



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of Wentworth Shire Council will be held in the **WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SHORT STREET, WENTWORTH**, commencing at **6:30 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

29 JUNE 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| ITEM | SUBJECT | PAGE NO |
|------|---|---------|
| 1 | OPENING OF MEETING | 1 |
| 2 | PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY..... | 1 |
| 3 | APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE | 1 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS | 1 |
| 5 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | 1 |
| 6 | OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS | 50 |
| 6.1 | Outstanding Matters from Previous Meetings..... | 50 |
| 7 | MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS | 53 |
| 7.1 | Mayoral Report | 53 |
| 8 | REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES | 55 |
| | Nil | |
| 9 | REPORTS TO COUNCIL | 56 |
| 9.1 | General Managers Report..... | 56 |
| 9.2 | Policy Review - Office of General Manager | 75 |
| 9.3 | Releasing Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon | 82 |
| 9.4 | Determination of Councillor Remuneration for 2022/2023 | 88 |
| 9.5 | Endorsement of Integrated Planning and Reporting Documentation | 90 |
| 9.6 | Policy Review - Finance & Policy Department..... | 396 |
| 9.7 | Updated Disclosure of Interest Returns..... | 440 |
| 9.8 | Monthly Finance Report | 453 |
| 9.9 | Monthly Investment Report | 457 |
| 9.10 | Write off of Doubtful Debts | 464 |
| 9.11 | Department Health and Planning Policy Review | 466 |
| 9.12 | DA2022/002 8 Lot Subdivision 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol..... | 496 |
| 9.13 | DA2022/021 Dwelling with Garage 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth..... | 532 |
| 9.14 | Delegated Authority Approvals as at end of May 2022 | 560 |
| 9.15 | Policy Review - Department Roads & Engineering..... | 563 |
| 9.16 | Project & Works Report Update - June 2022..... | 571 |
| 10 | NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE | 580 |

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| 10.1 | Upgrade of Access Road and Walking Track at the Coomealla Golf Club Wetlands..... | 580 |
| 11 | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION.... | 582 |
| 12 | OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL | 584 |
| 12.1 | Extension to Wentworth Rowing Club - PT2122/16 | 584 |
| 12.2 | Tronox Agreement | 585 |
| 13 | CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING | 586 |
| | NEXT MEETING | 586 |

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 18 May 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 17 June 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 20 June 2022 be confirmed as circulated.



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

18 MAY 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| ITEM | SUBJECT | PAGE NO |
|------|--|---------|
| 1 | OPENING OF MEETING | 1 |
| 2 | PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY | 1 |
| 3 | APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE | 1 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS | 1 |
| 5 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | 1 |
| 6 | OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS | 2 |
| 6.1 | Outstanding Matters from Previous Meetings | 2 |
| 7 | MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS | 3 |
| 7.1 | Mayoral Report | 3 |
| 8 | REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES | 4 |
| | Nil | |
| 9 | REPORTS TO COUNCIL | 5 |
| 9.1 | General Managers Report | 5 |
| 9.2 | Policy Review - Office of General Manager | 6 |
| 9.3 | Monthly Finance Report | 7 |
| 9.4 | Monthly Investment Report | 8 |
| 9.5 | Policy Review - Department Finance and Policy | 9 |
| 9.6 | Endorsement of Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Disability Inclusion Plan and Resource Strategy for Public Exhibition | 10 |
| 9.7 | AF003 Requests for Financial Assistance | 13 |
| 9.8 | Policy Review - Department Health and Planning | 14 |
| 9.9 | Delegated Authority Approvals as at end of April 2022 | 15 |
| 9.10 | Flood Risk Management Committee Expressions of Interest | 16 |
| 9.11 | Policy Review - Department Roads & Engineering | 17 |
| 9.12 | Project & Works Report Update - May 2022 | 18 |
| 9.13 | Proposed Procurement Method for Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Project | 19 |
| 10 | NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE | 20 |
| 11 | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION | 22 |
| 12 | OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL | 24 |

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 12.1 | Pooncarie Aerodrome - Design, Supply & Installation of the Aerodrome Lighting - PT2122/15 | 24 |
| 12.2 | Pooncarie - Menindee Road Reconstruction - Plant Hire Tenders..... | 25 |
| 9.10 | Flood Risk Management Committee Expressions of Interest | 27 |
| 13 | CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING | 28 |
| | NEXT MEETING | 28 |

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:31pm.

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

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

STAFF: Matthew Carlin (Director Health and Planning)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Voleak Sroeung (Governance Officer)
Samantha Wall (Administration Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 April 2022 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 April 2022 be confirmed as amended.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/22/289

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

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

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

Summary

The Outstanding Matters 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 11 May 2022.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 11 May 2022.

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/290

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

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/60

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

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

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

Summary

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

1. OLG Circulars
Circular 22-09 – 22-11
2. Meetings
As listed
3. Upcoming meetings or events
As listed
4. Other items of note
Anzac Day Services

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

9.2 Policy Review - Office of General Manager

File Number: RPT/22/301

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 21 are the responsibility of the Office of the General Manager.

For this Council meeting the Office of the General Manager has reviewed five policies and are presenting three to Council for adoption and two for rescission.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Approve
WR003 - Staff Learning and Development Policy,
WR004 - Contractor Occupational Workplace Health & Safety Policy and
WR005 - Workplace Health and Safety Policy
- b) Rescind GOV014 - Council Charter and Values Policy and
SP001 - Amalgamations and Boundary Changes

Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Approve
WR003 - Staff Learning and Development Policy,
WR004 - Contractor Occupational Workplace Health & Safety Policy and
WR005 - Workplace Health and Safety Policy
- b) Rescind GOV014 - Council Charter and Values Policy and
SP001 - Amalgamations and Boundary Changes

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Monthly Finance Report

File Number: RPT/22/308

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 2022 were \$320,465.54. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 78.53%. For comparison purposes 78.80% of the levy had been collected at the end of April 2021. Council currently has \$43,064,171.86 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 Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 Monthly Investment Report

File Number: RPT/22/309

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

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

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

Summary

As at 30 April 2022 Council had \$37 million invested in term deposits and \$6,064,171.86 in other cash investments. Council received \$7,251.39 from its investments for the month of April 2022.

