, carry out on the land any kind of work that may lawfully be carried out on the land (Section 67(1) *Local Government Act 1993*).

Examples of private works are:

- Paving and road making;
- Kerbing and guttering;
- Fencing and ditching;
- Tree planting and maintenance;
- Demolition and excavation;
- Land clearing and tree felling;
- Water, sewerage and drainage connections; and
- Traffic Management Services.

This type of work is to be charged at cost with a percentage charge of 10% added for profit purposes. All profit is returned to Council's General Fund income.

Statement of proposed borrowings

The Wentworth Shire Council is proposing to utilise up to \$9,500,000 in 2023/2024 to help fund capital requirements for the redevelopment of the:

- Wentworth Civic Centre - \$5,500,000 (previously approved by Council);
- Willowbend Caravan Park - \$2,000,000 (previously approved by Council); and
- Stormwater Infrastructure Upgrades - \$2,000,000

This is a combination of \$6,000,000 of new loans and \$3,500,000 of previously drawn down funds.



3. Annual Fees & Charges

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Planning and Development Applications

Development and Construction

Construction Certificates	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.25% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$250,000 or more (inclusive of GST). The levy calculator can be accessed at http://www.longservice.nsw.gov.au/bci/levy/other-information/levy-calculator		
Class 1a Buildings (Dwellings)		
Up to \$5,000	\$480.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$588.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$1,171.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$1,869.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$2,233 plus \$1.98 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Class 10 Buildings (Sheds, Carports, Pools, Fences)		
Up to \$5,000	\$480.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$545.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$811.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$1,151.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$1,468 plus \$1.88 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Class 2 - 9 Buildings (Commercial, Industrial & Public Buildings)		
Up to \$5,000	\$588.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$1,171.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$1,869.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$2,346.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$2,847 plus \$2.10 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Contribution Plan (if applicable)		
Up to \$100,000	0%	0%
\$100,001 to \$200,000	0.50%	0%
\$200,001 and above	1%	0%

Complying Development Certificates	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.25% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$250,000 or more (inclusive of GST). The levy calculator can be accessed at http://www.longservice.nsw.gov.au/bci/levy/other-information/levy-calculator		
Class 1a Buildings (Dwellings)		
Up to \$5,000	\$480.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$588.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$1,171.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$1,869.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$2,233 plus \$1.98 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Class 10 Buildings (Sheds, Carports, Pools, Fences)		
Up to \$5,000	\$480.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$545.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$811.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$1,151.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$1,468 plus \$1.88 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Class 2 - 9 Buildings (Commercial, Industrial & Public Buildings)		
Up to \$5,000	\$588.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value	\$1,171.00	0%
\$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value	\$1,869.00	0%
\$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value	\$2,346.00	0%
\$250,001 + of Building Value	\$2,847 plus \$2.10 per \$1,000 over \$250,000	0%
Contribution Plan (if applicable)		
Up to \$100,000	0%	0%
\$100,001 to \$200,000	0.50%	0%
\$200,001 and above	1%	0%

Civil Works	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.25% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$250,000 or more (inclusive of GST). The levy calculator can be accessed at http://www.longservice.nsw.gov.au/bci/levy/other-information/levy-calculator		
Plan Checking Fee		
2 - 3 Lots	\$134.00	10%
4 - 20 Lots	\$401.00	10%
21 - 49 Lots	\$669.00	10%
50 Plus Lots	\$936.00	10%
Subdivision Construction Certificate	\$924 or 1.5% of total project cost whichever is greater	10%
Tapping Fee – to be determined on a case by case basis	Actual Cost	10%
Street Trees Contribution – per tree	\$100.00	
Contribution Plan (if applicable)		
Up to \$100,000	0%	0%
\$100,001 to \$200,000	0.50%	0%
\$200,001 and above	1%	0%
Headworks Charges (Servicing Plans 1 & 2)		
Filtered water fee (per Lot)	\$1,675.00	0%
Filtered water fee (per Lot) – Trentham	\$5,000.00	0%
Unfiltered water fee (per Lot)	\$1,814.00	0%
Sewerage Fee (per Lot)	\$8,757.00	0%
Sewerage Fee (per Lot) – Trentham	\$5,000.00	0%
Stormwater Fee	\$0.94 per sqm of original area to be subdivided	0%

Sundry Building Fees	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Certificate and progress reports on buildings under construction	\$188.00	10%
Minor amendments to Construction Certificates / Complying Development Certificates	\$188.00	0%
Amendment > 50% of plan – Construction / Complying Development Certificates	50% of fee for new application	0%
Re-inspection for a critical stage building inspection	\$110.00	10%
Subscriber fee for provision of ABS data – full year	\$239.00	0%
Search and copy of records (per search)	\$106.00	0%
Copy of building plans (per sheet)	Standard Copy Fee	10%
Private Certifier Certificate lodgement fee	\$36.00	0%
Submitting application for construction certificate, subdivision works certificate, occupation certificate, subdivision certificate, building information certificate or complying development certificate on the NSW planning portal.	\$40.00	0%
Application for inspection of dwelling to be re-sited		
• dwelling outside of Council area	\$404 + .88c per km	10%
• dwelling within Council area	\$406.00	10%
Building Information Certificate – Class 1 & 10 where work involves no additional floor space	\$275.00	0%
Building Information Certificate – Class 1 & 10 involving additional floor space	\$275 + \$0.50 per m ² over 200m ²	0%
Inspection Fee where more than one inspection is required prior to issuing a Building Information Certificate	\$110.00	10%
Building Information Certificate where a DA, CDC or CC was required for the erection of the building. Note: DA, CC or CDC fee addition only applies if the building erection/alteration happened 2 years immediately preceding date of building certificate application.	Relevant DA & CC or CDC fee that should have been paid + \$275	0%
Fee for copy of a Building Information Certificate	\$13.00	0%
Infrastructure Protection Permit Fee (includes inspections)	\$221.00	0%
Infrastructure Bond (Refundable) – This bond applies to all construction works \$25,001 and above.	\$3,000.00	0%

Development and Construction

Swimming Pool Fence Inspection Fee	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Audit inspection initiated by Council – 1st Inspection	\$0.00	0%
Inspection for a swimming pool (cl 19 Swimming Pool Reg 2018)	\$150.00	0%
Follow up inspection when 1st inspection not compliant (cl 19 Swimming Pool Reg 2018)	\$100.00	10%
Local Government Act Approvals	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Application to install on-site Sewerage Management System (Septic Tank/AWTS)	\$500.00	0%
Application to alter on-site Sewerage Management System (Septic Tank/AWTS)	\$500.00	0%
Application to amend existing approval to install an on-site sewerage management system	\$237.00	0%
Install Grey Water System	\$287.00	0%
Amend Grey Water System	\$163.00	0%
Raw Water Sign	\$7.00	10%
Trade Waste Discharge Application Fee	\$707.00	0%
Industrial Sewerage Management System (20 plus persons)	\$707.00	0%
Amendment to Industrial Sewerage Management System (20 plus persons)	\$707.00	0%
Application for approval to connect to sewer	\$500.00	0%
Application to alter existing sewer plan	\$500.00	0%
Re-inspection for a mandatory plumbing inspection stage	\$110.00	0%
Section 68 Installation of a Relocatable Home, Moveable Dwelling or Associated Structure		
Up to \$5,000 of Building Value	\$61 + 0.5%	0%
\$5,001 - \$100,000 of Building Value	\$91 + 0.3%	0%
\$100,001 - \$250,000 of Building Value	\$436 + 0.2%	0%
>\$250,001 of Building Value	\$802 + 0.1%	0%
Stormwater Legal Point of Discharge	\$84.00	0%
Caravan Parks – Inspection fee + (per site) 5 year fee	\$346 + \$5 (per site)	0%
Caravan Parks noncompliance re-inspection fee (per hour)	\$202.00	0%
Section 68 Local Government Approvals not otherwise listed – Refer Appendix B	\$269.00	0%

Development Applications	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Schedule 4, Part 2, EP&A Regulation 2021		
Up to \$5,000	\$129.00	0%
From \$5,001 to \$50,000	\$198 plus \$3 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost	0%
From \$50,001 to \$250,000	\$412 plus \$3.64 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) by which the estimated cost exceeds \$50,000	0%
From \$250,001 to \$500,000	\$1,356 plus \$2.34 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) by which the estimated cost exceeds \$250,000	0%
From \$500,001 to \$1,000,000	\$2,041 plus \$1.64 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) by which the estimated cost exceeds \$500,000	0%
From \$1,000,001 to \$10,000,000	\$3,058 plus \$1.44 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) by which the estimated cost exceeds \$1,000,000	0%
More than \$10,000,001	\$18,565 plus \$1.19 per \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) by which the estimated cost exceeds \$10,000,000	0%
Development application for development not involving the erection of a building, the carrying out of a work, the subdivision of land or the demolition of a work or building.	\$333.00	0%
Development application for advertising signs where the lodgment fee based on the cost of works is less than \$333.00.	\$333 plus \$93.00 for each additional advertisement.	0%

Fees for Application for Modification of Consent Schedule 4 Part 4 EP&A Reg 2021	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Modification under section 4.55 (1)	\$83.00	0%
Modification of DA under S4.55(1A) or & S4.56(1) minimal environmental impact.	50% of original DA fee up to the maximum fee of \$754 – whichever is the lesser.	0%
Modification of DA under S4.55(2) or S4.56(1) that does not involve minimal environmental impact if the fee for the original application was less than 1 fee unit.	50% of original fee.	0%
Modification of DA under S4.55(2) or S4.56(1) that does not involve minimal environmental impact if the fee for the original application was 1 fee unit or more if the application did not involve erection of a building, carrying out of work or demolition of work or building.	50% of original fee.	0%
Modification of DA under S4.55(2) or 4.56(1) that does not involve minimal environmental impact if the fee for original application was 1 fee unit or more.	\$222.00	0%
Modification of DA under S4.55(2) or 4.56(1) that does not involve minimal environmental impact if the fee for the original application was for the erection of a dwelling house with an estimated cost of \$100,000 or less.	\$222.00	0%
Where Council is required to give notice under S4.55(2) or S4.56(1) of the Act.	\$778.00	0%

Modification for S4.55(2) or S4.56(1) that does not involve minimal environmental impact and the original application fee was 1 unit or more and application relates to an original development application.		
Up to \$5,000	\$64.00	0%
\$5,001 to \$250,000	\$99.00 plus \$1.50 per \$1,000 by which estimated cost exceeds \$5,000.	0%
\$250,001 to \$500,000	\$585.00 plus \$0.85 per \$1,000 by which estimated cost exceeds \$250,000.	0%
\$500,001 to \$1,000,000	\$833.00 plus \$0.50 per \$1,000 by which estimated cost exceeds \$500,000.	0%
\$1,000,001 to \$10,000,000	\$1,154.00 plus \$0.40 per \$1,000 by which estimated cost exceeds \$1,000,000.	0%
More than \$10,000,000	\$5,540.00 plus \$0.27 per \$1,000 by which estimated cost exceeds \$10,000,000.	0%
Request for LEP Amendment	\$7,370.00	0%
Request for s8.2(1) (C) review of decision to reject an application - Schedule 4 Part 7 EP&A Reg 2021.		
Where the estimated cost of development is less than \$100,000	\$64.00	0%
Where the estimated cost of development is more than \$100,000 but is less than or equal to \$1,000,000	\$175.00	0%
Where the estimated cost of development is more than \$1,000,000	\$292.00	0%
Request for Review of Determination – Schedule 4 Part 7 EP&A Reg 2021		
Review of development application not involve the erection of building, the carrying out of a work or the demolition of a work or building.	50% of the original lodgment fee	0%
Review of development application involving the erection of a dwelling-house with an estimated cost of construction of \$100,000 or less	\$222.00	0%

In the case of any other development application		
Estimated development costs up to \$5,000	\$64.00	0%
Estimated development costs of between \$5,001 - \$250,000	\$100, plus an additional \$1.50 for each \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost exceeding \$5,000	0%
Estimated development costs of between \$250,001 - \$500,000	\$585, plus an additional \$0.85 for each \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost exceeding \$250,000	0%
Estimated development costs of between \$500,001 - \$1,000,000	\$833, plus an additional \$0.50 for each \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost exceeding \$500,000	0%
Estimated development costs of between \$1,000,001 - \$10,000,000	\$1,154, plus an additional \$0.40 for each \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost exceeding \$1,000,000	0%
Estimated development costs in excess of \$10,000,000	\$5,540, plus an additional \$0.27 for each \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) of the estimated cost exceeding \$10,000,000	0%
Where Council is required to give notice under S8.3 of the Act	Up to \$725.00	0%
Subdivisions Schedule 4 Part 2 EP&A Reg 2021	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Development Application Lodgement without road opening	\$386 plus \$53 for every additional lot created by the subdivision	0%
Involving opening of a public road	\$777 plus \$65 for every additional lot created by the subdivision	0%
Strata Subdivision	\$386 plus \$65 for every additional lot created by the subdivision	0%
Subdivision Certificate Application Fee	\$231 plus \$5.00 per lot	10%
Section 10.7 Certificates	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Certificate under Section 10.7 (2) & (5) - Per Lot	\$156.00	0%
Certificate under Section 10.7 (2) - Per Lot	\$62.00	0%
Certificate under Section 10.7 (5) - Per Lot	\$94.00	0%
Certificate under Section 10.7 Urgent Fee	\$141.00	0%
Sewer Diagram	\$23.00	0%

Notification of Outstanding Orders	\$84.00	10%
Certificate under Section 735A of the Local Government Act 1993	\$84.00	10%
Designated Development Schedule 4 Part 3 EP&A Reg 2021	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
In addition to any other fees payable for a development application an additional fee is payable for a designated development.	\$1,076.00	0%
Designated Development Advertising Fee	\$3,586.00	0%
Integrated Development Schedule 4 Part 3 – item 3.1 EP&A Reg 2021	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
In addition to any other fees payable for a development application an additional fee is payable for an integrated development (cl 253 EP&A Reg 2000)	\$164.00	0%
Giving notice for nominated integrated development, threatened species development or Class 1 aquaculture development.	Up to \$1,292.00	0%
Note: Applicants are required to pay an additional \$374.00 to each concurrence Authority.		
Any Development Requiring Concurrence not assumed by Council	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Fee to Council as consent authority	\$164.00	0%
Note: Applicants are required to pay an additional \$374.00 to each concurrence Authority.		
Giving Notice of Prohibited Development	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Fee to give notice of Prohibited development	\$1,292.00	0%
Provision of Certified copy of Documents, maps or plans – Schedule 4 Part 9 – item 9.9	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Fee to give notice of Prohibited development	\$62.00	0%
Permissive Occupancy Licence Fees	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Application Fee (new or transfer)	\$229.00	0%
Annual Rent Payable	\$229.00	0%
Application for Mooring Sites	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Mooring Sites (private)	\$364.00	0%
Mooring Sites (commercial)	\$721.00	0%

Regulatory Functions

Public Health Program Inspection Fees

Public Health Program Inspection Fees	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Food Premises Registration/Change of Details Fee	\$64.00	0%
Food premises - administration fee (yearly)	\$210.00	10%
Food premises - fee per inspection	\$168.00	0%
Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice (including one inspection)	\$347.00	0%
Hairdressers and like Premises Registration/ Change of Details Fee	\$122.00	0%
Hairdressers and like Premises - administration fee (yearly)	\$197.00	10%
Hairdressers and like Premises - fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%
Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice (including one reinspection)	\$488.00	0%
Temporary Event		
Application to Sell Food Fee (single day/event)	\$69.00	0%
Annual approval (covers all events for the year)	\$174.00	0%
Mobile Vendor Permit - Application to Sell Food		
New Application Annual Fee	\$69.00	0%
Renewal Application Annual Fee	\$174.00	0%
Skin Penetration Premises Registration/ Change of Details Fee	\$188.00	0%
Skin Penetration Premises – administration fee (yearly)	\$197.00	10%
Skin Penetration Premises – fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%
Accommodation Premises Registration/ Change of Details Fee	\$122.00	0%
Accommodation Premises – administration fee (yearly)	\$197.00	10%

Accommodation Premises – fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%
Cooling Towers - administration fee (yearly)	\$336.00	10%
Cooling Towers - fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%
Cooling Towers - per km	\$0.38 per km	0%
Warm Water Systems Inspections – administration fee (yearly)	\$197.00	10%
Warm Water System - fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%
Warm Water System - per km	\$0.38 per km	0%
Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool Registration/ Change of Details Fee	\$122.00	0%
Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool – administration fee (yearly)	\$197.00	10%
Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool – fee per inspection	\$156.00	0%

Note: A minimum of 1 inspection conducted annually, depending on hazard rating. Some premises may have up to 4 scheduled inspection per year.