In April 2022 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 0.95% and it currently has \$8,278,145.40 of internal restrictions and \$28,319,519.92 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

Moved Cr Cooper, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Policy Review - Department Finance and Policy

File Number: RPT/22/306

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 73 policies in place of which 25 are the responsibility of the Finance & Policy Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed one policy and is introducing a new policy for Council's consideration.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the revised policy GOV014 – Related Party Disclosure Policy

That Council adopt the proposed new policy GOV025 – Contract Management Policy in draft format and place it on public exhibition for 28 days as required by the Local Government Act.

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policies:

- a) AF003 – Financial Assistance Policy
- b) GOV024 – Credit Card Policy

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the revised policy GOV014 – Related Party Disclosure Policy

That Council adopt the proposed new policy GOV025 – Contract Management Policy in draft format and place it on public exhibition for 28 days as required by the Local Government Act.

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policies:

- a) AF003 – Financial Assistance Policy
- b) GOV024 – Credit Card Policy

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Linklater

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Endorsement of Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Disability Inclusion Plan and Resource Strategy for Public Exhibition.

File Number: RPT/22/307

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

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

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

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Act, Council must review the following Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework that supports the Community Strategic Plan:

- Delivery Program;
- Operational Plan;
- Resource Strategy; and
- Disability Inclusion Plan

The revised Community Strategic Plan was adopted by Council in draft format at the April 2022 Ordinary Council meeting and is currently on public exhibition.

Recommendation

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Workforce Management Plan

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Delivery Program, which incorporates the 2022 Operational Plan and budget including:

- 2022-2023 Annual Statement of Revenue
- 2022-2023 Annual Fees & Charges Schedule

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

That Council endorses the proposed \$8,000,000 of new borrowings

That Council gives notice of its intention to adopt the following rates and annual charges, which are contained within the draft 2022-2023 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 0.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART);
- To increase waste water access charges by 2.50%;
- To increase raw and filtered water access charges by 2.50%;
- To increase domestic waste charges by 2.50%;
- To increase water consumption charges by 2.50%
- To levy the fees and charges established in Part B of the Annual Statement of Revenue; and
- To charge the maximum interest of 6% on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

Motion

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Workforce Management Plan

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Delivery Program, which incorporates the 2022 Operational Plan and budget including:

- 2022-2023 Annual Statement of Revenue
- 2022-2023 Annual Fees & Charges Schedule

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

That Council endorses the proposed \$8,000,000 of new borrowings

That Council gives notice of its intention to adopt the following rates and annual charges, which are contained within the draft 2022-2023 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 0.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART);
- To increase waste water access charges by 2.50%;
- To increase raw and filtered water access charges by 0.70%;
- To increase domestic waste charges by 2.50%;
- To increase water consumption charges by 0.70%
- To levy the fees and charges established in Part B of the Annual Statement of Revenue; and
- To charge the maximum interest of 6% on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Rodda

Lost

Council Resolution

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Workforce Management Plan

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Delivery Program, which incorporates the 2022 Operational Plan and budget including:

- 2022-2023 Annual Statement of Revenue
- 2022-2023 Annual Fees & Charges Schedule

That Council endorses for public exhibition the draft 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

That Council endorses the proposed \$8,000,000 of new borrowings

That Council gives notice of its intention to adopt the following rates and annual charges, which are contained within the draft 2022-2023 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 0.70% rate pegged amount determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART);
- To increase waste water access charges by 2.50%;
- To increase raw and filtered water access charges by 2.50%;
- To increase domestic waste charges by 2.50%;
- To increase water consumption charges by 2.50%
- To levy the fees and charges established in Part B of the Annual Statement of Revenue; and
- To charge the maximum interest of 6% on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Linklater

CARRIED

For the Motion :

Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone, Evans, Heywood and Linklater.

Against the Motion:

Clr.s Nichols and Rodda.

9.7 AF003 Requests for Financial Assistance

File Number: RPT/22/330

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

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

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

Summary

Council has provided an allocation of \$160,000.00 for the 2021/22 financial year for the consideration by Council, for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance. In this financial year, the total value of request granted so far totals \$136,899.00.

The total value of requests for this funding application period totals \$8,092.00, which if granted in full, would leave a balance in the Donations, Contributions and Grants fund of \$15,009.00

Recommendation

That Council having reviewed each of the applications approve option:

- (a) Granting the full value of all requests for a total of \$8,092.00

Council Resolution

That Council having reviewed each of the applications approve option:

- (a) Granting the full value of all requests for a total of \$8,092.00

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 Policy Review - Department Health and Planning

File Number: RPT/22/297

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

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

After each general election of Councillors, the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 73 policies in place of which 15 are the responsibility of the Health and Planning Department.

For this Council meeting Health and Planning has reviewed five (5) policies which are now presented for consideration.

Recommendation

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policies:

- a) PR016 Mobile Food Vendors Policy
- b) PR018 Provision of Electricity Supply and Telecommunication Service for Subdivisions

That Council rescind the following policies:

- a) PR001 Development Guidelines – Agricultural Buffers
- b) PR005 Water Control and Flood Prone Land
- c) PR006 Flood Liable Land

Council Resolution

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policies:

- a) PR016 Mobile Food Vendors Policy
- b) PR018 Provision of Electricity Supply and Telecommunication Service for Subdivisions

That Council rescind the following policies:

- a) PR001 Development Guidelines – Agricultural Buffers
- b) PR005 Water Control and Flood Prone Land
- c) PR006 Flood Liable Land

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 Delegated Authority Approvals as at end of April 2022

File Number: RPT/22/314

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Administration Officer

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

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

Summary

For the month of April 2022, a total of nine (9) Development Applications and four (4) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$767,448.00. This brings the year to date total to thirty-six (36) Development Applications and twelve (12) S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$5,192,969.30

Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of April 2022.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of April 2022.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr. Nichols

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, Evans, Heywood, Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.***

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

9.10 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

File Number: RPT/22/320

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

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

Strategy: 3.3 Prepare for natural disasters, biosecurity risks and climate change

Summary

At the March Ordinary meeting of Council it was resolved that the Expressions of Interest for the Flood Risk Management Committee be re-advertised for the purpose of seeking a statement from interested parties detailing skills, qualifications or experience that can be brought to the committee.

The Expression of Interest was re-advertised and two (2) submissions were received.

Recommendation

That Council select three (3) community members for representation on the Flood Risk Management Committee from all Expression of Interest submissions received since November 2021.

Amendment**Council Resolution**

That this report be moved into the Closed Session. This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and (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.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.11 Policy Review - Department Roads & Engineering

File Number: RPT/22/304

Responsible Officer: Bernard Rigby - Manager Engineering Services

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 8 are the responsibility of the Roads & Engineering Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed three policies and are presenting them to Council for adopting.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following revised policies:

- a) PR009 – Liquid Trade Waste Policy
- b) PR010 – Kerbing, Guttering and Footpaths Policy
- c) PR017 – Weed Inspection Policy

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the following revised policies:

- a) PR009 – Liquid Trade Waste Policy
- b) PR010 – Kerbing, Guttering and Footpaths Policy
- c) PR017 – Weed Inspection Policy

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12 Project & Works Report Update - May 2022

File Number: RPT/22/303

Responsible Officer: Bernard Rigby - Manager Engineering Services

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

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

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the month of April 2022 and the planned activities for May 2022.

Recommendation

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

Amendment**Council Resolution**

That Council

- a) Notes the major works undertaken in April and the scheduled works for the following months.
- b) Request report on the Caravan Park redevelopment delivery options be prepared for Council in the event the current arrangement do not eventuate.

Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.13 Proposed Procurement method for Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment Project

File Number: RPT/22/348

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

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

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

Summary

Council's Procurement Policy – GOV005 states that Council's preferred tendering method is an open tender process and that any alternative method requires a resolution from Council.

Discussions by the General Manager with the project manager GHD Architects has determined that a multi staged tender process would be the best option for the Civic Centre Project.

A multi stage process involves the call for expressions of interest from potential contractors. These EOI's are assessed and a short list of contractors is prepared with those contractors then asked to participate in a closed tender process.

Recommendation

That Council admits the late supplementary report for consideration.

That Council resolves to undertake a multi staged procurement process for the Wentworth Civic Centre.

Council Resolution

That Council admits the late supplementary report for consideration.

That Council resolves to undertake a multi staged procurement process for the Wentworth Civic Centre.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 THEGOA LAGOON

Cr Susan Nichols requested that staff investigate the possibility of turning on the regulator outlet at Thegoa Lagoon.

Mayor Elstone advised that it is a DPIE Water decision

10.2 SECTION OF CURB AND GUTTER MISSING ALONG WOOD STREET, GOL GOL

Cr Daniel Linklater advised that a section of curb and gutter is missing along 74-78 Wood Street. Can this be made into a project?

10.3 NATURE STRIP IN DARETON NEED TO BE TIDIED UP

Cr Peter Crisp had asked in a previous meeting if nature strip sections in Dareton can be slashed so that the footpath can be cleared. When will this be completed?

10.4 CUDMORE ROAD NEEDS GRADING IN POMONA

Cr Steve Cooper asked if Cudmore Road in Pomona can be graded as a couple with a young family have advised that they have been bogged a few times and have never seen the roads being graded in the time they have lived there.

10.5 CURLWAA COMPOSTING BUSINESS

Cr Steve Cooper sought an update around a business at 2559 Silver City Highway, Curlwaa.

The Director of Health and Planning advised that he has already made contact with the owners and will continue to follow up with the issue.

10.6 REQUEST FOR DETAILED PROGRESS UPDATES OF PROJECTS AND FUNDS

Cr Brian Beaumont advised that at the March advisory meeting, he requested a detailed report of funds and progress updates on Council projects and has not received it yet.

Mayor Elstone advised that the General Manager was going to provide this report so this matter will need to be followed up.

10.7 WESTERN DIVISION CONFERENCE BRIEFING

Cr Greg Evans acknowledged that the Mayor and the General Manager attended the Western Division Conference and asked if the Mayor could provide an update about this conference.

Mayor Elstone advised that the Conference went really well and there were many good speakers at the event.

10.8 OLD SERVICE STATION AT THE BURONGA ROUNDABOUT

Cr Jo Rodda asked if the owners of the service station could be notified to clean up the overgrown grass at the site as it is not a good look for the Shire. If not, Council

might have to use our own resources to clean it up.

The Director of Health and Planning advised that he has tried to make contact but it is difficult to figure out who the owner of the site is since it is no longer Caltex.

10.9 PROGRESS UPDATE ON WORKS AT POONCARIE AND ANABRANCH HALLS

Cr Jo Rodda asked if the issues at Pooncarie and Anabranh Halls have been addressed.