NSW Food Regulation 2015 Fees	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Registration/Change of Details Fee	\$64.00	0%
Administration Fee (yearly) Up to and including 5 FTE food handlers	\$410.00	10%
Administration Fee (yearly) More than 5 but not more than 50 FTE food handlers	\$473.00	10%
Administration Fee (yearly) More than 50 FTE food handlers	\$630.00	10%
Fee per Inspection per hour	\$314.00	0%
Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice	\$364.00	0%

Companion Animal Fees

Other Regulatory Function Charges	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Micro-chipping Service	\$65.00	10%
Surrender Fees	\$110.00	0%
Release Fee - Cats	\$110.00	0%
Release Fee - Dogs	\$110.00	0%
Release Fee - Livestock (per animal)	\$110.00	0%
Livestock Sustenance - per day	\$19.00	10%
Trap Hire - Refundable Deposit	\$30.00	0%
Impounded Vehicles	\$568.00	10%
Animal Services Officer - After hours attendance (in addition to any fines imposed)	\$305.00	10%

Lifetime Registration Fees (as per Companion Animals Regulation 2018)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Dog		
Desexed (by relevant age)	\$69.00	0%
Desexed (by relevant age eligible pensioner)	\$29.00	0%
Desexed (sold by pound/shelter)	Free	0%
Not-Desexed or Desexed (after relevant age)	\$234.00	0%
Not Desexed (not recommended)	\$69.00	0%
Not Desexed (recognised breeder)	\$69.00	0%
Working	Free	0%
Service of the State	Free	0%
Lifetime Registration – Assistant Animals	Free	0%
Cat		
Desexed or Not Desexed	\$59.00	0%
Eligible Pensioner	\$29.00	0%
Desexed (sold by pound/shelter)	Free	0%
Not Desexed (not recommended)	\$59.00	0%
Not Desexed (recognised breeder)	\$59.00	0%
Registration late fee	\$19.00	0%

Annual Permits	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Cats under 4 months not desexed	\$85.00	0%
Restricted Breed and Dangerous Dogs	\$206.00	0%
Permit late fee	\$19.00	0%

Note 1: The lifetime registration fees are set by the Office of Local Government and subject to change by the office of Local Government. The fees shown reflect amendments effective from 1 July 2023.

Note 2: The Annual Permit fees are set by the Office of Local Government and subject to change by the Office of Local Government and are payable in addition to the one-off lifetime registration fee. The fees shown reflect amendments effective 1 July 2023.

Waste Management Charges

Landfill Charges	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
1 Bag of Rubbish	\$7.00	10%
Station wagon / car boot	\$18.00	10%
240 ltr MGB	\$18.00	10%
Domestic (Home) Waste		
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level	\$23.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped	\$42.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged	\$62.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level	\$46.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped	\$70.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged	\$96.00	10%
Commercial/Industrial (Work) Waste		
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level	\$36.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped	\$63.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged	\$91.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level	\$69.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped	\$106.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged	\$145.00	10%
Green Waste (Domestic)		
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level	\$5.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped	\$8.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged	\$13.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level	\$8.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped	\$13.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged	\$17.00	10%
Green Waste (Commercial/Industrial)		
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level	\$7.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped	\$13.00	10%
6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged	\$19.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level	\$13.00	10%

7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped	\$19.00	10%
7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged	\$25.00	10%
Truck loads - (per tonne)	\$160.40	10%
Concrete (per tonne) - excluding concrete pipes	\$126.00	10%
Asbestos (per tonne)	\$236.00	10%
Problematic Waste – (per tonne)	\$220.00	10%
Clean Fill – (per tonne)	\$10.00	10%
Contaminated Fill – (per tonne)	\$160.40	10%
Disposal of car bodies	NIL	0%
Car and Motorbike Tyres	\$10.00	10%
Small Truck Tyres	\$25.00	10%
Large Truck Tyres	\$46.00	10%
Super Single Tyres	\$46.00	10%
Tractor Tyres	\$185.00	10%
Large Earthmoving Tyres	\$225.00	10%
Waste Oil (petroleum oils only) (Buronga & Wentworth only)	NIL	0%
Scrap Metal - clean fill	NIL	0%
Chemical Drums (clean and dry)	NIL	0%
Recycling (paper, cans, plastic bottles, glass)	NIL	0%
Cardboard, batteries, gas cylinders	NIL	0%
Mattress - Single	\$21.00	10%
Mattress - Double or bigger	\$40.00	10%
Unspecified Waste – (per tonne)	\$220.00	10%
Weighbridge Certification Fee – per vehicle	\$22.00	10%
Commercial Recycling (cardboard & Comingle)	\$15 per cubic meter	10%
Contractor Discount - To be determined on a case by case basis on application to Council.	Increased in line with the increase to the per tonne gate rate.	10%

Trade Waste Charges

Trade Waste Fees and Usage Charges	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Annual Trade Waste Fee		
Category 1 Discharger	\$138.00	10%
Category 2 Discharger	\$274.00	10%
Large Discharger	\$922.00	10%
Industrial Discharger	\$274.00	10%
Re-inspection Fee	\$129.00	10%
Trade Waste Usage Charges per kL		
Category 1 Discharge with appropriate equipment (note 1)	\$0.00	10%
Category 1 Discharge without appropriate pre-treatment	\$6.00	10%
Category 2 Discharge with appropriate equipment (note 1)	\$257.00	10%
Category 2 Discharge without appropriate pre-treatment	\$24.00	10%
Food Waste Disposal	\$44.00	10%
Non-compliance pH charge		
Value of coefficient K in equation 3 of Liquid Trade Waste Policy	\$5.00	10%

Excess Mass Charges Substance price per kg	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Aluminium	\$5.00	10%
Ammonia (as N)	\$6.00	10%
Arsenic	\$116.00	10%
Barium	\$57.00	10%
Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)	\$116.00	10%
Boron	\$116.00	10%
Bromide	\$24.00	10%
Cadmium	\$534.00	10%
Chloride	\$5.00	10%
Chlorinated hydrocarbons	\$57.00	10%
Chlorinated phenolics	\$2,312.00	10%
Chlorine	\$6.00	10%
Chromium	\$38.00	10%
Cobalt	\$24.00	10%
Copper	\$24.00	10%
Cyanide	\$116.00	10%
Fluoride	\$8.00	10%
Formaldehyde	\$6.00	10%
Oil and Grease (Total O&G)	\$5.00	10%
Herbicides/defoliants	\$1,156.00	10%
Iron	\$6.00	10%
Lead	\$57.00	10%
Lithium	\$14.00	10%
Manganese	\$14.00	10%
Mercaptans	\$116.00	10%
Mercury	\$3,854.00	10%
Methylene blue active substances (MBAS)	\$116.00	10%
Molybdenum	\$116.00	10%

Nickel	\$38.00	10%
Nitrogen (Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen - Ammonia) as N	\$28.00	10%
Organoarsenic compounds	\$1,156.00	10%
Pesticides general (excludes organochlorines and organophosphates)	\$1,156.00	10%
Petroleum hydrocarbons (non-flammable)	\$7.00	10%
Phenolic compounds (non-chlorinated)	\$14.00	10%
Phosphorous (Total PP)	\$6.00	10%
Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons	\$24.00	10%
Selenium	\$82.00	10%
Silver	\$5.00	10%
Sulphate (SO ₄)	\$5.00	10%
Sulphide	\$6.00	10%
Sulphite	\$6.00	10%
Suspended Solids (SS)	\$5.00	10%
Thiosulphate	\$5.00	10%
Tin	\$14.00	10%
Total dissolved solids (TDS)	\$4.00	10%
Uranium	\$14.00	10%
Zinc	\$24.00	10%

Charges for tankered waste Fees in \$/kL (note 1)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Chemical Toilet	\$25.00	0%
Septic Tank Waste		
Effluent	\$6.00	0%
Septage	\$32.00	0%
Charges for use of Riverboat Pump-Out Stations (per each dump)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Disposal of effluent from riverboats	\$32.00	10%
Use of key to access pump out facility (refundable deposit)	\$30.00	0%
Note: Only applies to liquid trade waste dischargers with appropriately and/or maintained pre-treatment facilities.		

Finance and Customer Service Fees

GIPA Requests	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Government Information Public Access Request (GIPA)			
Application Fee (as per the Act)		\$30.00	0%
Processing Charges (1st hour included, cost per each hour thereafter) as per the Act		\$30.00	0%
Retrieval and copying of previous years Council Minutes (charge is per meeting)		\$42.00	0%
Sundry Charges	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Photocopying A4		\$0.25	10%
Photocopying A3		\$0.50	10%
Colour Photocopying A4		\$1.00	10%
Colour Photocopying A3		\$2.00	10%
Grants – Preparation of funding applications on behalf of others	per hour	\$117.00	10%
Grants – Auspice of grant funds on behalf of others (this covers preparation of reports for funding body & audit certificate)		\$1,710 plus 1% of funding amount	10%
Map Copy Charges - Full Colour A2		\$8.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Full Colour A1		\$12.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Full Colour A0		\$16.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Line Art A2		\$4.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Line Art A1		\$7.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Line Art A0		\$8.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Imagery A2		\$12.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Imagery A1		\$20.00	10%
Map Copy Charges - Imagery A0		\$23.00	10%
Laminating A4		\$5.00	10%
Laminating A3		\$9.00	10%
Scanning - small black & white logos etc.		\$7.00	10%
Scanning - colour photos (standard size)		\$9.00	10%

Licenses and Permits	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Tent Erection Fees - outside licensed Caravan Parks		\$130.00	0%
Tent Erection / Clearing		\$749.00	0%
Deposits - Tents for Circus, travelling shows and other commercial enterprises		\$600.00	0%
Valuer General's Insertion into Rates Notices	per hour	\$82.00	0%
Misc. Rates Charges	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
603 Certificate		\$95.00	0%
603 Certificate Urgent Request		\$148.00	0%
Special Meter Reading - 603 Certificate		\$82.00	0%
Meter Check - Fault Report		\$139.00	0%
Copy of Rates Notice (per request)		\$10.00	0%
General Administration Fee		\$25.00	0%
Extraction from Valuation Book		\$25.00	0%
Rural Addressing - Provision of new address plate or replacement plate		\$51.00	10%
Account review administration fee		\$155.00	10%
Dishonour Fee (Bpay, Bill Pay & Direct Debit)		\$28.00	10%
Interest on overdue rates		9.00%	0%
Note: These fees are GST exempt if associated with the provision of regulatory information			

Library Fees

Service	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Inter-library Loans, Late returns and Damages		
Inter-library Loans	\$3.00	10%
Lost or Damaged Items	Original Cost + \$7.00	10%
Book Covering		
Plastic / contact (small)	\$4.00	10%
Plastic / contact (medium)	\$5.00	10%
Plastic / contact (large)	\$5.00	10%
Dust jacket (small)	\$5.00	10%
Dust jacket (medium)	\$5.00	10%
Dust jacket (large)	\$6.00	10%
Photocopying / Printing / Scanning		
A4 photocopy or print	\$0.25	10%
A4 photocopy - coloured print	\$1.00	10%
A3 photocopy or print	\$0.50	10%
A3 photocopy - coloured print	\$2.00	10%
Laminating		
Business card	\$5.00	10%
A4	\$5.00	10%
A3	\$9.00	10%
Replacement Library Card		
Adult	\$3.00	0%
Child	\$3.00	0%
Visitor Deposit (refundable)	\$20.00	0%

Roads and Engineering Support

Service	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Road Opening Permits		
Permit	\$179.00	0%
Refundable deposits (note 1):		
Road opening fee	\$525.00	0%
For works in a constructed nature strip with concrete footpath	\$370.00	0%
For works in an unpaved constructed nature strip	\$210.00	0%
New works which may affect Council assets such as footpaths, sewer, drainage & water supply	\$1,420.00	0%
Traffic Management Plans		
Plan Preparation Fee	\$179.00	10%
Plan Assessment Fee	\$163.00	0%
Hire Fee per day - Signs / Bollards / Traffic Cones	\$34.00	10%
Refundable Deposit (note 2)		
Hire of Signs / Bollards / Traffic Cones	\$210.00	0%
Bins		
Bin Hire (per bin, per day - includes 1 emptying/cleaning)	\$26.00	10%
Each additional empty/clean (per bin)	\$26.00	10%
Replacement of Mobile Garbage Bin	\$119.00	10%
Misc. services		
Hire of barbeque - per day	\$214.00	10%
Access permits - Heavy Vehicle National Law	\$110.00	10%
Weeds Inspections		
Inspections within the built-up horticultural areas (i.e. Wentworth to Monak)	\$202.00	10%
Inspections in rural areas (travel is calculated to and from the property)	\$202 plus \$55/hr after the first 2 hours + .85c per km	10%

Grid Replacement (refer to Fencing and Grid Policy) added 18/03/2020

Co-contribution towards fencing when removal of a grid has been agreed to in writing.	Up to \$2,500 per km of fencing for a maximum amount of 5km per grid.	10%
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Notes:

1. (1) On completion of the job, the deposit will be refunded, less the restoration charges and any additional costs which may be required to restore the trench.
 2. (2) The restoration charge covers sealing and relaying of concrete surfaces and the top surface for gravel and earth. Any additional works are an extra charge. If the costs are greater than the deposit, a charge will be made.
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Hire of Plant Items

Plant Item (refer notes) (Price per hour unless otherwise stated)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST		
CAT 12M	533 & 534	per hour	\$377.00	10%
Tractors and Implements	34, 39 & 51	per hour	\$264.00	10%
CAT Backhoe	30	per hour	\$235.00	10%
CAT 910F FEL	31	per hour	\$246.00	10%
John Deere Tractor & Implements	41	per hour	\$301.00	10%
CAT D6 Dozer	36	per hour	\$377.00	10%
JCB Loadalls	44	per hour	\$272.00	10%
CAT 938F FEL	47	per hour	\$235.00	10%
Low Loader	75	per hour	\$377.00	10%
Bitelli MT Rollers	56 & 57	per hour	\$264.00	10%
CAT 613B scraper	55	per hour	\$301.00	10%
Bomag Vib Roller	58	per hour	\$235.00	10%
Mobile Street Sweeper	65	per hour	\$235.00	10%
Bobcat & Attachments	62	per hour	\$396.00	10%
CAT mini excavator	67	per hour	\$396.00	10%
Water Carts	513, 519 & 523	per hour	\$217.00	10%
Truck and Dogs	483 & 520	per hour	\$292.00	10%
Truck and Dogs	531 & 771	per hour	\$292.00	10%
Tip Truck	536	per hour	\$235.00	10%

Notes:

1. The above rates include the hire of the equipment and a qualified operator.
2. These rates are for weekday work only. Any works required to be done out of normal working hours or on weekend will incur additional penalty rates.
3. The above hire charges have been set so as to be similar to, or above the rate of, local contractors for

Cemeteries

Wentworth, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Coomealla - Lawn Section	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Purchase of burial plot	\$1,222.00	0%
1st interment	\$1,693.00	10%
2nd interment	\$1,693.00	10%
Placement of infant in existing grave site (shelved grave)	\$1,052.00	10%
Removal or exhumation of body (Court consent if necessary)	Actual Cost	10%
Removal of ashes - Consent required	Actual Cost	10%
Placement of ashes in a burial plot	\$469.00	10%
Affixing a plaque	\$295.00	10%

Monumental (Denominational) Wentworth, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Cal Lal	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Purchase of plot	\$1,222.00	0%
1st interment	\$1,882.00	10%
2nd interment	\$2,062.00	10%
Placement of infant in existing grave site (shelved grave)	\$1,052.00	10%
Removal or exhumation of body (Court consent if necessary)	Actual Cost	10%
Removal/replacement of monument for excavation (works to be undertaken by a Monumental Mason)	Actual Cost	10%
Removal of ashes - Consent required	Actual Cost	10%
Placement of ashes in plot	\$469.00	10%
Affixing a plaque	\$295.00	10%
Cal Lal Cemetery – all purchases and interments quoted on a case by case basis	Actual Cost	10%

Niche Wall - Coomealla Memorial Gardens	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Purchase Plot in Niche Wall - includes purchase of standard size black stone tile (maximum of 2 sets of ashes per plot)	\$763.00	10%
Placement of ashes in Niche Wall & fixing of stone tile (per set of ashes).		
NB Engraving of stone tile is not included. Must be a black tile – Halls Memorial to engrave.	\$510.00	10%
Re-open of existing Niche	\$469.00	10%
Location and consent to place Monument or Headstone	\$180.00	10%
Amendment to Headstone	\$47.00	10%
Removal of ashes - Consent required	Actual Cost	10%
Ground Plots (placement of plaques or memorial items)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Coomealla, Wentworth and Gol Gol	\$564.00	10%
Placement of ashes in ground plots	\$469.00	10%
Re-open of existing Ground Plot	\$469.00	10%
Removal of ashes - Consent required	Actual Cost	10%
Ashes Columbarium	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Gol Gol and Wentworth (maximum of 2 sets of ashes per columbarium)	\$763.00	10%
Placement of ashes in Columbarium (per set of ashes)	\$510.00	10%
NB: engraving of stone tile is not included – contact Davis Monumental		
Re-open of existing ashes columbarium compartment	\$469.00	10%

Plot Selection	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
On-site attendance by WSC Officer to assist in plot selection	\$92.00	10%
Cemetery Administration Fee	\$92.00	10%
Memorial seating – purchase & installation of approved memorial seat	Actual Cost	10%
Additional Notes (all cemeteries and memorials)	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Memorial seating – purchase & installation of approved memorial seat and supply of plaque for engraving by purchaser. NB There is the option to halve the cost by installing two memorial plaques on one seat.		
Additional fee – internments conducted on weekends and public holidays (only available between 9.00am and 1.00pm)	\$463.00	10%
Placement of black granite remembrance plaque – (150 x 150mm) – Sextons Hut Wentworth Cemetery (includes inscription & installation)	\$555.00	10%
As from 01 July 2019 internments are charged at the applicable rate at the time of internment and are not able to be pre-paid. All pre-paid internments prior to this date will be honored.		