The Director of Roads and Engineering advised that the works at Pooncarie had been completed and that he will investigate the status of the Anabranh Hall and provide an update.

10.10 WENTWORTH EDS

Cr Greg Evans asked that due to ongoing issues with the Wentworth EDS could Council staff investigate the possibility of utilising the pump out station at the Wentworth Wharf to help cater for the expected increase in houseboat traffic when the Mildura weir is removed for maintenance in June.

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 Pooncarie Aerodrome - Design, Supply & Installation of the Aerodrome Lighting - PT2122/15. (RPT/22/305)

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 Pooncarie - Menindee Road Reconstruction - Plant Hire Tenders. (RPT/22/317)

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

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

Council Resolution

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

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 Pooncarie Aerodrome - Design, Supply & Installation of the Aerodrome Lighting - PT2122/15. (RPT/22/305)

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 Pooncarie - Menindee Road Reconstruction - Plant Hire Tenders. (RPT/22/317)

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. Evans, Seconded Cr Cooper

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 POONCARIE AERODROME - DESIGN, SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF THE AERODROME LIGHTING - PT2122/15

File Number: RPT/22/305

Responsible Officer: Bernard Rigby - Manager Engineering Services

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The acting General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 178(1) accepted the tender from Advanced Airport Lighting to carry out the design, supply and installation of the Aerodrome Lighting for Contract PT2122/15, in the amount of \$462,935.00 including GST and authorises the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the council seal.

12.2 Pooncarie - Menindee Road Reconstruction - Plant Hire Tenders

File Number: RPT/22/317

Responsible Officer: Bernard Rigby - Manager Engineering Services
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Allan Eastmond - Manager Works
Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The acting General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Section 178(1)(a) award the following tenders authorising the use of contractors in accordance with their Evaluation Score as nominated.

PT2122/09: Water Truck hire rate

- BOTT Civil/Earthmoving (13,000ltr)
- Bulpunga Enterprises (14,000ltr)
- BOTT Civil/Earthmoving (13,000ltr)
- GBM Consulting (1) (14,000ltr)
- GBM Consulting (1) (14,000ltr)
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (1) (14,000ltr)
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (1) (14,000ltr)
- Garraway Earthmoving (not provided)
- Dodd - Stephen Lewis (14,000ltr)
- Martin Earthworkx (14,000ltr)
- Garraway Earthmoving (14,000ltr)

PT2122/11: Pad Foot Roller Hire rate

- Garraway Earthmoving item 1
- Garraway Earthmoving item 2 Waters Excavations
- BOTT Civil/Earthmoving GBM Consulting item 1
- GBM Consulting item 2

PT2122/12: Tip truck and Super Dog Combination hire rate

- GBM Consulting (32t) item 1
- GBM Consulting (32t) item 2
- GBM Consulting (32t) item 3
- BOTT Civil/Earthmoving (25t)
- Martin Earthworx (28t)
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (34t) item 1

- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (32.5t) item 2
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (32.5t) item 3
- Bulpunga Enterprises (28t)
- GBM Consulting (32t) item 1
- GBM Consulting (32t) item 2
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (1) (32.5t-34t)
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (2) (32.5t-34t)
- Mallee Earthmoving & Excavation (3) (32.5t-34t)
- Dodd - Stephen Lewis (1) (25+t)
- Dodd - Stephen Lewis (2) (25+t)
- Dodd - Stephen Lewis (3) (25+t)

9.10 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

File Number: RPT/22/320

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

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

Strategy: 3.3 Prepare for natural disasters, biosecurity risks and climate change

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(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and (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 Acting General Manager Advised that Council appointed Robert Rigby, Michelle Kelly and David Buck to be the community representatives on the Flood Risk Management Committee.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

Meeting Closed at 8:24pm

NEXT MEETING

29 June 2022

.....
CHAIR



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

17 JUNE 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| ITEM | SUBJECT | PAGE NO |
|------|--|---------|
| 1 | OPENING OF MEETING | 1 |
| 2 | PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY..... | 1 |
| 3 | APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE..... | 1 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS | 1 |
| 5 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | 1 |
| 6 | OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS | 1 |
| 7 | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION..... | 2 |
| 8 | OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL | 4 |
| | 7.1 Willow Bend Caravan Contract..... | 4 |
| 9 | CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING | 5 |
| | NEXT MEETING | 5 |

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 10:13AM

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| COUNCILLORS: | Councillor Tim Elstone (Mayor) Councillor Brian Beaumont Councillor Steve Cooper (Via Video Conference) Councillor Peter Crisp (Via Video Conference) Councillor Greg Evans Councillor Steve Heywood Councillor Daniel Linklater Councillor Susan Nichols Councillor Jo Rodda |
| STAFF: | Ken Ross (General Manager) Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy) Taygun Saritoprak (Senior Civil Engineer) Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager) |

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Director Roads And Engineering has declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7.1 as his son in law is a Contractor and as such the Director Roads and Engineering has been precluded from the entire Tender process for this item.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil

7 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recommendation

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

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

7.1 Willow Bend Caravan Contract. (RPT/22/372)

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

7.1 WILLOW BEND CARAVAN CONTRACT

File Number: RPT/22/372

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

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

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

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 in the Closed session of Council no resolution was made for this item due to awaiting further information and the Mayor called an Extraordinary meeting on Monday 20 June 2022 at 2pm.

9 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 2:21pm

NEXT MEETING

20 June 2022

.....
CHAIR



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

20 JUNE 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| ITEM | SUBJECT | PAGE NO |
|------|--|---------|
| 1 | OPENING OF MEETING | 1 |
| 2 | PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY..... | 1 |
| 3 | APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE..... | 1 |
| 4 | DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS | 1 |
| 5 | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | 1 |
| 6 | OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS | 1 |
| 7 | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION..... | 2 |
| 8 | OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL | 4 |
| | 7.1 Willow Bend Caravan Contract..... | 4 |
| 9 | CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING | 5 |
| | NEXT MEETING | 5 |

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 2:13pm

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

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

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Director Roads And Engineering has declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7.1 as his son in law is a Contractor and as such the Director Roads and Engineering has been precluded from the entire Tender process for this item.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil

7 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recommendation

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

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

7.1 Willow Bend Caravan Contract. (RPT/22/383)

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

Council Resolution

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

Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

7.1 WILLOW BEND CARAVAN CONTRACT

File Number: RPT/22/383

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager

Reporting Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager

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

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

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 has continued its discussions regarding the Willow Bend Caravan Park and negotiations will continue.

9 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 3:22pm

NEXT MEETING

29 June 2022

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/22/359

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

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

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

Summary

The Outstanding Matters 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 21 June 2022.

Attachments

1. Outstanding Actions as at 21 June 2022 [↓](#)

| | |
|---|---|
| Division: Ordinary Council Committee: Officer: | Date From: Date To: Printed: Wednesday, 22 June 2022 11:20:01 AM |
|---|---|

Outstanding Action Items Report

| Meeting | Item | Title | Item | Action Record (latest first) |
|-------------------------------------|------|---|--|---|
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.2 | Section of Curb and Gutter Missing along wood street, Gol Gol | Cr Daniel Linklater advised that a section of curb and gutter is missing along 74-78 Wood Street. Can this be made into a project? | 20 Jun 2022 2:50pm Wall, Samantha Preliminary design completed. Works scheduled for first half of 22/23 Capital Works Upgrade Program - Action Complete |
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.3 | Nature Strip in Dareton need to be tidied up | Cr Peter Crisp had asked in a previous meeting if nature strip sections in Dareton can be slashed so that the footpath can be cleared. When will this be completed? | 21 Jun 2022 12:15pm Wall, Samantha Footpath clearing works request allocated to Parks Team Leader for works to be undertaken in July. |
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.4 | Cudmore Road needs grading in Pomona | Cr Steve Cooper asked if Cudmore Road in Pomona can be graded as a couple with a young family have advised that they have been bogged a few times and have never seen the roads being graded in the time they have lived there. | 20 Jun 2022 2:54pm Wall, Samantha Works scheduled to be undertaken prior to end June, weather permitting - Action Complete |
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.8 | Old service Station at the Buronga roundabout | Cr Jo Rodda asked if the owners of the service station could be notified to clean up the overgrown grass at the site as it is not a good look for the Shire. If not, Council might have to use our own resources to clean it up. The Director of Health and Planning advised that he has tried to make contact but it is difficult to figure out who the owner of the site is since it is no longer Caltex. | 22 Jun 2022 9:15am Carlin, Matthew Ampol are now owners of the site. An e-mail has been sent to their property team with a formal request to have the site attended to. |
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.9 | Progress update on works at Pooncarie and Anabranch Halls | Cr Jo Rodda asked if the issues at Pooncarie and Anabranch Halls have been addressed. The Director of Roads and Engineering advised that the works at Pooncarie had been completed and that he will investigate the status of the Anabranch Hall and provide an update. | 21 Jun 2022 4:22pm Wall, Samantha The Contractor for the Anabranch Hall works will be repairing in July. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Division: Ordinary Council Committee: Officer: | | Date From: Date To: Printed: Wednesday, 22 June 2022 11:20:01 AM |
|---|--|---|

Outstanding Action Items Report

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------|--|
| Ordinary Council 18/05/2022 2 | 10.10 | Wentworth EDS | <p>Cr Greg Evans asked that due to ongoing issues with the Wentworth EDS could Council staff investigate the possibility of utilising the pump out station at the Wentworth Wharf to help cater for the expected increase in houseboat traffic when the Mildura weir is removed for maintenance in June.</p> <p>22 Jun 2022 9:24am Wall, Samantha The pump dedicated to wharf effluent disposal is currently decommissioned. There are issues with the pump and electrical system. Given the timeframe available Council will not have the facility operational prior to the pool level returning to normal.</p> |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------|--|

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/360

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Elstone for the period of 13 May 2022 – 21 June 2022.

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Elstone for the period of 13 May 2022 – 21 June 2022.

| Date | Meeting | Location |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| 16 May 2022 | Murray Darling Association Meeting | Video Conference |
| 17 May 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |
| 18 May 2022 | Pre- Meeting Briefing | Wentworth |
| 18 May 2022 | Ordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 23 May 2022 | Meeting National Rural Health Commissioner Prof. Ruth Stewart | Wentworth |
| 23 May 2022 | Advisory Meeting | Wentworth |
| 24 May 2022 | Site Visit commencement of Outdoor Area Civic Centre | Wentworth |
| 26 May 2022 | Vince Dichiera Hand donation of historic painting | Wentworth |
| 30 May 2022 | Transgrid Meeting | Wentworth |
| 31 May 2022 | Transgrid Launch | Buronga |
| 31 May 2022 | MDA Region 4 AGM | Buronga |
| 31 May 2022 | MDA Region 4 Ordinary Meeting | Buronga |
| 3 Jun 2022 | Councillor Briefing | Wentworth |
| 14 Jun 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |
| 14 Jun 2022 | Sunraysia Collaboration Launch | Wentworth |
| 17 Jun 2022 | Extraordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 17 Jun 2022 | Health Infrastructure Update | Wentworth |
| 20 Jun 2022 | Extraordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 21 Jun 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |
| 21 Jun 2022 | Handover MDA Region 4 to Mildura Rural City Council | Wentworth |

Attachments

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/350

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

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

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

Summary

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

1. OLG Circulars
Circular 22-12 to 22-18
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 22-12

Proposed amendments to the standard contract of employment for general managers

- Under section 338 of the Act, general managers must be employed under performance-based contracts of terms between 12 months and 5 years based on a standard contract approved by the departmental chief executive of OLG.
- Once approved by the departmental chief executive, the amended standard contract will not alter existing employment contracts between councils and their general managers.
- However, where a council renews the employment contract of its general manager or appoints a new general manager, they must be employed under the approved standard contracts as amended.