Recreational Facilities

Casual Hire of Shire Owned Halls, Meeting Rooms and Sporting Pavilions/Stadiums (NB Midway Centre fees are listed separately)

Wentworth Town Hall, Pooncarie Hall, Curlwaa Hall, Anabranh Hall, Pomona Hall, Wentworth Memorial Room, Dareton Senior Citizens Room, Community Meeting Room, Wentworth Showgrounds Community Pavilion

Hire Type - Building only with access to any amenities	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Community Use		
Community (not for profit) 4 hours or less (note 1)	\$53.00	10%
Community (not for profit) more than 4 hours (note 1)	\$117.00	10%
Bond Community Group (note 2)	\$100.00	0%
Per day fee for use of Anabranh Hall amenities in relation to camping on the Anabranh. Please note a bond of \$500 will apply. Does not include use of the Hall	\$53.00	10%
Business or Private Function use - Includes reunions or other private gatherings or business/trade related functions where no entry fees are charged.		
4 hours or less	\$135.00	10%
4 hours to 24 hour period	\$270.00	10%
Bond Business or Private Function	\$500.00	0%
Commercial Function per 24 hour period (note 3) - Includes any event where there will be an entrance fee charged or any Trade Show, Fair, Field Day or other event at which goods will be sold.		
4 hours or less	\$270.00	10%
4 hours to 24 hour period	\$447.00	10%
Bond Commercial Function (GST Free)	\$500.00	0%
Weekly Rate - Any Single Hirer		
Discount applied to Daily rate x 5 or 7 days	10% discount	10%
Additional Charges (all hirings)		
Cleaning & Rubbish removal – NB: The cost for cleaning & rubbish removal will be deducted from the bond. An invoice will be raised for amounts in excess of the bond paid.	Cost	10%
Hire of Council venues for School & Community Service Organisations from within WSC		
Registered Schools (including pre-schools, kindergartens and School P&C if they are raising money for registered school) operating within the Wentworth Shire are granted automatic fee waivers for the hire of any Council venue (hall, meeting room).		
Any preparation costs (such as line marking of ovals) will be charged at standard cost. Bookings must still be made.		

Hire Type - Park, Oval and Reserve with access to any amenities

Carramar Drive Sporting Complex, George Gordon Sporting Complex, Pooncarie Multi-Purpose, Golf Course & Public Reserve, McLeod Oval, Junction Park, Strother Park, Wentworth Rowing Club & Wharf Lawns, Fotherby Park, Sturt Park, James King Park, Perry Sandhills, Tapio Park, Buronga Wetlands, Coomealla Pioneer & Lions Parks, Dareton Boat Ramp Rotunda & Town Square, O'Donnell Park, Pooncarie Sporting Complex, Two Rivers Ski Recreation Reserve

Hire Type - Park, Oval and Reserve with access to any amenities	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Community Use		
Community (not for profit) Half Day Hire – hire cost is for each designated area per 0-4 hour period.	\$53.00	10%
Community (not for profit) Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period.	\$117.00	10%
Bond - Community Group.	\$100.00	0%
Multi area discount	25%	10%
Business or Private Function per 24 hour period NB - Includes reunions or other private gatherings or business/trade related functions where no entry fees are charged.		
4 hours or less – hire cost is for each designated area per 0-4 hour period	\$135.00	10%
Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period.	\$270.00	10%
Bond – Business or Private Hire.	\$500.00	0%
Bond - Small civil ceremonies, no items to be erected and no catering.	\$100.00	0%
Multi-area discount	25%	10%
Commercial Events, Circus or other performances NB - Includes any event for which there will be an entrance fee or ticket sold, or any Trade Shows, Fairs, Field Days or other event at which goods will be sold.		
4 hours or less – hire cost is for each designated area 0-4 hour period	\$225.00	10%
Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period	\$447.00	10%
Bond Commercial Events, Circus or Other Performance	\$1,000.00	0%
Weekly Rate - Any Single Hirer		
Discount applied to Daily rate x 5 or 7 days	10% discount	10%
Multi-area discount	25%	10%
Cleaning & Rubbish removal (all hirings) NB - The cost for cleaning & rubbish removal will be deducted from the bond. An invoice will be raised for amounts in excess of the bond paid.	Cost	10%

Hire Type – Primitive Camping on any reserve (per 24 hour period) NB: Camping is only permissible in conjunction with an event being staged at the site		
	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Unpowered Site – per person x 2 people	\$27.00	10%
Extra Child	\$7.00	10%
Extra Adult	\$11.00	10%
Family	\$110.00	10%
Powered Site – per person x 2 people	\$38.00	10%
Extra Child	\$7.00	10%
Extra Adult	\$11.00	10%
Family	\$124.00	10%

**Hire of Council venues for School & Community Service
Organisations from within WSC**

Registered Schools (including pre-schools, kindergartens and School P&C if they are raising money for Registered School) operating within the Wentworth Shire are granted automatic fee waivers for the hire of any Council venue (hall, meeting room). Any preparation costs (such as line marking of ovals) will be charged at standard cost. Bookings must still be made.

For Community/Private Use the above charge will only apply in the following instances:

- There are expected to be more than 50 people to attend.
- The use of the facility includes the use of inflatable/amusement devices etc.
- The use of the facility requires the use of onsite power or the supply of bins.
- The use of the facility requires road closures.

Cancellation or no show

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Greater than 90 days prior to event | Full refund less deposit paid |
| • Less than 90 days prior to event | 50% refund |
| • Less than 1 week prior or no show | Full forfeiture |
| • Bond | Fully refundable |

N.B: No Primitive camping fees will be charge where a licensed User of the Reserve is holding an event.

Wentworth Showgrounds Hire

The following areas are available for hire:

- Horse Yards & Stalls
- Festival Parade
- Arena
- Dog Show Parkland

Camping is not permitted at the showgrounds unless it is in conjunction with an event.

Hire Type – Casual Hire of Showgrounds	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Hire of Designated Areas and amenities. Hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period.		\$179.00	10%
Bond		\$500.00	0%
Cleaning & Rubbish removal (all hirings) Note: The cost for cleaning & rubbish removal will be deducted from the bond. An invoice will be raised for amounts in excess of the bond paid.		Cost	10%
Camping (per 24 hour period) NB: Camping is only permissible in conjunction with an event being staged at the site	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Unpowered Site		\$27.00	10%
Extra Child		\$7.00	10%
Extra Adult		\$11.00	10%
Powered Site		\$38.00	10%
Extra Child		\$7.00	10%
Extra Site		\$11.00	10%
A cancellation fee will be charged as follows:			
Cancellation or no show			
• Greater than 90 days prior to event		Full refund less deposit paid	
• Less than 90 days prior to event		50% refund	
• Less than 1 week prior or no show		Full forfeiture	
• Bond		Fully refundable	

Reserve Annual Use Fees and Charges	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Reserve Lease Application/Administration Fee (Commercial Lease) Note: If legal advice is required, this is charged at cost price.		\$270.00	10%
Reserve Licence Application/Administration Fee (Commercial Licence) Note: If legal advice is required, this is charged at cost price.		\$270.00	10%
Annual Licence to occupy the reserve		\$270.00	10%
Photography & Film Production		\$270.00	10%
Local Markets – Stallholders and Food Vendors	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Stallholders – Public Liability Provided by Stallholder			
Single Site	Per Site	\$15.00	10%
Double Site	Per Site	\$20.00	10%
Stallholders – Public Liability Provided by Council			
Single Site	Per Site	\$20.00	10%
Double Site	Per Site	\$25.00	10%
Food Vendors			
Refundable Deposit	Per Event	\$100.00	0%
Sundry Fees and Charges	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Event Management Fee - for groups without public liability insurance	Per hire	\$53.00	10%
Power - access and any use within 24 hour period from time of access	Per day per unit accessed	\$34.00	10%
Key Replacement - lost key or not returned	Per key	\$34.00	10%
Event Advertising - relates to any road closure, fireworks display, or other event with the potential to cause disruption to traffic, noise or other public disturbance	Per event	\$270.00	10%
Hire of Pooncarie Depot Quarters	Per person, per night	\$82.00	10%

Swimming Pools	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Admission Charges			
Children		\$5.00	10%
Adults		\$6.00	10%
Non-swimming adults		\$5.00	10%
Swimming Carnivals			
Admission charges for swimming carnivals and out of session groups are by arrangement between Belgravia Leisure and group representatives			
Season Tickets			
Family		\$118.00	10%
Adults		\$79.00	10%
Children		\$59.00	10%
Aerodrome	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Airport Landing Charge (ALC)	Per tonne	\$17.00	10%
Aircraft Parking Charge (APC) – short term	Per day or part day	\$12.00	10%
Aircraft Parking Charge (APC) – long term	Per month	\$243.00	10%
Aircraft Parking Charge (APC) – Non Lease/Apron/Tie Down Areas	Per day or part day	\$6.00	10%
Training Aerodrome Circuits (TAC) – Day Rate	Per hour	\$40.00	10%
Training Aerodrome Circuits (TAC) – Night Rate	Per hour	\$60.00	10%
Airside Supervision Charge (ASC) – Business Hours	Per ARO	\$122.00	10%
Airside Supervision Charge (ASC) – After Hours	Per ARO	\$176.00	10%
Airside Environmental Charge (AEC) – Minimum Charge		\$245.00	10%
Aircraft Hanger Charge (AHC) – New	Per year	On application	10%
Aircraft Hanger Charge (AHC) – Kevin J Thomas Hanger	Per year	\$1,610.00	10%
Call Out Fee (COF) – minimum 2 hour charge	Per hour	\$122.00	10%
Vehicle Parking Charge (VPC)	Per day or part day	\$3.00	10%

Midway Community Centre

Midway Centre Hire Fees	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Midway Function Centre & meeting rooms			
Stadium (includes stage area)	per hour	\$146.00	10%
Function Room and shared foyer	per hour	\$122.00	10%
Service kitchen (includes crockery, cutlery & glassware for 250 persons)	per use	\$183.00	10%
Meeting Room 1 with shared foyer and shared kitchenette	per hour	\$48.00	10%
Meeting Room 2 with shared foyer and shared kitchenette	per hour	\$48.00	10%
Foyer / Gallery Space (as a stand-alone space)	per hour	\$38.00	10%
Midway Serviced Offices			
Health Services Room with shared foyer & shared kitchenette	per hour	\$48.00	10%
Office 1 or 2 with shared foyer & shared kitchenette	per hour	\$38.00	10%
Service Centre Facilities			
(NB these facilities are only available during centre opening hours)			
Service Centre Officer 1 or 2	per hour	\$44.00	10%
Craft Room	per hour	\$44.00	10%
Bond and cleaning charges	On room hire	25%	
Bond - groups of 30 people or more	no discount	\$750.00	0%
Bond - Not for Profit Groups/groups of less than 30 people	no discount	\$200.00	0%
One-off Cleaning Charge (if required). Minimum charge \$200.00 deducted from the bond. An invoice will be raised for amounts in excess of the bond paid.	per clean	Min. \$200.00	10%

Midway Centre – Hire Packages & discounts	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Daily Rate - Stadium, Function Room, Service kitchen, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 and Foyer/Gallery Space.	24 hours	\$4,559.00	10%
Daily Rate – Stadium, Function Room, Service kitchen and Foyer/Gallery Space.	24 hours	\$3,393.00	10%
Daily Rate – Stadium	24 hours	\$1,750.00	10%
Daily Rate - Function Room, Service kitchen and shared foyer/gallery space	24 hours	\$1,641.00	10%
Multi-day Discount – Hire package for 2 full consecutive days. For events booked before 30 June 2019 to be held before 30 June 2020.	discount applied to daily rate	15%	10%
Multi-day Discount – Hire package for 3 full consecutive days. For events booked before 30 June 2019 to be held before 30 June 2020.	discount applied to daily rate	20%	10%
Not for Profit Groups (Refer definitions) – 75% Discount for Not for Profit Community Groups based in WSC. 50% Discount for all other Not for Profit Groups. NB cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts.	maximum discount	25%	10%
Regular User Discount (12 month user agreement as negotiated by Council)	from standard hourly rate	75%	10%
Equipment & labour hire	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Teleconference equipment	Each use	\$43.00	10%
Portable data projector & stand	Each use	\$24.00	10%
Whiteboard & whiteboard markers	Each use	\$14.00	10%
Urn (20 litre capacity)	Each Use	\$14.00	10%
Labour hire (assistance with set up and pull down) – if required	per person/ per hour	\$38.00	10%
Event facilitation and coordination (if required)	per hour	\$183.00	10%
On-site IT support (if required)	per hour	\$183.00	10%

Midway Centre Hire Fees - Additional Notes

Midway Centre Stadium

- Stadium court with permanent line marking for basketball and netball
- Stage area, with maximum seating capacity of 700
- Full sound system

Function Room

- Carpet floor
- Audio Visual Equipment
- Tables & Chairs included in hire charge
- Maximum seating capacity of 250

Function Room Kitchen

- Service Kitchen with crockery & cutlery for 250 people

Meeting Rooms

- Carpet Floor
- Tables & Chairs included in hire charge
- Maximum seating capacity (each room) 40

Kitchenette (shared)

- Service or bar kitchen
- Limited quantity of crockery & cutlery

Offices

- Office with desk/ meeting table and 4 chairs
- Access to shared kitchen facilities

Not for profit discount

The discount can only be applied to Registered Not for Profit Organisations, Government and Semi-Government users, State and Federal Members of Parliament. The discount cannot be added to any other discounts.

Regular User discount

The discount can only be applied to users who have entered into a 12 month signed agreement approved by Council.

Additional cleaning charge

Failure to leave the venue clean and tidy, with floors mopped and or vacuumed, toilets cleaned, benches wiped and bins emptied will result in an additional cleaning charge being applied.

Bookings and cancellations

- A 20% non-refundable deposit must accompany all bookings, including bookings for community groups who are making application through Council for fee reductions or waivers.
- Unless otherwise agreed, an invoice will be raised and must be paid in full within 30 days. Any fee waiver or reduction granted by Council after payment of the invoice will be refunded to the hirer.
- Payment of the bond must be made before access permissions are issued for the facility.