Circular 22-13

Councillor and general manager financial management responsibilities – Information sessions

Councils manage significant finances on behalf of their communities.

- Many staff and all general managers and councillors play a key role in council financial decision making and it is vital decision makers hold an adequate level of financial literacy.
- To support this, OLG has developed various information sessions on accounting and financial reporting and financial management responsibilities.
- These information sessions are delivered via an audio recording and PowerPoint presentation.
- The information sessions add to OLG's growing suite of financial and accounting resources.

Circular 22-14

2022/23 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

- The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined an increase of 2% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2022-23 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2022.
- Sections 248 and 249 of the Act require councils to fix and pay an annual fee to councillors and mayors from 1 July 2022 based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2022-23 financial year.

Circular 22-15

Guidance for councils on the publication of disclosure of interest returns

- The Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) has developed a video animation which provides guidance to councils on the requirement to publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites.
- Councils should review how they currently publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites by applying the principles set out in the video animation.
- The Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) has developed a video animation which provides guidance to councils on the requirement to publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites. The video is available [here](#).
- Councils should review how they currently publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites by applying the principles set out in the video animation.

Circular 22-16

Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23

- The Companion Animals Regulation 2018 has been amended so that
 - cl.18(2)(a) sets the baseline registration fee for a dog at \$69; and
 - cl.18(2)(c) has been removed and replaced by a new clause under section 18(4) to prescribe that no registration fee is payable for a companion animal that is desexed and sold to the owner by a rehoming organisation.

- Clause 18(2)(b) is unchanged in that the registration fee for a cat would remain at \$10 less than the registration fee for a dog (\$69). However, to avoid doubt, a new clause prescribed as 18(6C) sets out the registration fee for a dog and cat at \$69 and \$59. The amounts include the CPI adjustment.
- The CPI adjusted registration fee for pensioners, the additional fee for a non-desexed dog, late fee and permit fees remain as per the notice.
- The NSW Pet Registry will be updated to include the new fees for online registration and permit payments made by pet owners from 1 July 2022.
- Both the old and new fee structures will be maintained on the Companion Animals Register to allow councils to correct registration details for existing records and catch up on data entry backlogs (i.e. where fees have been receipted before 1 July 2022 but not entered on the Register).

Circular 22-17

Increase in tendering threshold for natural disaster response and recovery related contracts

The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* has been amended to prescribe a tendering threshold of \$500k for contracts entered into by councils for the purpose of responding to, or recovering from, a declared natural disaster within 12 months of the declaration of the natural disaster.

The amendment means that councils are not required to tender prior to entering into a contract with a value of less than \$500k where the contract:

- o is primarily for the purpose of response to or recovery from a “declared natural disaster”, and
- o is entered into within 12 months after the date on which the natural disaster is declared.

Circular 22-18

Updated statutory forms under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* to take effect from 8 June 2022

- New versions of the statutory forms have been developed by the Department of Planning and Environment.
- The updated statutory forms are designed to be easier for both acquiring authorities and property owners to use, and contain more detail and instructions.
- The new statutory forms will supersede all previous versions and are to operate from 12:00 am on Wednesday, 8 June 2022.

2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 13 May 2022 – 21 June 2022.

| Date | Meeting | Location |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| 17 May 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |
| 18 May 2022 | Pre- Meeting Briefing | Wentworth |
| 18 May 2022 | Ordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 23 May 2022 | Meeting National Rural Health Commissioner Prof. Ruth Stewart | Wentworth |
| 23 May 2022 | Advisory Meeting | Wentworth |
| 24 May 2022 | Site Visit commencement of Outdoor Area Civic | Wentworth |

| | Centre | |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| 26 May 2022 | Vince Dichiera Hand donation of historic painting | Wentworth |
| 30 May 2022 | Transgrid Meeting | Wentworth |
| 31 May 2022 | Transgrid Launch | Buronga |
| 31 May 2022 | MDA Region 4 AGM | Buronga |
| 31 May 2022 | MDA Region 4 Ordinary Meeting | Buronga |
| 3 Jun 2022 | Councillor Briefing | Wentworth |
| 9 Jun 2022 | Crown Land Workshop | Buronga |
| 14 Jun 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |
| 14 Jun 2022 | Sunraysia Collaboration Launch | Wentworth |
| 17 Jun 2022 | Extraordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 17 Jun 2022 | Health Infrastructure Update | Wentworth |
| 20 Jun 2022 | Extraordinary Council Meeting | Wentworth |
| 21 Jun 2022 | Mayoral Meeting | Wentworth |

3. Events

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

| Date | Meeting | Proposed Attendees | Location |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 22 Jun 2022 | Councillor Professional Development Workshop | All Councillors | Wentworth |
| 22 Jun 2022 | Advisory Meeting | All Councillors & General Manager | Wentworth |
| 28 Jun 2022 | Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group Meeting | Cr Linklater & Cr Rodda | Buronga |
| 29 Jun 2022 | Lower Western District National Emergency Medal Presentation Bushfires 2019/2020 & Truck Handovers | Mayor & General Manager | Dareton |
| 4 Jul 2022 | WRTI Meeting | Cr Rodda | Dareton |
| 6 July 2022 | Barrier Local Command Awards Ceremony | Mayor & General Manager | Broken Hill |
| 7 Jul 2022 | Wentworth Showground User Group Meeting | Cr Beaumont & Cr Heywood | Wentworth |
| 12 Jul 2022 | Australian Inland Botanic Gardens Meeting | Cr Rodda | Mourquong |
| 13 Jul 2022 | George Gordon Oval User Group Meeting | Cr Cooper & Cr Crisp | Dareton |
| 19 Jul 2022 | Wentworth Sporting Complex User Group Meeting | Crs Beaumont, Heywood & Cooper | Wentworth |
| 20 Jul 2022 | Far West General Managers Meeting | General Manager | Broken Hill |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| 22 Jul 2022 | WSIG Meeting | Cr Rodda | Buronga |
|-------------|--------------|----------|---------|

4. Other items of note

Nil

Attachments

1. Circular 22-12[↓](#)
2. Circular 22-13[↓](#)
3. Circular 22-14[↓](#)
4. Circular 22-15[↓](#)
5. Circular 22-16[↓](#)
6. Circular 22-17[↓](#)
7. Circular 22-18[↓](#)



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Circular Details | 22-12 /17 May 2022/ A812271 |
| Previous Circular | N/A |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers / Human Resources Staff |
| Contact | Mr Doug Friend, Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4201 / doug.friend@olg.nsw.gov.au |
| Action required | Information / Response to OLG |

Proposed amendments to the standard contract of employment for general managers

What's new or changing

- As a result of its investigation of the former Canterbury City Council, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) recommended that the Department of Planning and Environment conduct a review into the "no fault" termination provision in the standard contract of employment for general managers.
- In response to ICAC's recommendation, the Office of Local Government (OLG) has undertaken a review of the standard contract of employment for general managers in consultation with the parties to the *Local Government (State) Award*, (Local Government NSW, the United Services Union, the Development and Environmental Professionals' Association and the Local Government Engineers Association of NSW).
- OLG is consulting with councils on the proposed amendments to the standard contract arising from that review before they are approved by the "departmental chief executive" under section 338 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

What this will mean for your council

- Under section 338 of the Act, general managers must be employed under performance-based contracts of terms between 12 months and 5 years based on a standard contract approved by the departmental chief executive of OLG.
- Once approved by the departmental chief executive, the amended standard contract will not alter existing employment contracts between councils and their general managers.
- However, where a council renews the employment contract of its general manager or appoints a new general manager, they must be employed under the approved standard contracts as amended.

Key points

- Submissions on the proposed amended standard contract may be made by email to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

- Submissions should be labelled 'Standard Contract of Employment for General Managers' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before 14 May 2022.

Where to go for further information

- The proposed amended standard contract is available [here](#) .The proposed amendments are highlighted in the contract.
- Information about the proposed amendments to the standard contract is set out in the attachment to this circular.
- For further information please contact Doug Friend of OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4201 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawyes
Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

ATTACHMENT

What changes are being made to the standard contract of employment for general managers to ensure greater security of employment?

As a result of its investigation of the former Canterbury City Council, ICAC recommended that the Department of Planning and Environment conduct a review into the “no fault” termination provision in the standard contract of employment for general managers. ICAC recommended that the review should canvass options such as requiring a two-thirds majority vote of a council, an absolute majority vote or the availability of mediation.

The Government does not support the first two of these options.

A good working relationship between the governing bodies of councils and their general managers is essential to councils being able to exercise their functions effectively. Experience has repeatedly demonstrated that where, for whatever reason, general managers lose the support and confidence of a majority of councillors, the council can become dysfunctional. Councils cannot focus on serving their communities if councillors and the general manager are at war with each other. General managers also cannot hope to perform effectively in their role in circumstances where they have lost the confidence and the support of a majority of councillors. Councils therefore need to have the flexibility to terminate the employment relationship with the general manager with appropriate compensation, where that relationship breaks down.

A key focus of the proposed amendments to the standard contract of employment for general managers is to strengthen access to mediation under the contract to manage and address conflict in the relationship when it arises and to ensure more rigour in decisions by councils to terminate the employment of the general manager.

These amendments include the following:

- Before terminating a general manager’s employment for poor performance, the council must have first conducted a performance review, concluded that the general manager’s performance falls short of the performance criteria or the terms of their performance agreement, and afforded the general manager a reasonable opportunity to utilise dispute resolution.
- Where a council intends to terminate the employment of its general manager utilising the ‘no fault’ termination provision (clause 10.3.1(e)), if either party requests it and both parties agree, they may participate in mediation in relation to the proposed decision to terminate. If the council does not agree to participate in mediation, it must give the general manager reasons for its decision where the general manager requests it.
- Councils and general managers may agree on a mediator when the contract is made.
- Where a council terminates the general manager’s employment under the “no fault” termination provision (clause 10.3.1(e)), the council must give the

Office of Local Government

5 O’Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541

Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209

E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

general manager reasons for its decision to terminate their employment where the general manager requests it.

- Serious and persistent breaches of the council's code of conduct by the general manager constitute grounds for summary dismissal.

What changes are being made to the standard contract of employment for general managers relating to their remuneration?

The following amendments are proposed to the provisions of the contract relating to general managers' remuneration:

- Clause 8.4 of the contract has been amended to clarify that a discretionary performance-based pay increase only applies for one year unless the council determines that it is to apply for the balance of the contract.
- Clause 8.4 also allows for the payment of a retention allowance on one occasion during the term of the contract. This accrues on an annual, pro-rata basis for the remainder of the term of the contract and is to be paid to the general manager at the end of the contract period.