A cancellation fee will be charged as follows:

Cancellation or no show	Amount
Greater than 90 days prior to the event	Full refund less deposit paid
Less than 90 days prior to the event	50% refund
Less than 1 week prior to the event or no show	Full forfeiture
Bond	Fully refundable

Willow Bend Caravan Park

Fees	Unit of Measure	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Cabins - Off Peak			
Single	per night	\$90.00	10%
Double	per night	\$108.00	10%
Extra Adult	per night	\$18.00	10%
Children 0 - 5 years	per night	Free	0%
Children 5 - 16 years	per night	\$9.00	10%
Single Weekly Stay	per week	\$524.00	10%
Double Weekly Stay	per week	\$591.00	10%
Cabins - Peak			
Single	per night	\$100.00	10%
Double	per night	\$110.00	10%
Extra Adult	per night	\$18.00	10%
Children 0 - 5 years	per night	Free	0%
Children 5 - 16 years	per night	\$9.00	10%
Powered Sites - Off Peak			
Single	per night	\$29.00	10%
Double	per night	\$38.00	10%
Extra Adult	per night	\$18.00	10%
Children 0 - 5 years	per night	Free	0%
Children 5 - 16 years	per night	\$9.00	10%
Weekly Stay	per week	\$210.00	10%
Powered Sites - Peak			
Single	per night	\$38.00	10%
Double	per night	\$41.00	10%
Extra Adult	per night	\$18.00	10%
Children 0 - 5 years	per night	Free	0%
Children 5 - 16 years	per night	\$9.00	10%
Weekly Stay	per week	\$221.00	10%

Un-Powered Camp Sites - Peak & Off Peak			
Per Person (swag)	per night	\$10.00	10%
Double	per night	\$20.00	10%
Single	per night	\$10.00	10%
Dump Station		Gold Coin Donation	

Notes:

- Peak (minimum 2 nights) Country Music Festival, Christmas School Holidays, Easter
- Linen can be hired at a fee of \$10
- Deposit of one night's accommodation required at time of booking

Water & Waste Water

Filtered and unfiltered water supply	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Tapping Fees		
20mm	\$505.00	0%
25mm	\$631.00	0%
32mm	\$808.00	0%
40mm	\$970.00	0%
50mm	\$1,213.00	0%
80mm	\$1,941.00	0%
100mm	\$2,426.00	0%
150mm	\$3,639.00	0%
Meter Charges		
20 mm - filtered	\$337.00	0%
20 mm - unfiltered	\$360.00	0%
25 mm - filtered	\$421.00	0%
25mm - unfiltered	\$450.00	0%
32 mm - filtered	\$539.00	0%
32 mm - unfiltered	\$576.00	0%
40 mm - filtered	\$646.00	0%
40 mm - unfiltered	\$691.00	0%
50 mm - filtered	\$808.00	0%
50 mm - unfiltered	\$864.00	0%
80 mm - filtered	\$1,293.00	0%
80 mm - unfiltered	\$1,382.00	0%
100 mm - filtered	\$1,616.00	0%
100 mm - unfiltered	\$1,728.00	0%
150 mm - filtered	\$2,424.00	0%
150 mm - unfiltered	\$2,592.00	0%

Misc. Water and Sewer Charges	Fee (Inc. GST)	GST
Standpipe fee	\$3,401.00	0%
Flow control valve - for unfiltered water to subdivisions - East of Gol Gol creek and at Wentworth Aerodrome	\$67.00	0%
Cut in new sewer junction (supervision fee only - applicant to supply all fittings)	\$212.00	0%
Notes:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meter Charge is from the meter to inside of building/property • Meter Charge includes inspection fee • Unfiltered water includes “Y” strainer 		

Appendix A - Bodies Granted Exemptions

The following list represents the known value of pre-approved Financial Assistance that have been granted to Organisations for the 2023/2024 financial year

Organisation	Purpose	Qty	\$ Waived
Australian Inland Botanic Gardens	Contribution to operational costs	1	\$51,371
Buronga Go Gol Senior Citizens Club	Contribution towards photocopying done at the Buronga Library	1	\$186.00
Buronga Gol Gol Senior Citizens Club	Regular hiring of Midway Meeting Rooms, Kitchen and Foyer @ 3 hours per week	N/a	\$2,532.00
Combined Churches Group	Hiring of Wentworth Town Hall (bond waived) for annual Combined Churches' Christmas carols	1	\$117.00
Coomealla Senior Citizens Club	Regular hiring of Dareton Senior Citizens Rooms (bond waived)	N/a	\$11,731.00
Coomealla Senior Citizens Club	Refund of public liability insurance premium up to maximum of \$607	1	\$669.00
Dareton Community Creative Centre Inc.	Waiver of hire costs for the use of the Dareton Activity Centre	1	\$4,654.00
Gol Gol Hawks Football Netball Club	Use of James King Park for annual Easter fundraising activities	1	\$447.00
Gol Gol Primary School	Hiring of wheelie bins for annual country fair	10	\$260.00
Koori Kids	Donation	1	\$250.00
Murray House Aged Care	Hiring of Wentworth Town Hall (bond waived) for entertainment activities	1	\$123.00
Murray House Aged Care	Subsidy against annual water rates	1	\$5,000.00
Murray House Fundraising Committee	Hiring of Wentworth Town Hall (bond waived) for fashion parades	2	\$234.00
New South Western Standard Bulletin	Exclusive use of Council controlled building	N/a	\$8,470.00
Rotary Wentworth Op Shop	Exclusive use of Council controlled building	N/a	\$12,599.00
St John's Anglican Ladies Guild	2 Annual Hire Fees for War Memorial Rooms	2	\$106.00
Sunraysia Aero modellers	Hiring of Showgrounds for NSW state model gliding contest	2	\$358.00

Sunraysia Aero modellers	Hiring of wheelie bins for NSW state model gliding contest	2	\$52.00
Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch	Hiring of Wentworth Wharf Lawns (bond waived) for annual ANZAC day lunch	1	\$117.00
Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch	Hiring of wheelie bins for annual ANZAC day lunch	4	\$104.00
Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch	Exclusive use of Council controlled building	N/a	\$8,470.00
Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary	Annual licence fee for meetings held in Memorial Rooms	1	\$270.00
Wentworth Rotary Club	Hire of Rubbish Bins for Christmas Eve Street Party	8	\$208.00
Wentworth Senior Citizens Club	Regular hiring of Wentworth Memorial Rooms (bond waived) 12 uses @ \$117 per day and 24 uses @ \$53 (1/2 day)	N/a	\$2,670.00
Wentworth Senior Citizens Club	Refund of public liability insurance premium up to maximum of \$924	1	\$1,070.00
Wentworth Shire Interagency Group	Hire of Dareton Senior Citizen's Room	12	\$360.00
Total amount of funds granted from Donations, Contributions and Grants Program			\$112,974.00

Notes:

(1) Registered Schools (including pre-schools, kindergartens and School P&C raising money for registered School) operating within the Wentworth Shire are granted automatic fee waivers for the hire of any Council venue (hall, meeting room). Any preparation costs (such as line marking of ovals) will be charged at standard cost. Bookings must still be made.

(2) Public Schools operating within the Wentworth Shire end of year presentation day, up to a maximum of \$300.00 per school

Appendix B – Section 68 Local Government Act Approvals Not Otherwise Listed Health & Planning Division

Public Roads

1. Swing or hoist goods across or over any part of a public road by means of a lift, hoist or tackle projecting over the footway.
2. Expose or allow to be exposed (whether for sale or otherwise) any article in or on or so as to overhang any part of the road or outside a shop window or doorway abutting the road, or hang an article beneath an awning over the road.

Other Activities

1. Operate a public car park.
2. Operate a manufactured home estate.
3. Install a domestic oil or solid fuel heating appliance, other than a portable appliance.
4. Install or operate amusement devices.
5. Use a standing vehicle or any article for the purpose of selling any article in a public place.
6. Carry out an activity prescribed by the regulations or an activity of a class or description prescribed by the regulations.

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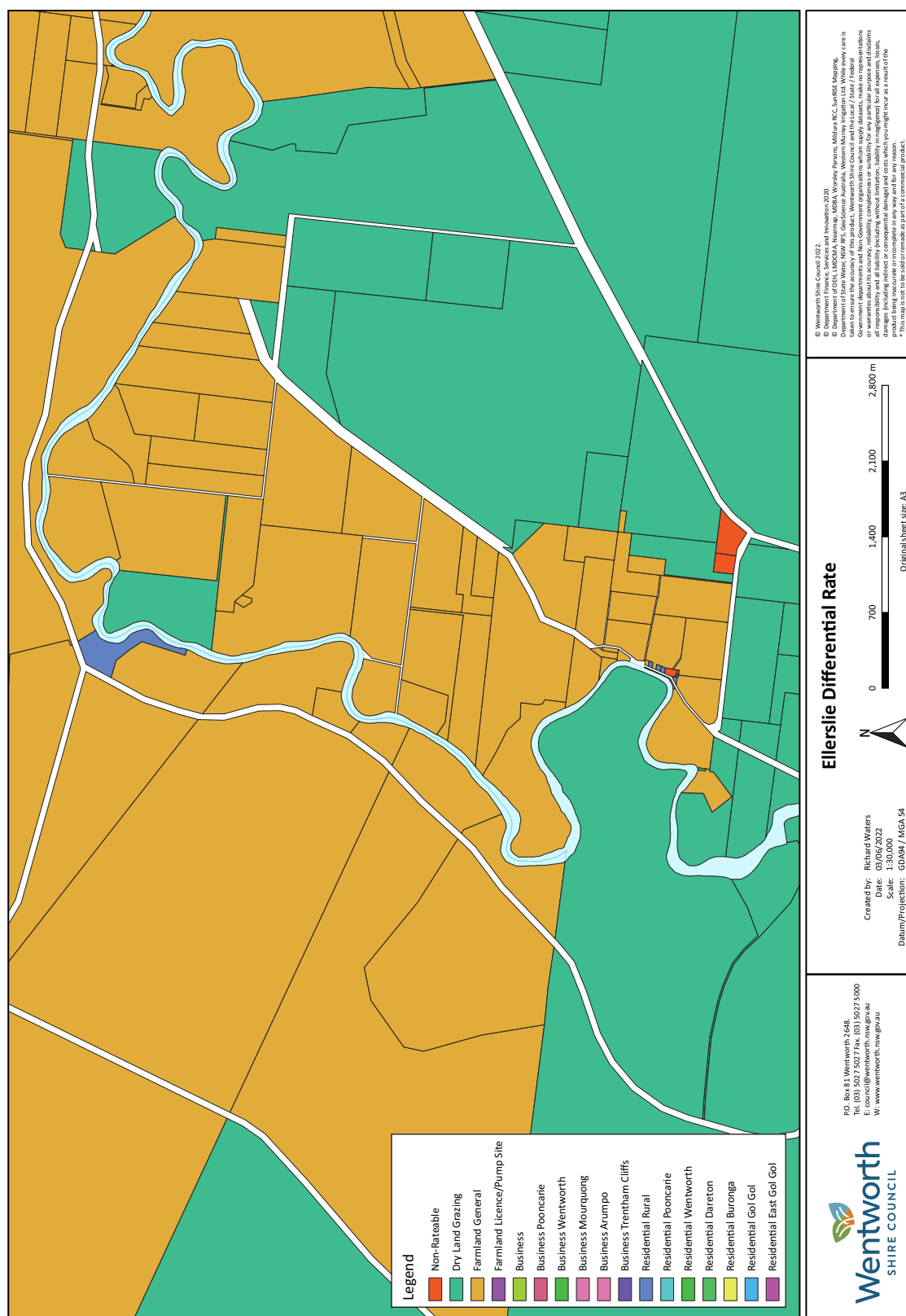


4. Rating Maps

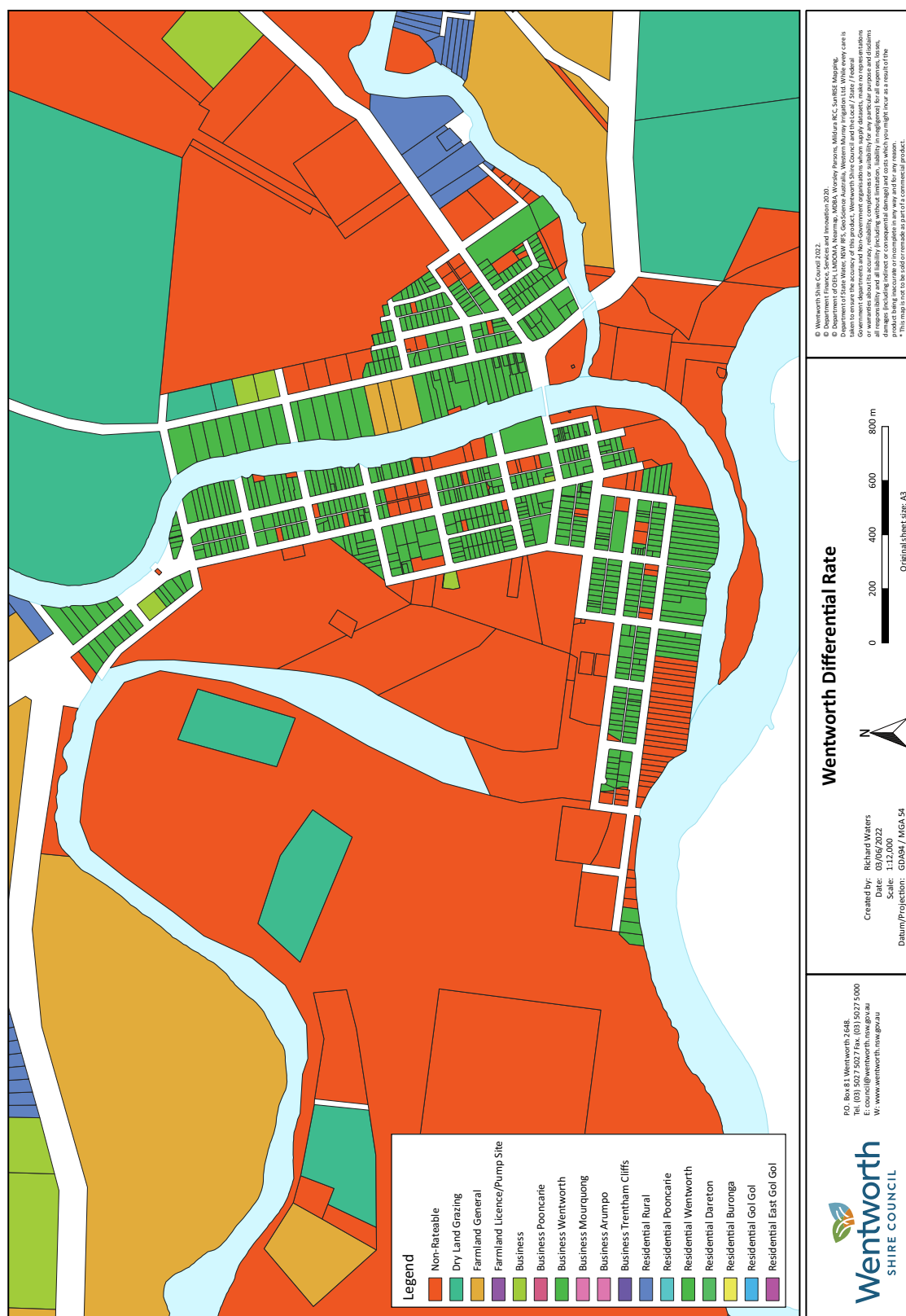
Shire Differential Rate	102
Pooncarie Differential Rate	103
Ellerslie Differential Rate	104
Pomona Differential Rate	105
Wentworth Differential Rate	106
Curlwaa Differential Rate	107
Dareton Differential Rate	108
Coomealla Differential Rate	109
Buronga Differential Rate	110
Gol Gol Differential Rate	111







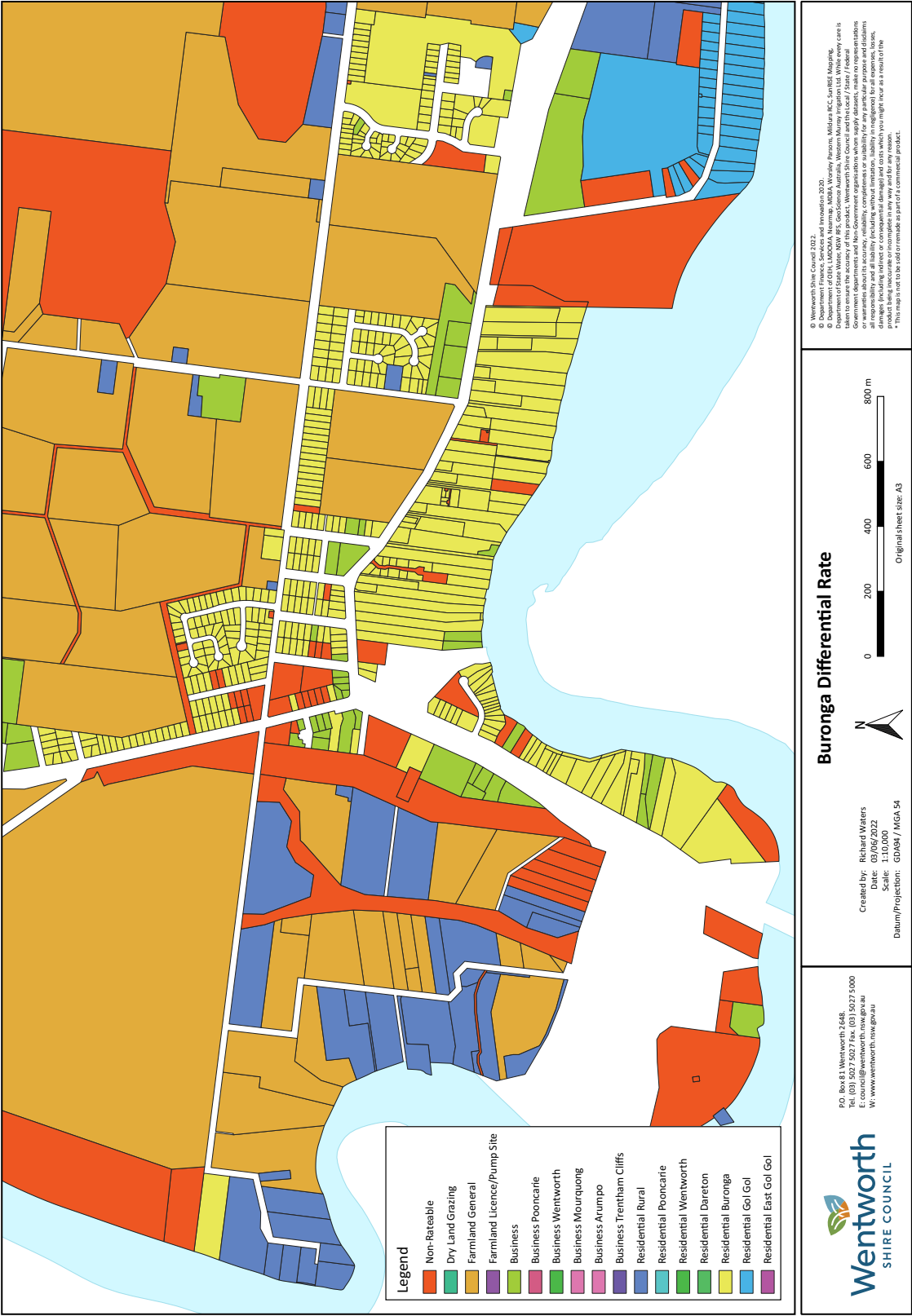


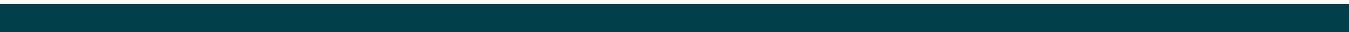














Wentworth Shire Council

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9.7 POLICY APPROVAL

File Number: RPT/23/314

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

The following two (2) policies:

- GOV026 - Child Safety Policy
- PR019 - Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development

Have been placed on public exhibition as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) and Council's Community Engagement Strategy.

There have been no submissions received during the public exhibition period therefore it is recommendation of the reporting officer that Council formally adopt the new policies.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following new policies:

- a) GOV026 - Child Safety Policy
- b) PR019 - Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present two policies to Council for formal adoption as new policies

Background

At the May 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to endorse the following two (2) policies:

- GOV026 - Child Safety Policy
- PR019 - Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development

In draft format and to place the policies on public exhibition as required by the Act and Council's Community Engagement Strategy.

Matters under consideration

The public exhibition period has been completed and there were no submissions received from the public in relation to the policies.

The policies are now being brought back to Council for formal adoption as new Council Policies.



Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Council has complied with its consultation obligations as required by the Act and the Community Engagement Strategy.

Conclusion

The policies have undertaken the required consultation process, as Council received no submissions in relation to the policies it is the recommendation of the reporting officer that Council formally adopt the policies as new Council policies.

Attachments

1. GOV026 - Child Safety Policy [↓](#) 
2. PR019 - Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council Related Development. [↓](#) 

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV026**CHILD SAFETY POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The overall objectives of this Policy are to ensure compliance with child protection legislation and to create a culture and adopt strategies to keep children and young people safe from harm.

The objectives of this Policy include:

- To promote the health, safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and young people in Council activities as well as the local community;
- To ensure that Council provides a safe environment for children and young people whilst on Council premises and utilising Council services;
- To ensure all workers engaged with Council in a child-related role have a valid Working with Children Check clearance;
- To ensure workers are aware of their obligations in relation to the various child protection legislation and Council's policy; and
- To ensure Council promptly implements procedures which are confidential and transparent when investigating and responding to allegations of 'reportable conduct' as defined under the *Children's Guardian Act 2019 (NSW)*.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy demonstrates Wentworth Shire Council's commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Council is committed to fulfilling its duty of care by endeavouring to ensure that all workers act in the best interests of a child and young person and take all reasonable steps to ensure a child's safety.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all workers engaged by Council. Any reference to 'worker' for the purpose of this policy includes employees, Councillors, contractors or sub-contractors who are required to hold a Working With Children Check for the purpose of their engagement with Council, work experience participants, labour hire, volunteers and student placements.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

Strategy: 4.2 Provide a strong, responsible and representative government.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Word	Definition
Abuse	A term used to refer to different types of harm or maltreatment. It may take the form of physical abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect. It may fall into the category of 'reportable conduct', or it may sit outside it and still be considered harmful.
Allegation	When someone learns of a child protection concern, they make an allegation or tell someone who makes an allegation. It includes an allegation which involves behaviour that is reportable conduct, as well as behaviour that is exempt from notification to

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV026**CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

	the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian, but which is required to be investigated by Council.
Child or young person	A person who is under the age of 18
Child related work	Work which involves direct contact with a child/ren where that contact is a usual part of and more than incidental to the work
Child Safe Organisation	An organisation in which child safety is embedded in planning, policy and practices and where the voices of children and young people are valued and actioned.
Council	Wentworth Shire Council
Child Safety Officer	Designated Council employee who assesses reportable allegations
Contractor or sub-contractor	For the purposes of this policy means contractors or sub-contractors who are required to hold a Working With Children Check for the purposes of their engagement with Council
DCJ	Department of Communities and Justice
OCG	Office of the Children's Guardian
Reportable allegation	<p>In relation to a council worker, means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if the worker holds, or is required to hold, a working with children check clearance for the purpose of employment with Council – an allegation that the worker has engaged in conduct that may be reportable conduct, whether or not the conduct is alleged to have occurred in the course of the worker's employment, or b) if the worker is not required to hold a working with children check clearance for the purposes of employment with council – an allegation that the worker has engaged in conduct that may be reportable conduct, unless the conduct is alleged to have occurred outside the course of the worker's employment with Council.
Reportable conduct	<p>Something that needs investigating is called a reportable allegation. If it's substantiated (found to be in all likelihood to be true) it's called a finding of reportable conduct. This means the following conduct, whether or not a criminal proceeding in relation to the conduct has been commenced or concluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a sexual offence b) sexual misconduct c) ill-treatment of a child d) neglect of a child

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV026**CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

	e) an assault against a child f) an offence under section 43B (failure to protect) or 316A (failure to report) of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> g) behaviour that causes significant emotional or psychological harm to a child
Risk of significant harm	Concern/s about a child or young person that are sufficiently serious to warrant a response by a statutory authority irrespective of a family's consent. It is something that is not minor or trivial and that may be reasonably expected to produce a substantial and demonstrably adverse impact on the child or young person's safety, welfare or wellbeing. In addition, it can result from a single act or omission or an accumulation of these. Risk of significant harm is the NSW threshold to report child protection concerns to DCJ via the Child Protection Helpline.
Working with Children Check (WWCC)	The WWCC is a requirement for anyone who works or volunteers in child-related work in NSW. The check provides either clearance to work with children for five years, or a bar against working with children.

5. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Office of the Children's Guardian introduced the Child Safe Standards to improve the way organisations provide services for children and young people to prevent and respond to child abuse that may occur within organisations. The Child Safe Standards are a central feature of the NSW Government's response to the Commonwealth Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The standards can be broadly applied to all forms of harm including psychological, physical and emotional abuse as well as neglect.

The 10 Child Safe Standards are:

1. Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture.
2. Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
3. Families and communities are informed and involved.
4. Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are taken into account.
5. People working with children are suitable and supported.
6. Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focussed.
7. Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training.
8. Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur.
9. Implementation of child safe standards is continuously reviewed and improved.
10. Policies and procedures document how the institution is child safe.

The Child Safe Standards encompass existing child safety requirements for individuals and organisations such as Working with Children Check, the Reportable Conduct Scheme and requirements to report information to police and to the Department of Communities and Justice.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV026**CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

6. POLICY CONTENT**6.1. Council's commitment to child safety**

This policy reflects Council's commitment to providing and actively promoting a safe environment for children and young people. Council uses the Child Safe Standards to underpin how we keep children safe.

Council will ensure that policies and systems are in place and accessible to protect children and young people and that all allegations and safety concerns will be treated seriously.

Council will share information about keeping children and young people safe including where they can find further information and advice, and how to make a report if they suspect or know a child is being harmed or if they observe a breach of our code of conduct.

Wentworth Shire Council acknowledges that protecting the safety of children and young people is a whole of community responsibility and is everyone's business.

6.2. Recruitment & Training

Council employs a fit for purpose recruitment and selection process for all direct contact work with a child or young person where contact is a usual part of and more than incidental to the work as defined by the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*. A current Working with Children (WWCC) is required for all child-related work.

Council will meet its training and induction obligations by ensuring that all Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors are included in child safety and understand that child safety is everyone's responsibility. Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors will be provided with training to support their understanding of Council's commitment to child safety and that everyone has a role to play in safeguarding children.

6.3. Risk Management

Council will ensure that child safety is part of the overall risk management approach. A risk assessment will be undertaken of settings where Council has child related services and where adults interact with children, considering increased risks in relation to specific roles and activities, and introducing suitable protective strategies for identified physical and online risks.

6.4. Safeguarding Children Standards of Behaviour

Council's adopted Code of Conduct sets out clear standards of behaviour and conduct for all Council officials. It is the personal responsibility of Council officials to comply with the standards in Council's adopted Code of Conduct Policy and to regularly review their personal circumstances and conduct with this in mind.

In addition to Council's Code of Conduct, 'Safeguarding Children Standards of Behaviour' have been developed to provide detailed guidance on appropriate behaviour and conduct when working with children and young people. These standards aim to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur. They also help workers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and young people, and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations.

Acceptable Behaviours

Council's workers are responsible for supporting the safety of children by:

- adhering to Council's Child Safety Policy;
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from abuse;

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- ensuring the adult/child relationship is professional and kept within the boundaries of the respective position description;
- ensuring appropriate adult's response to a child's behaviour or circumstance in line with the child's age and vulnerability and the adult's responsibility for the care, safety and welfare of the child;
- treating everyone with respect;
- listening and responding to the view and concerns of children and young people, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/ the safety of another child or young person;
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of all children;
- ensuring as far as practicable, an adult should not be alone with a child unless there is a line of sight to other adults;
- ensuring adults do not initiate or seek any contact with children outside of work; and
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or any child safety concerns.

Unacceptable Behaviours

Council's workers must not:

- ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child abuse;
- use language or behaviour towards children that is inappropriate, harassing, abusive, sexually provocative, demeaning or culturally inappropriate;
- develop any 'special' relationships with children that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific children);
- initiate unnecessary physical contact with children or do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes;
- use any computers, mobile phones, video cameras, cameras or social media to exploit or harass children, or access child exploitation material through any medium;
- photograph or video a child or young person without the consent of the parent or guardians and the child's consent when appropriate.

6.5. Reporting a child safety concern or complaint

When any employment related child protection concern or allegation is raised about an employee it must be reported to the General Manager as Council's Child Safety Officer. Allegations can be reported by children or young people, families, Councillors, employees, volunteers or contractors. Council must immediately take the appropriate steps to assess and minimise any further risk of harm, and give consideration as to whether the child protection concern or allegation constitutes a reportable allegation.

Several positions have been nominated as initial reporters to accept complaints or allegations of child abuse or harm, acting as an intermediary to the General Manager in this role. These positions are Manager, Human Resources; Work Health & Safety Officer; Team Leader Library Services; and Team Leader Visitor Information Centre.

All reportable allegations must be reported to the Office of the Children's Guardian and in some cases to other relevant oversight agencies and/or Police. Council will support relevant authorities' investigations into allegations of abuse or risk of harm to children and young people.

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Concerns that a child or young person is suspected to be at risk of significant harm that does not involve Council must be reported to the relevant agency. Council will meet its mandatory reporting obligations and will take action to protect children and young people at risk of significant harm.

6.6. Privacy and confidentiality

Whilst safety and wellbeing of children and young people are of primary concern, Council is committed to protecting an individual's right to privacy. All personal information considered during the process of reporting or investigating will be collected and managed in accordance with Council's Privacy Policy. Personal information will only be disclosed to another party if there is a legislative requirement for such disclosure.

6.7 Roles and responsibilities**Council**

Publicly commits to child safety and embeds a child safe culture.

General Manager as Head of Entity

The General Manager as Head of Entity is responsible for ensuring that Council fulfils its responding and reporting obligations and to notify the Office of the Children's Guardian (NSW) when a reportable allegation of child abuse is made against a Councillor, employee, volunteer or contractor. The General Manager is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy and that all Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors are informed, resourced and supported to understand their role in providing a child safe environment.

General Manager as Child Safety Officer

Council's Child Safety Officer has the following responsibilities:

- To provide ongoing support and respond to concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children while engaged in services, programs or events delivered by Council;
- To notify the Office of the Children's Guardian (NSW) when a reportable allegation (of which they are aware) is made against a Councillor, employee, volunteer or contractor.

Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors

Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors shall adhere to the requirements of the policy, reportable conduct and responding and reporting obligations, and be able to demonstrate their awareness of their child safety responsibilities.

All Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors should be aware that the appointment by Council of a Child Protection Officer does not remove mandatory reporting obligations that other Officers of Council may have under s27 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*.

All staff shall adhere to their responding, reporting and reportable conduct obligations and take action where a child or young person is at risk of harm.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

Children's Guardian Act 2019

Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998

Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002

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Council Policy No: GOV026**CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

GOV020 Wentworth Shire Council Code of Conduct Policy

GOV007 Wentworth Shire Council Privacy Management Policy

GOV022 Wentworth Shire Council Legislative Compliance Policy

GOV013 Wentworth Shire Council Enterprise Risk Management Policy

8. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

9. DOCUMENT APPROVAL

This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on [Click here to enter a date..](#) All previous versions of this policy are null and void.

This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.

A PDF copy of the signed document can be accessed from Council's record management system and Reliansys.

Signed:

[Click here to enter a date.](#)**General Manager Wentworth Shire Council****Date**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: PR019**Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This Policy aims to manage potential conflicts of interest and increase transparency at all stages of the development process for Council-related development.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Wentworth Shire Council complies with its legislative requirements under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021* to prepare a policy that specifies how Council will manage conflicts of interest that may arise in connection with Council-related development applications because the Council is the consent authority and the enforcement authority.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all Council-related development.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

Strategy: 4.2 Provide a strong, responsible and representative government.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Word	Definition
application	means an application for consent under Part 4 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (the Act) to carry out development and includes an application to modify a development consent it does not include an application for a complying development certificate.
Council	means Wentworth Shire Council
Council-related development application	Is a development application, for which the council is the consent authority, that is – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) made by or on behalf of the council, or (b) for development on land, other than a public road within the meaning of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. of which the council is an owner, a lessee or a licensee, or ii. otherwise vested in or under the control of the council. <p>Note: land vested in or under the control of the council includes public land within the meaning of the <i>Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)</i>.</p>
development process	means application, assessment, determination and enforcement
the Act	means the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)</i>

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Council Policy No: PR019**Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development**

Note: a word or expression used in the Policy has the same meaning as it has in the Act, and any instruments made under the Act, unless it is otherwise defined in this Policy.

5. POLICY CONTENT**5.1 Policy Background**

Councils are development regulators. But they can also be the developer, landowner or hold a commercial interest in the land they regulate. Where councils have this dual role, an inherent conflict can arise between their interests in the development and their duty as regulator.

Identifying these conflicts of interest early and finding ways to address them is crucial to good governance and allows Council to strengthen its relationship with communities and build and enhance trust.

5.2 Provisions

5.2.1 Development Applications that are considered Council-related development as defined in the Table above must be referred to the General Manager (or a delegate) for a conflict of interest risk assessment.

5.2.2 The conflict of interest risk assessment must:

- a) Assess whether the application is one in which a potential conflict of interest exists;
- b) Identify the phase(s) of the development process at which the identified conflict of interest arises;
- c) Assess the level of risk involved at each phase of the development process in accordance with factors identified at clause 5.2.3 of this policy;
- d) Determine what (if any) management controls should be implemented to address the identified conflict of interest (in each phase of the development process if necessary) having regard to any controls and strategies outlined in clause 5.2.8 of this Policy and the outcome of the assessment of the General Manager (or delegate) of the level of risk involved as set out at clause 5.2.1 of this Policy.

5.2.3 Factors to be considered when determining the level of conflict of interest and resulting risks:

- a) Is Council a direct or indirect beneficiary of this application;
- b) Value of potential commercial gains resulting from the making of the application;
- c) Cost of works associated with the application;
- d) Is the application exempt from management controls/strategies as per clause 5.2.9 of this policy.

5.2.4 The conflict of interest management approach for the application is documented in a statement that is published on the NSW Planning Portal.

5.2.5 For low risk Council related development where no management controls or strategies have been identified, Council is still required to communicate this decision through a statement published on the NSW Planning Portal.

5.2.6 Council-related development applications must be exhibited for a minimum of 28 days to ensure transparency during the assessment process in accordance with the Act.

5.2.7 All notification correspondence for Council related development is to state that the conflict of interest management statement is available on the NSW Planning Portal.

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Council Policy No: PR019**Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development**

5.2.8 The following management controls may be applied to:

- a) The assessment of an application for Council-related development:
 - i) Enter into a shared service agreement with a neighbouring council for the assessment of the application;
 - ii) Use an external consultant to complete the assessment of development applications;
 - iii) Use a project officer outside of Council's Health and Planning Department;
- b) The determination of an application for Council-related development:
 - i) By a Council delegate following a risk assessment of any conflict of interest by the General Manager (or a separate delegate) and documentation of a management strategy statement for that application;
 - ii) Engage a private certifier for certification activities such as the issuing of a construction certificate and occupation certificate;
- c) The regulation and enforcement of approved Council-related development:
 - i) Enter into a shared service agreement with a neighbouring council for the compliance and enforcement of development consent;
 - ii) Privately Registered Certifier to assist in the compliance and enforcement of conditions in Construction Certificates;
 - iii) Report enforcement milestones or actions to Council.

5.2.9 The management strategy for the following kinds of development is that no management controls need to be applied:

- a) Commercial fit outs and minor changes to the building façade;
- b) Internal alterations or additions to buildings that are not a heritage item;
- c) Advertising signage;
- d) Minor building structures projecting from a building façade over public land (such as awnings, verandas, bay windows, flagpoles, pipes and services);
- e) Development where the Council might receive a small fee for the use of their land.

5.3 Roles and Responsibilities

5.3.1. Council Officers making applications for Council-related development are required to refer the application to the General Manager (or delegate).

5.3.2. Council development assessment officers reviewing lodged development applications must refer Council-related development applications to the General Manager (or delegate).

5.3.3. Council building certifiers or Health & Planning Administrative Officers reviewing construction certificates, occupation certificates and building information certificates, or any applications for those certificates, must refer Council-related development to the General Manager (or delegate).

5.3.4. Council's General Manager (or delegate) is responsible for undertaking a conflict of interest risk assessment and documenting what management controls or strategies are to be implemented during the phases of the application in a management statement, or documenting that there is no management strategy for the application in a statement.

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Council Policy No: PR019**Conflict of Interest Management Policy for Council-Related Development**

5.3.5. Administration staff within the Health and Planning Department are responsible for publishing the management statement on the NSW Planning Portal.

5.3.6. Council's General Manager (or delegate) is to ensure that the management controls and strategies are adhered to during the entire development cycle.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)**Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021**Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)**Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*

GOV020 Wentworth Shire Council Code of Conduct

GOV023 Wentworth Shire Council Conflicts of Interest Policy

GOV009 Wentworth Shire Council Delegations Policy

GOV013 Wentworth Shire Council Enterprise Wide Risk Management Policy

GOV022 Wentworth Shire Council Legislative Compliance Policy

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

8. DOCUMENT APPROVAL

This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on [Click here to enter a date..](#)

This policy will be reviewed in 12 months. This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.

A PDF copy of the signed document can be accessed from Council's record management system and Reliansys.

Signed:

[Click here to enter a date.](#)**General Manager Wentworth Shire Council****Date**

9.8 MODERN SLAVERY OBLIGATIONS AND POLICY UPDATES

File Number: RPT/23/336

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

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

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

Summary

On 1 January 2022 the *NSW Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)* commenced. The introduction of this Act was the major recommendation arising out of the 2017 NSW Legislative Council *Select Committee on Human Trafficking in NSW*. Commencement of this Act introduced new obligations for Councils under the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* relating to modern slavery.

Council must now demonstrate by publishing in our annual report, the steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for Council during the financial year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*.

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

Council has revised its Procurement Policy and its Statement of Business Ethics to ensure compliance with the modern slavery legislation. Updating these policies is one of a number of steps being taken by Council to address our obligations under the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*, including reviewing our own operations and supply chains to understand and to address the risks of modern slavery occurring therein, and revising our procurement procedures.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the updated Procurement Policy and Statement of Business Ethics Policy.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present updated policies – Council's Procurement Policy and Council's Statement of Business Ethics – the adoption of which will contribute to Council meeting its legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*.

Background

In 2017 the NSW Legislative Council established the Select Committee on Human Trafficking in NSW. The final report of the Committee outlined a number of recommendations aimed at combating human trafficking and modern slavery. One of those recommendations lead to the introduction of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*.

The commencement of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)* introduced new obligations for councils under the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* relating to modern slavery.

From 1 July 2022 Councils are required to take reasonable steps to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the Council are not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*.

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

Commencing from the 2022/23 financial year Council is required to publish in its annual reports:

- A statement of the action taken by the Council in relation to any issue raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of Council and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue, and
- A statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for Council during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*.

The Auditor General of NSW has a role to conduct risk-based audits of activities of government agencies to determine if the agency is ensuring that goods and services procured by and for it are not the product of modern slavery. The Auditor-General will consider if the agency has exercised due diligence in relation to the procurement of goods and services.

The *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)* provides for the establishment of an Anti-Slavery Commissioner with an appointment to that role in August 2022. In the Commissioner's initial discussion paper of September 2022 he acknowledged that there is an urgent need for development of guidance and for consultation on templates, training and related needs. Whilst he anticipated that this would occur during April-June 2023, further details of the training and guidance material are yet to be finalised.

In the interim there are various existing resources that are informing businesses and our own work in this space, including the Australian Border Force (the entity responsible for driving effective implementation of the Commonwealth *Modern Slavery Act 2018*); Local Government Procurement; buy.nsw; and the NSW Small Business Commissioner.

Report Detail

Council's current Procurement Policy and Council's Statement of Business Ethics already provide a framework to ensure that Council, and the businesses with which it is associated, act in a transparent, ethical and accountable manner. Updating these policies serves to further safeguard Council's culture of integrity and ethical conduct and is one of several steps being undertaken in order to meet our reporting obligations. Other steps include the following:



- working through the identification and assessment of the risks of modern slavery in our own supply chain and operations;
- developing due diligence processes in an effort to ensure that the goods and services that we procure are not the product of modern slavery – including reviewing our contract and tender clauses and methods of engaging with our suppliers; and
- developing procedures to share information, promote awareness and train relevant personnel.

The updated policies are brought to Council to note the context of the revisions for adoption of the updated version.

Conclusion

The reporting officer recommends that Council adopts the updated Procurement Policy and Statement of Business Ethics Policy.

Attachments

1. Revised Statement of Business Ethics Policy [↓](#) 
2. Revised Procurement Policy [↓](#) 

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This Statement of Business Ethics (Statement) has been developed to assist Wentworth Shire Council (Council) to ensure that it, and the businesses with which it is associated, act in a transparent, ethical and accountable manner so as to enhance and protect our organisation's reputation, as well as safeguarding Council's culture of integrity and ethical conduct.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to provide guidance to organisations and individuals on expected behaviours when dealing with Council. It is critical that Council and its private sector contractors, suppliers, consultants, tenderers or business partners have mutual expectations of the relationship. This Statement defines the principles of conduct that are expected of both parties in order to ensure the integrity and professionalism of both organisations is enhanced and is a statement of Council's values and systems of accountability.

The *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* requires every council to adopt a Code of Conduct. The standards in this Statement are based on our Code of Conduct and our values.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all organisations and individuals that deal with Council. All organisations and individuals must adopt the standards of ethical behaviour set out in the policy statement.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Word	Definition
Council	Wentworth Shire Council
Corrupt Conduct	Occurs when, among other things, a public official carries out public duties dishonestly or partially and the conduct in question could constitute either a criminal offence, a disciplinary offence, or reasonable grounds for dismissing, dispensing with the services of or otherwise terminating the services of the public official.
Impartiality	means the purchasing process must be undertaken in a fair, objective, consistent and business-like manner, leading to improved performance and cost-effective methods of doing business for Council. It does not mean pleasing everyone. We strive to be impartial by ensuring that our processes are appropriate.
Maladministration	Conduct that involves action or inaction of a serious nature that is either contrary to law, or is unreasonable, unjust, oppressive or improperly discriminatory, or is based wholly or partly on improper motives.
Statement	Statement of Business Ethics

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

Transparency	Means visible and verifiable confirmation of the integrity of the purchasing process and compliance with relevant legislation and adopted Council procedures.
Value for Money	Means an estimate of the worth or desirability of the goods or services offered. This can include such factors as initial costs, whole of life cost, quality, the extent to which the goods or services meet the specified requirements and also social and environmental responsibilities.

5. POLICY CONTENT

The following is the policy of this Council:

What we can expect from you?

We require anyone 'doing business with Council' (including all applicants, suppliers of goods and services, political lobbyists, consultants, contractors and their sub-contractors) to:

- Act ethically, fairly and honestly in all dealings with Council;
- Deliver value for money;
- Comply with Council's procurement policies and procedures;
- Provide accurate and complete information;
- Declare actual or perceived conflicts of interest as soon as such matters arise;
- Keep Council information confidential;
- Avoid collusion and unfair practices;
- Do not offer Council officials any financial inducements or incentives or gifts or benefits designed to improperly influence the conduct of their duties;
- Assist Council in providing a safe and healthy working environment;
- Do not discuss Council business or information with the media;
- Help deter unethical practices and/or fraud by reporting your concerns to Council;
- Respect the environment, comply with environmental laws and have sustainable practices in the use of resources and waste management;
- Take all reasonable measures to prevent unethical occurrences within your own supply chain;
- Work with Council in efforts to enhance capability to address / mitigate any risk of modern slavery in supply chains; and
- Respect Council's intellectual property rights and formally negotiate any access, license or other use of those rights.

Guidelines for doing business with Council

Council will ensure all its business relationships are ethical, fair and consistent. In particular, Council's business dealings will be transparent and open to public scrutiny at all times.

By complying with this Statement, you will be able to advance your business objectives and interests with Council, fairly and ethically.

Breaches of the Code

You should be aware of the consequences of not complying with this Statement. Demonstrated corrupt or unethical conduct could lead to:

- Termination of contracts/dismissal;
- Loss of further opportunities;

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Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- Loss of approvals;
- Loss of reputation; or
- Investigation for corrupt/criminal activity as well as punishment civil or criminal.

Our Key Business Principles

Council is committed to the Codes of Conduct and our values require that Council's actions are consistent with the following principles:

- Commitment to the system of government and good governance, upholding the law and effecting priorities, policies and decisions professionally and impartially;
- Integrity and impartiality, highest ethical standards, fair and respectful engagement with the community, effective processes and decision-making in the public interest;
- Accountability and transparency, exercising due care and diligence, using public resources in an effective and accountable way, and managing information within the legal framework;
- Sustainability in development, management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services, while minimising environmental and negative social impacts; and
- Economy and efficiency, risk-based approach that will deliver the best outcome (including value for money) for Council and the Wentworth Shire community;

Value for money means an estimate of the worth or desirability of the goods or services offered. This can include such factors as initial costs, whole of life cost, quality, the extent to which the goods or services meet the specified requirements and also social and environmental responsibilities.

Transparency means visible and verifiable confirmation of the integrity of the purchasing process and compliance with relevant legislation and adopted Council procedures. Council is committed to ethical sourcing, fair trade practices and to consider, identify and manage modern slavery risk within its supply chain. Ethical sourcing means sourcing products in a responsible and sustainable way, from organisations who treat workers fairly and equally, while minimising their impact on the wider environment and society.

Impartiality means the purchasing process must be undertaken in a fair, objective, consistent and business-like manner, leading to improved performance and cost-effective methods of doing business for Council. It does not mean pleasing everyone. We strive to be impartial by ensuring that our processes are appropriate.

What should you expect from Council?

All members of staff, Councillors and delegates are bound by Council's Code of Conduct. They are accountable for their actions and are expected to:

- Use Council resources efficiently and effectively;
- Encourage fair and transparent competition while seeking value for money;
- Ensure that all procurement activities and decisions are fully and clearly documented so as to provide an effective audit trail;
- Protect confidential and proprietary information;
- Deal fairly, ethically and honestly with all individuals and organisations so as to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest;
- Disclose any situation that involves or could be perceived to involve a conflict of interest;
- Not seek or accept financial or other benefits or personal gain for performing official duties;
- Treat all potential suppliers with equality, impartiality, fairness and respect;
- Act honestly and ethically when dealing with the community, business partners (including potential partners) and others;

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Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- Present the highest standards of professionalism, ethical behaviour and probity in all dealings with suppliers and the community;
- Work with Suppliers in efforts to enhance capability to address / mitigate any risk of modern slavery in supply chains;
- Be able to account for all decisions and provide feedback on these decisions;
- Ensure appropriate documents and records are maintained for all procurement activities;
- Not be involved in any activities such as performing work with suppliers, consultants or contractors;
- Not engage in the practice of so-called 'order splitting' or any similar practices with suppliers, contractors or consultants; and
- Provide all suppliers and tenders with the same information and equal opportunity.

GUIDANCE NOTESIncentives, gifts and benefits

Council's employees and Councillors do not expect to receive incentives, gifts, or benefits (including hospitality) as a consequence of business relationships with providers of goods or services. Providers of goods and services are required to refrain from offering any such incentives, gifts or benefits to Council employees or Councillors.

Council's Code of Conduct outlines the type of gifts and benefits that may be received by Councillors and Council employees. Please consult the proposed recipient or Council's Code of Conduct to confirm whether the recipient may accept an incentive, gift of benefit.

Gifts of cash or cash-like gifts should not, in any circumstances, be offered to Council employees or Councillors.

Note: *If a gift or benefit (especially cash or a cash-like gift) is offered to a Council official to influence the way they do their work, they must report it immediately.*

Conflict of interest

All Council employees and Councillors are required to disclose any actual or perceived conflict of interest, whether pecuniary or non-pecuniary. Council extends this requirement to all Council business partners, contractors and suppliers.

When working for Council, you are required to act in Council's interest. A conflict of interest would exist if you have a personal interest, or your relative, company, employer or another person you know has an interest that could reasonably be expected to influence the way you carry out your duties for Council. In determining whether you have a conflict of interest you must consider public perception.

In any conflict situation you are expected to place Council's interests ahead of your own and, where there is any doubt, to always err on the side of caution.

If at any time during your engagement with Council a conflict of interest exists or arises, you must disclose the nature of the conflict, as well as the nature of your interest, to the person with whom you are working or who is managing your contract or to Council's Office of the General Manager.

Confidentiality and personal information

All Council information must be treated as confidential unless otherwise indicated.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

Commercial-in-confidence or proprietary information contained within tenders, quotations, expressions of interest, proposals, heads of agreements, contracts and the like should never be given to those with a competing interest or to unauthorised persons.

You must take care to maintain the security of any confidential or personal information you become aware of in your work with or for Council.

You must abide by the privacy legislation governing, among other things, the collection, holding use, correction, disclosure and transfer of personal information obtained through your dealings with Council.

No one is permitted to access, use or remove (from Council premises) any Council information, or any personal information pertaining to any other person, unless they need that information for their work with or for Council and have the necessary authorisation to do so.

Ethical communication between parties

All communication should be clear, direct and accountable so as to minimise the risk of the perception of inappropriate influence being brought to bear on the business relationship. Any canvassing of Council staff or Councillors during a tender process will disqualify the bid from further consideration. Contact with Councillors whilst performing work with or for Council is prohibited unless expressly authorised by Council.

Contracting and subcontracting employees

All contracted and subcontracted employees are expected to comply with this Statement. If you engage subcontractors in your work with or for Council, you must make them aware of this Statement.

Intellectual property rights

In business relationships with Council, parties will respect each other's intellectual property rights and will formally negotiate any access, license or other use of intellectual property.

Alcohol and drugs

No one should come to work for Council, or return to work, under the influence of alcohol or other drugs that could impair their ability to carry out their work with or for Council or cause danger to the safety of themselves or others.

Offers of employment to Council staff

You must not offer a Council employee private or secondary employment which conflicts or may conflict with their duties at Council. All private or secondary employment must be approved by the General Manager and approval will not be given if, in the opinion of the General Manager, the employment conflicts or is likely to conflict with the employee's official duties with Council.

Former Council employees

Council employees, as public officials, must not breach public trust, must at all times act honestly, fairly and impartially, and must not use commercially sensitive information with a view to facilitating future employment opportunities in either the public or the private sector. In addition, it is not permissible to use or otherwise take advantage of any relationships with current employees so as to seek or appear to seek favourable treatment or access to confidential or proprietary information.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

Under the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*, some staff leaving Council's employ must have resigned for at least 12 months prior to negotiating or conducting any business with Council on behalf of a new employer.

Reporting Corrupt Maladministration and Wastage

Council will not tolerate unethical conduct or fraud. Council encourages its Councillors, staff and the business community to report all such matters.

When working with or for Council in a paid, unpaid or contracted capacity, you are considered to be a 'public official' for the purposes of the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988 (NSW)* and you are therefore subject to the ICAC's jurisdiction.

'Corrupt conduct' occurs when, among other things, a public official carries out public duties dishonestly or partially and the conduct in question could constitute either a criminal offence, a disciplinary offence, or reasonable grounds for dismissing, dispensing with the services of or otherwise terminating the services of the public official.

'Maladministration' (sometimes referred to as conduct which is otherwise 'wrong conduct') is conduct that involves action or inaction of a serious nature that is either contrary to law, or is unreasonable, unjust, oppressive or improperly discriminatory, or is based wholly or partly on improper motives.

When doing work with or for Council you have a responsibility to report any suspected instance of corruption, maladministration, or serious and substantial waste. For information on contacts, refer to the contacts section within this Statement.

Alternatively, you can report any suspected instance of corruption to the ICAC, maladministration to the Ombudsman, and serious and substantial waste to the Office of Local Government.

There are a number of forms of protection available to any person who reports any of the above-mentioned wrong practices in the appropriate manner. Reports must, however, be honest and reasonable. Council will deal with reports in a prompt, professional, and confidential manner. Council's Internal Reporting Policy applies to all such reports.

Council's Commitment

The standards and principles outlined in this Statement reflect the high standards expected by our local community. You are also expected to maintain these standards and principles when undertaking work with, for, or on behalf of Council. If you have any questions, or are unsure about any matter relating to this Statement refer to the contacts section for contact details.

Contact Details**Council's Disclosures Coordinator**

03 5027 5027

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION**Legislation**

- *Local Government Act (NSW) 1993*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 (NSW)*

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)*
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*
- *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *State Records Act 1998 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- GOV001 - Gifts and Benefits Policy
- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV005 – Procurement Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV013 – Enterprise Wide Risk Management Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy
- GOV023 – Conflicts of Interest Policy

Council Documents

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Enterprise Wide Risk Management Framework
- Governance Framework
- Complaints Management Framework
- Procurement Manual
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)
- Gifts and Benefits Register
- Conflicts of Interest Register

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

8. DOCUMENT APPROVAL

This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on . All previous versions of this policy are null and void.

This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.

A PDF copy of the signed document can be accessed from Council's record management system and Reliansys.

Signed:

Click here to enter a date.

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council**Date**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

Version	Date	Author	Changes
0.1	23/5/2022	V. Sroeung	-
1.0	29/06/2022	S. Rule	Final draft adopted by Council – First Release
1.1	15/6/2023	D. Zorzi	Draft - Amended to address modern slavery obligations

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/2141

Council Policy No: GOV005**PROCUREMENT POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This Official Council Policy deals with the establishment of best practice in the expenditure of public funds for public purposes.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to establish a framework which will assist Wentworth Shire Council to obtain best value for our community through effective, responsible and transparent procurement methods which comply with relevant legislation and Council's Code of Conduct.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all Councillors, permanent employees, temporary or casual employees, suppliers, contractors and consultants of Council who are involved in Council's contracting and procurement activities or engaged to perform work on behalf of Council.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

Strategy: 4.2 - A strong, responsible and representative government.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Word	Definition
Council	Wentworth Shire Council.
Procurement	The act of obtaining or buying goods and services.
Whole of life costs	Refers to the total costs of ownership over the life of an asset including: planning, design, construction/acquisition, operations, maintenance, renewal, rehabilitation, depreciation, replacement or disposal.

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:

- Wentworth Shire Council is committed to representing and assisting the community and the stakeholders of the Wentworth Shire in meeting their needs at an affordable cost.
- Council aims to achieve value for money in all of its procurement activities, whilst recognising the impact that its procurement decisions have on the local economy.
- The following principles and objectives underpin Council's procurement activities:
 - That Council complies with all relevant legislation and statutory requirements in relation to the procurement of goods and services;
 - That all of Council's procurement activities are conducted in a manner which ensures transparency, probity, accountability and consistency, with open and fair competition and no conflicts of interest;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/2141

Council Policy No: GOV005**PROCUREMENT POLICY**

- 'Modern slavery' is defined in the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW) as any conduct constituting a modern slavery offence within the meaning of that Act and any conduct involving the use of any form of slavery, servitude or forced labour to exploit children or other persons taking place in the supply chains of organisations.
- Council recognises that Modern slavery is a serious violation of an individual's dignity and human rights. Exploitative practices including human trafficking, slavery, servitude, forced labour, debt bondage and forced marriage are all considered modern slavery and are serious crimes under Australian law.
- That Council's aims to achieve best value for money on a whole of life cycle basis that generates benefits to Council and the community by balancing relevant non-cost factors including quality, fitness for purpose, capacity and capability of service provider, environmental and social factors, against relevant cost factors such as whole of life costs.
- Council's preferred method of tendering is via open tender unless otherwise resolved by a resolution of Council.
- This policy is to be read in conjunction with Council's Statement of Business Ethics Policy (GOV019) and Council's Procurement Manual.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- GOV001 – Gifts and Benefits Policy
- GOV003 – Fraud Control Policy
- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV009 – Delegation Policy
- GOV013 – Enterprise Wide Risk Management Policy
- GOV019 – Statement of Business Ethics Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy
- GOV023 – Conflict of Interest Policy
- GOV024 – Credit Card Policy

Council Documents

- Procurement Manual
- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Enterprise Wide Risk Management Framework
- Governance Framework
- Fraud Control Plan
- Gifts and Benefits Register
- Conflict of Interest Register

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/2141

Council Policy No: GOV005**PROCUREMENT POLICY****7. ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

8. DOCUMENT APPROVAL

This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on [Click here to enter a date..](#) All previous versions of this policy are null and void.

This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.

A PDF copy of the signed document can be accessed from Council's record management system and Reliansys.

Signed:

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council**Date**

Version	Date	Author	Changes
0.1	31/01/2022	S. Rule	-
1.0	3/02/2022	S. Rule	Final draft adopted by Council – First Release
1.1	15/6/2023		Draft - Amended to address modern slavery obligations

9.9 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

File Number: RPT/23/306

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

At the 17 May 2023 Council Meeting following the approval of the most recent round of Financial Assistance requests, Councillor Rodda requested a report on the total amount approved under the program for the financial year to date.

At the June 2022 Council Meeting, Council approved an allocation of \$160,000.00 for the 2022/2023 financial year for consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance.

Council approved a budget variation of \$30,000.00 at the 15 February 2023 Council Meeting, increasing the total amount available for 2022/2023 to \$190,000.

In this financial year, \$104,320.00 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 under delegated authority to date this financial year is \$3,943.00 and the total value of requests approved by Council equals \$62,173.42.

Total financial assistance amount for the 2022/2023 period, \$170,436.42.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the financial assistance requests for the 2022/2023 financial.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information in regards to the amount of financial assistance proved by Council under the Financial Assistance Policy.

Matters under consideration

At the 17 May 2023 Council Meeting following the approval of the most recent round of Financial Assistance requests, Councillor Rodda requested a report on the total amount approved under the program for the financial year to date.

At the June 2022 Council Meeting, Council approved an allocation of \$160,000.00 for the 2022/2023 financial year for consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance.

Due to the high demand for financial assistance received during the year, Council approved a budget variation of \$30,000.00 at the 15 February 2023 Council Meeting, increasing the total amount available for 2022/2023 to \$190,000.

In this financial year, \$104,320.00 was granted to a variety of organisations through the annual fees and charges "Exemptions from the Application" process.

The total value of requests granted under delegated authority by the Director Finance and Policy or the General Manager has been \$3,943.00 and the total value of requests approved by Council equals \$62,173.42.

This take the total amount of financial assistance for the 2022/2023 period to \$170,436.42. A list of those requests has been attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

As required by the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* this information will also be included in Council's 2022/2023 Annual Report


Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

As per Council's Financial Assistance Policy, Council allocates an annual amount to be used to provide financial assistance to the community.

Conclusion

The total amount of financial assistance provided by Council under the Financial Assistance Policy for the 2022/2023 period is \$170,436.42.

Attachments

1. Community Requests for Financial Assistance 2022 - 2023 (Under Seperate Cover) 

9.10 A62 ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR PUBLIC ROAD - LINKING ROADS

File Number: RPT/23/330

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning
 Responsible Division: Health and Planning
 Reporting Officer: Hilary Dye - Property and Land Tenure Officer

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
 Strategy: 2.3 To have a safe community

Summary

A Council resolution is required to begin the Compulsory Acquisition of Lots 430 & 431 in Deposited Plan 756961, Lot 7305 in Deposited Plan 1177109 and Lot 201 in Deposited Plan 1252696 at Buronga NSW, from Crown Lands for the registration of three Public Roads, identifies as West Road, Caravan Park Road and Bridge Road.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Proceeds to acquire the following land by compulsory process under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* by authority contained in the *Roads Act 1993* for the purpose of a public road:
 - a. Proposed Lots 622, 623 & 624 in Deposited Plan 1291097 previously identified as part of Lots 430 & 431 in Deposited Plan 756961
 - b. Lot 620 in Deposited Plan 1291097 previously identified as part Lot 7305 in Deposited Plan 1177109
 - c. Lot 621 & 625 in Deposited Plan 1291097 previously identified as part of Lot 201 in Deposited Plan 1252696
2. Acknowledges that minerals are to be excluded from this acquisition.
3. Acknowledges these acquisitions are not for the purpose of resale.
4. Makes the necessary applications be made to the Minister for Local Government and the Governor.
5. Affixes the Common Seal of Council to all documentation required to be sealed to give effect to this resolution.
6. Permits the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to sign any documentation necessary to complete the acquisitions.
7. Upon acquisition the land is dedicated under S.10 of the Roads Act as a public road.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek a resolution of Council to approve the compulsory acquisitions shown in the attached plans in accordance with the compulsory process as prescribed by *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* (NSW).

Background

There are three (3) sections of road within the Buronga Caravan Park Reserve, which Council maintains. These roads are not gazetted as legal roads. Council is proposing to acquire these sections of land for the purpose of dedication as public roads.

Matters under consideration

The proposed acquisition will allow for future improvement of Council's public road infrastructure to include formed roads, water infrastructure, legal point of access to neighbouring land and safer public access which is necessary to accommodate population growth within the Buronga region, higher levels of vehicular traffic and to facilitate improved community access to the Buronga Caravan Park and open space adjacent the river.

To achieve the desired effect, it would entail Council applying to acquire areas of Crown land.

- (1) Bridge Road will consist of Lots 622, 623 & 624 in Deposited Plan 1291097
- (2) West Road will consist of Lots 620 & 621 in Deposited Plan 1291097
- (3) Caravan Park Road will consist of Lot 625 in Deposited Plan 1291097 (includes linking Caravan Park Road with River Drive)

The three (3) roads identified above all meet at a connecting intersection adjacent to the Sturt Highway & Chaffey Bridge.



Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Council currently does not own the land on which these roads are located, therefore needs to rectify the land tenure status by acquiring the land for the purpose of a Public Road and subsequently do a road opening and dedicate the land as public roads.

Conclusion

After considering the content of this report, it is recommended that the most appropriate course of action is for the Wentworth Shire Council to proceed with this acquisition of land for the purpose of a public road.

Attachments

- 1. Deposited Plan [↓](#) 
- 2. Aerial View [↓](#) 

[illegible]


Req:R069055 /Doc:DP 1291097 P /Rev:06-Feb-2023 /NSW LRS /Prt:07-Feb-
 © Office of the Registrar-General /Src:PORTAL /Ref:lrs:eplan-eplan F

PLAN FORM 6 (2020)

WARNING: Creasing or folding will lead to rejection

DEPOSITED PLAN ADMINISTRATION SHEET		Sheet 1 of 2 sheet(s)	
Registered:  06/02/2023 Title System: TORRENS	Office Use Only	Office Use Only	
PLAN OF ACQUISITION AFFECTING LOT 7305 DP1177109, LOTS 430 & 431 DP756961 AND LOT 201 DP1252696		LGA: WENTWORTH Locality: BURONGA Parish: MOURQUONG County: WENTWORTH	
Survey Certificate I, DANIEL J JUNG of PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY a surveyor registered under the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002</i> , certify that: *(a) The land shown in the plan was surveyed in accordance with the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017</i> , is accurate and the survey was completed on or *(b) The part of the land shown in the plan (*being/*excluding ** LOTS 620 - 625) was surveyed in accordance with the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017</i> , the part surveyed is accurate and the survey was completed on, ... 22/06/2022 the part not surveyed was compiled in accordance with that Regulation, or *(c) The land shown in this plan was compiled in accordance with the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017</i> . Datum Line: X-Y Type: *Urban/*Rural The terrain is *Level-Undulating / *Steep-Mountainous. Signature:  Dated: 30/01/2023 Surveyor Identification No: 8860 Surveyor registered under the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002</i> *Strike out inappropriate words. **Specify the land actually surveyed or specify any land shown in the plan that is not the subject of the survey.	Crown Lands NSW/Western Lands Office Approval I, (Authorised Officer) in approving this plan certify that all necessary approvals in regard to the allocation of the land shown herein have been given. Signature: Date: File Number: Office:		
Subdivision Certificate I, *Authorised Person/*General Manager/*Registered Certifier, certify that the provisions of s.6.15 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> have been satisfied in relation to the proposed subdivision, new road or reserve set out herein. Signature: Registration number: Consent Authority: Date of endorsement: Subdivision Certificate number: File number: *Strike through if inapplicable.		Statements of intention to dedicate public roads create public reserves and drainage reserves, acquire/resume land. IT IS INTENDED TO ACQUIRE LOTS 620-625 UNDER THE ROADS ACT, 1993	
Plans used in the preparation of survey/compilation. CP520-1820 CP749-1820 DP706705 CP319-1820 DP765639 DP1032974 DP1126938 DP1268334 DP1252696 DP634827		Signatures, Seals and Section 88B Statements should appear on PLAN FORM 6A	
Surveyor's Reference: C1042-57589			

Reg:R069055 /Doc:DP 1291097 P /Rev:06-Feb-2023 /NSW LRS /Prt:07-Feb-
 © Office of the Registrar-General /Src:PORTAL /Ref:lrs:eplan-eplan I

PLAN FORM 6A (2019)		DEPOSITED PLAN ADMINISTRATION SHEET		Sheet 2 of 2 sheet(s)																																																																			
Registered:		06/02/2023	Office Use Only	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">DP1291097</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em;"> This sheet is for the provision of the following information as required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A schedule of lots and addresses - See 60(c) <i>SSI Regulation 2017</i> Statements of intention to create and release affecting interests in accordance with section 88B <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> Signatures and seals- see 195D <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> Any information which cannot fit in the appropriate panel of sheet 1 of the administration sheets. </div>																																																																			
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Caravan Park Rd
West Rd
Bridge Rd

9.11 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF MAY 2023

File Number: RPT/23/312

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

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

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

Summary

For the month of May 2023, a total of fifteen (15) Development Applications and two (2) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined Development Applications was \$756,727.00. This brings the year to date total to fifty-seven (57) Development Applications and nineteen (19) S4.55 applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$9,064,786.00.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the report for the Delegated Authority Approvals for the month of May 2023.
- b) Publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) Calls a Division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a list of Development Applications as tabled in the Attachment, determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning for the month of May 2023, hence complying with the requirements under section 3.20 of the Office of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Program.

Conclusion

The total value of determinations was \$756,727.00 for the month of May 2023. The average determination time was 70 days.

Attachments

1. Delegated Authority Report May 2023 

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2023

FILE NUMBER	APPLICANT	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	VALUE (EX GST)	DETERMINATION DATE	ACTIVE DAYS
DA2023/036 PAN 314791	Hatch Planning Pty Ltd Matt Jackson	489A Boeill Creek Road Lot 2 DP 1217509 Boeill Creek	Shed	\$54,045.00	01/05/2023	35
DA2023/037 PAN 316459	The Shed Company Mildura – Sherryn Pitt	25 Adelaide Street Lot 5 DP 653454 Wentworth	Storage shed	\$36,080.00	01/05/2023	34
DA2023/038 PAN 310720	Mildura Building Designs - Darren Lambert	33 Wentworth Street Lot 2 DP 1268924 Wentworth	Dwelling with garage & shed	\$800,000.00	02/05/2023	34
DA2023/039 PAN 316836	Hatch Planning Pty Ltd Matt Jackson	11 Casuarina Way Lot 25 DP 1098922 Buronga	Shade sail	\$7,623.00	03/05/2023	34
DA2023/041 PAN 317783	The Shed Company Mildura – Sherryn Pitt	Yorke Drive Lot 33 DP 1285900 Gol Gol	Storage shed	\$130,780.00	05/05/2023	32
DA2023/040 PAN 316503	John Zudetich	12 Crane Drive Lot 5 DP 702012 Buronga	Shed	\$32,450.00	08/05/2023	37

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2023

DA2023/022 PAN 301886	Mallee Sheds Pty Ltd – Jodie Stockman	35 Midway Drive Lot 47 DP 1058775 Buronga	Shade structure over playground	\$22,497.00	11/05/2023	44
S4-55/2022/037 PAN 259155	Hatch Planning Pty Ltd Matt Jackson	300B Downham Road Lot 2 DP 1061095 Wentworth	Modify DA15/091 Pump site & irrigation pump line – Amend pump design	\$0.00	11/05/2023	59
DA2023/042 PAN 319143	The Shed Company Mildura – Sherryn Pitt	64 Hendy Road Lot 2 DP 1253140 Buronga	Extension to existing shed	\$62,250.00	12/05/2023	36
DA2023/034 PAN 309287	The Shed Company Mildura – Sherryn Pitt	213-215 Adams Street Lot 13 Section 45 DP 759074 Wentworth	Storage shed	\$71,185.00	17/05/2023	30
DA2021/115 PRE PORTAL	Price Merrett	Channel Road Lot 2 DP 1266931 & 215 Channel Road Lot 25 DP 804043 Curlwaa	Boundary adjustment of two (2) Lots into two (2) Lot Subdivision	\$0.00	18/05/2023	654
DA2023/043 PAN 321550	James Golsworthy Consulting – James Golsworthy	High Darling Road Lot 1 DP 1166449 Wentworth	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	\$0.00	18/05/2023	35
DA2023/045 PAN 323928	Hatch Planning Pty Ltd Matt Jackson	246A Pomona Road Lot 4 DP 1255922 Pomona	Shed	\$38,780.00	23/05/2023	27


WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL
 WORTH THE DRIVE
 DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2023

DA2023/044 PAN 316358	Mallee Sheds Pty Ltd – Jodie Stockman	Alfred Elms Road Lot 2 DP 1277386 Trentham Cliffs	Pump shelter	\$82,615.00	24/05/2023	40
DA2023/047 PAN 322259	Mallee Sheds Pty Ltd – Jodie Stockman	9 Rose Street Lot 733 DP 756961 Buronga	Extension to existing storage shed	\$19,402.00	25/05/2023	22
DA2023/046 PAN 325796	Hatch Planning Pty Ltd Matt Jackson	514 Silver City Highway Lot 1131 DP 720092 Mourquong	Office & Additional storage (Shipping container)	\$119,020.00	29/05/2023	27
S4-55/2023/017 PAN 259155	Wendy Davison	Pooncarie Road Lot 8 DP 1270097 Wentworth	Dwelling with garage & storage shed – Amend storage shed location	\$0.00	30/05/2023	14

9.12 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - JUNE 2023

File Number: RPT/23/302

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 May/June 2023 and the planned activities for June 2023.

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

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

Project and Works Update for May/June 2023

Roads	<p><u>River Road Flood Repairs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilisation of existing sub base has been completed, with surface preparation, bitumen seal and line marking to be completed by the end of June and reopened to all traffic. <p><u>Maintenance Grading</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned maintenance grading was undertaken on the following roads: Karpa Kora and Ivanhoe, Polia Gol Gol Roads. <p><u>Boeill Creek Road Flood Repairs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stabilisation of existing sub base has been completed, with surface preparation, bitumen seal and line marking to be completed by the end of June and reopened to all traffic. <p><u>Arumpo 4 Km Upgrade to Seal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line marking was completed on the 29 May 2023. <p><u>Cudmore Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete re-sheet of entire length of the Road with class 4 road base to provide all weather access for the residents to be completed by the end of June. <p><u>High Darling Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage/formation works are being undertaken on a 4km section including replacement of 4 stock grids as part of the Roads to
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	<p>Recovery Program.</p> <p><u>Anabranch Mail Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstatement of two cuttings north of the Milpara Road, as a result of the flooding <p><u>Old Wentworth Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstatement of the two cuttings at Three Mile Creek and Fletchers Creek. A 1.5m diameter culvert has been installed at the Three Mile Creek to replace the existing 0.6m, as an upgrade to cater for future flooding.
Projects	<p><u>Buronga Landfill Machinery Shed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plumbing & electrical work completed. <p><u>Gol Gol East Raw Water System</u> <i>Engineering assessment completed early May for with additional required structural changes identified</i> Preliminary electrical works to commenced.</p> <p><u>Junction Island Bridge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tenders closed. Tendering process to continue. <p><u>James King Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining wall design received. <p><u>Pooncarie Campground Toilets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fabrication of amenities block to continue. <p><u>Jockey Changerooms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racing Club Committee met to review plans 5 June 2023. <p><u>Pink Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment to be reviewed for construction works. <p><u>Wentworth EDS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender plans advertised end of May. <p><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional materials delivered to site. Fire and irrigation tanks installed. Stormwater infrastructure commenced on western end of Willow Bend. <p><u>Amenities Blocks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-floor works commenced late May. <p><u>Wurlong Drainage Extension</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wurlong stormwater drain extension complete. <p><u>Pooncarie Telegraph Building</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works to be complete prior to end of financial year.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Buronga Toilet Block</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation of electrical and sewerage components undertaken. <u>Buronga Shared Path</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender received and evaluation undertaken. <u>Pine Road Shared Path</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender received and evaluation undertaken. <u>Wood Street Shared Path</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender received and evaluation undertaken. <u>Wood Street & Gol Gol North Road Shared Path</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender received and evaluation undertaken <u>Wood Street Road Widening & Kerb</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification to residents, project to be awarded. <u>Wurlong Basin Excavation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulk earth works complete, stormwater main re-laid on new alignment. <u>James King Park Tennis Court Fence Replacement</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works commenced 8th May - Final works completed 16th June. <u>Wentworth Pool</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floors inside main building to be painting complete. <u>Wentworth Jail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painting & small repair works in warden's accommodation complete.
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Projects and Works scheduled for July 2023

Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Heavy Grading</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program, heavy grading works will continue on the High Darling Road. <u>Pooncarie Menindee Road</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant and equipment will be relocated early July so that works can re commence on the construction of the 24.5km project. Estimated sealing of this will be early October to meet funding requirements. <u>Anabranch Flooding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstatement works will continue on the Old Broken Hill Road, Windamingle Road, Roo Roo Road and Milpara Roads.
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Buronga Landfill Machinery Shed</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor site levelling around shed to be completed. <u>Junction Island Bridge</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender process to finalise.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender report and recommendation to July Council meeting. <p><u>James King Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile and send request for quotes for REF. <p><u>Pooncarie Campground Toilets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabrication of amenities building to continue. • Land capability assessment to be undertaken to inform septic system design. <p><u>Pink Lake</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further preparation of design plans and specifications to be undertaken prior to tender. <p><u>Wentworth EDS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of tenders and report to be provided to July Council Meeting. <p><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater works to continue post wet weather. • Existing asbestos stormwater material to be removed post wet weather. <p><u>Amenities Blocks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining sub-floor works to be completed. • Walls to be built post sub-floor. • Trusses to be installed approximately end of July. <p><u>Buronga Toilet Block</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive complete designs, with these components to be sent out for quotation. <p><u>Buronga Shared Path</u> Evaluation completed, recommendation to July Council meeting.</p> <p><u>Pine Road Shared Path</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation completed recommendation to award project to be confirmed. <p><u>Wood Street Shared Path</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation completed recommendation to July Council meeting. <p><u>Wood Street & Gol Gol North Road Shared Path</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation completed recommendation to July Council meeting. <p><u>Wood Street Road Widening</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor Delayed on current works due to wet weather, revised start time 10th July. <p><u>Wurlong Basin Excavation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final trim and stormwater pits to be completed
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Flood Recovery Works

Flood Recovery

Junction Park

- Lookout tower painting completed.
- Replacement seating installed – NFA
- Electrical upgrades completed except for 2 x switchboards.

Fotherby Park

- Underground power repair to Possum Statue restored.
- Replacement seating installed.

P.S Ruby

- Missing mooring poles installed.
- Contractor engaged to clean up Pigeons defecation. Works haven't commenced.

Wentworth Ski Reserve

- Replacement toilet block ordered – arrival ETA mid-August.
- RFQ to rebuild toilet block issued – successful contractor given 1-month to complete works.
- Toilet block structural completion mid-late September, electrical work to follow immediately after. Opening ETA October.
- Boat ramp solar light, pole received still awaiting solar head – should arrive shortly.



Wentworth Wharf & Riverfront

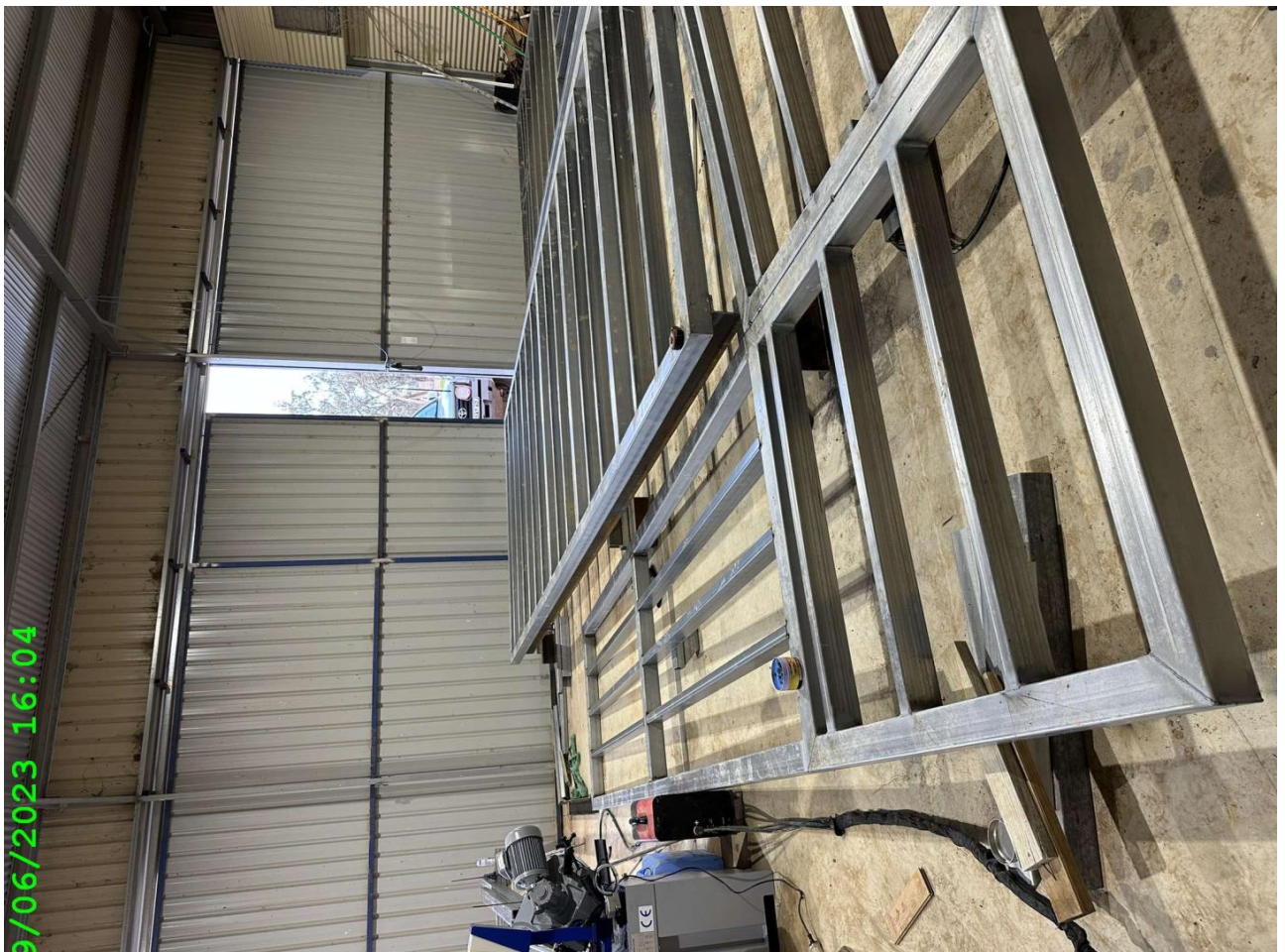
- Underground power supply lost to the park lamp posts, lights under the wharf and some ground lights. Contractor to undertake repairs once higher priority Council works are complete.
- Park lights come under Essential Energy who are rectifying the issue – Essential Energy relinquished ownership, now a Council asset. Repairs will be undertaken with above electrical repairs.
- Replacement seating delivered and installed – NFA

Flood Affected Sign Replacement – Various Locations

- Affected signs removed.
- Signs replaced – NFA

Attachments

1. Wurlong Basin Works & River Road Repair Works 
2. Junction Park Lookout Painting & Amenities Blocks Fabrication [↓](#) 



10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 RECOGNITION OF BRIAN AND THE LATE HELEN GROGAN OAM

File Number: RPT/23/299

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

Motion

That Wentworth Shire Council recognise the contribution of Brian and the late Helen Grogan in bringing the Junction Island Walking Trail and Confluence Platform to fruition with the placing of an appropriately worded plaque to be mounted on the platform structure.

Background

Brian Grogan OAM as Chair of the Greater Murray Darling Junction Interpretive Facility Inc (GMDJIF Inc) has been the driving strength and guiding Chair of this organisation since its formal creation in 2016. The group was meeting informally for several years prior to 2016.

The vision of Brian Grogan and Steve Hederics the initial instigators of the project, was to promote the significance of the confluence of Australia's two greatest rivers, the Murray and the Darling, both of which merge at the historic location of Wentworth. Recognising the significance of the confluence and surrounds in terms of the nation's exploration, indigenous, cultural and industrial history, Brian Grogan and Steve Hederics formed a community interest group to become known as the Greater Murray Darling Junction Interpretive Facility Inc (GMDJIF Inc). The initial big vision was for the development of an Interpretive Centre supported by a self-guided interpretive walking trail to the confluence and linking to a significant viewing platform. The perception (and anecdotal research undertaken at the time) concluded the development of such an attraction would attract and educate national and international visitors to the region. The confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers could be considered the heart of the Murray Darling Basin and therefore the logical site for an Interpretive Centre.

Whilst the big vision of an Interpretive Centre has not progressed to date, the development and progression of the footbridge, interpretive walking trail and viewing platform have all achieved funding and are at various stages of completion and installation. The vision of an interpretive centre is one which should remain on the Shire agenda.

The GMDJIF Inc determined at its May 2023 meeting that with funding achieved through various grants and developmental plans finalised, it has done all it can do and is therefore handing over completion of the operational component of this project to the Wentworth Shire Council.

It has been through the professional guidance and prolonged diligence of Brian (ably supported by Helen as early minute Secretary) that this project has persisted and been able to achieve the outcomes to date.

The general committee have witnessed directly the enthusiasm and dedication Brian has had for this project, he encouraged persistence at times when morale was waning and at times when progress was gradual, often stalled by design, compliance and funding requirements.

Therefore, on behalf of the GMDJIF Inc group and as a Wentworth Shire Council Councillor, I would like to propose that appropriate recognition is warranted marking the significance and guiding influence that Brian Grogan OAM and his late wife Helen Grogan (as early minute Secretary) had in bringing this project to fruition.

Attachments

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recommendation

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

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

12.1 PT2223/10 Wentworth Flood Study. (RPT/23/309)

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 PT2223/12 Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant - Drainage Works. (RPT/23/333)

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 PT2223/15 - Construction of Shared Paths Gol Gol. (RPT/23/332)

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

12.4 PT2223/04 - Construction of the Buronga Wetlands to Riverfront Shared Path. (RPT/23/303)

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 PT2223/10 WENTWORTH FLOOD STUDY

File Number: RPT/23/309

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Strategic Planning Officer

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

Strategy: 3.3 Minimise the impact on the natural environment

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 PT2223/12 GOL GOL WATER TREATMENT PLANT - DRAINAGE WORKS

File Number: RPT/23/333

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Michael Hilliard - Project Engineer

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.

12.3 PT2223/15 - CONSTRUCTION OF SHARED PATHS GOL GOL

File Number: RPT/23/332

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Ryan Thomson - Project Engineer

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

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

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 PT2223/04 - CONSTRUCTION OF THE BURONGA WETLANDS TO RIVERFRONT SHARED PATH

File Number: RPT/23/303

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Ryan Thomson - Project Engineer

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

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

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

19 July 2023