What other changes are being made to the standard contract of employment for general managers?

Other changes include:

- Definitions and other provisions have been updated to reflect legislative and administrative changes made since the previous standard contract was approved.
- A new provision has been included (clause 5.5) empowering the departmental chief executive of OLG to approve an extension of the timeframes prescribed under clause 5 for the renewal of the contract in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances.
- Minor amendments have been made to the functions of the general manager's duties prescribed under clause 6 to reflect legislative changes and to place an obligation on general managers to ensure a safe workplace and to facilitate compliance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.
- A new provision (clause 7.12) has been included that confirms that the performance agreement, action plan and any associated records that contain information about the work performance or conduct of the general manager are to remain confidential unless otherwise agreed to by the general manager or required by law.
- The service of notice provisions, (clause 18), have been updated to allow service by email.

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Circular Details | 22-13/19 May 2022 / A813903 |
| Previous Circular | 21-21 / 6 August 2021 / A773025 |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers / All council staff |
| Contact | Policy Team / (02) 4428 4100 / code@olg.nsw.gov.au |
| Action required | Information |

Councillor and general manager financial management responsibilities – Information sessions

What's new or changing

- Between 5 – 8 March 2022, the Office of Local Government (OLG) delivered information sessions to councillors and general managers on their responsibilities in relation to the financial management of councils.
- The general manager recording is available on [OLG's Council Portal](#) and on OLG's [YouTube channel](#)
- A recording of the councillor training session is available on [OLG's Council Portal](#).
- Further, OLG has also developed an in-depth walk through of the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, including the primary statements and disclosure notes. This recording is available on [OLG's Council Portal](#) and on OLG's [YouTube channel](#).
- These most recent recordings are in addition to, and supplement, the 1-hour information session about the fundamental aspects of accounting and financial reporting released by OLG in August 2021.
- The fundamental aspects of accounting and financial reporting recording is available on [OLG's Council Portal](#) and on OLG's [YouTube channel](#).
- OLG encourages councils to widely circulate these recordings to councillors, general managers and staff.

What this will mean for your council

- Councils manage significant finances on behalf of their communities.
- Many staff and all general managers and councillors play a key role in council financial decision making and it is vital decision makers hold an adequate level of financial literacy.
- To support this, OLG has developed various information sessions on accounting and financial reporting and financial management responsibilities.
- These information sessions are delivered via an audio recording and PowerPoint presentation.
- The information sessions add to OLG's growing suite of financial and accounting resources.

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

Where to go for further information

- The recordings are available on [OLG's Council Portal](#) and on OLG's [YouTube channel](#).
- Further financial guidance for councils is also available on [OLG's website](#) and [OLG's Council Portal](#).

Melanie Hawyes
Deputy Secretary Crown Lands and Local Government

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Circular Details | Circular No 22-14/ 22 May 2022 / A817449 |
| Previous Circular | 21-06 – 2021/22 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers |
| Contact | Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au |
| Action required | Council to Implement |

2022/23 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

What's new or changing

- The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined an increase of 2% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2022-23 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2022.
- The Tribunal is required to determine the remuneration categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every three years under section 239 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The Tribunal last undertook a significant review of the categories as part of its 2020 determination and will next review these categories in 2023.
- The Tribunal found that the allocation of councils into the current categories continued to be appropriate having regard to the 2020 review, the current category model and criteria and the evidence put forward in the submissions received.

What this will mean for your council

- Sections 248 and 249 of the Act require councils to fix and pay an annual fee to councillors and mayors from 1 July 2022 based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2022-23 financial year.

Key points

- The level of fees paid will depend on the category the council is in.
- A council cannot fix a fee higher than the maximum amount determined by the Tribunal.
- If a council does not fix a fee, the council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

Where to go for further information

- The Tribunal's report and determination is available [here](#).
- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawyes
Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Circular Details | Circular No 22-15 / 23 May 2022 / A815881 |
| Previous Circular | 19 – 21 <i>Release of IPC Guideline 1 Returns of Interest</i> |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance Staff |
| Contact | Council Governance / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au / (02) 4428 4100 |
| Action required | Information |

Guidance for councils on the publication of disclosure of interest returns

What's new or changing

- The Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) has developed a video animation which provides guidance to councils on the requirement to publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites. The video is available [here](#).
- Councils should review how they currently publish disclosure of interest returns on their websites by applying the principles set out in the video animation.

What this will mean for your council

- The IPC's video has been developed to complement the compliance report it published last year following an audit of councils' compliance with the requirement to publish councillors' and designated persons' disclosure of interest returns on their websites in accordance with the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (the GIPA Act).
- The report makes several recommendations for councils to implement to promote openness and transparency in relation to disclosure of interest returns and a policy framework for managing their publication.
- The IPC's compliance report is available [here](#).

Key points

- Section 6 of the GIPA Act provides for the mandatory proactive release by NSW public sector agencies (including councils) of open access information. The GIPA Act provides that open access information must be made publicly available free of charge on a website maintained by the agency.
- Councillors' and designated persons' disclosure of interest returns are prescribed as open access information for local government under Schedule 1 to the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018*.
- The IPC has issued *Information Access Guideline 1 - For Local Councils on the disclosure of information (returns disclosing the interest of councillors and designated persons)* under sections 12(3) and 14(3) of the GIPA Act to assist councils to determine the public interest considerations for and against disclosure of information contained in disclosure of interest returns when publishing them on their websites. Guideline 1 is available [here](#).

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

Where to go for further information

- The IPC's video is available [here](#).
- The IPC's report on councils' compliance with the requirement to publish councillors' and designated persons' disclosure of interest returns on their websites is available [here](#).
- The IPC's Guideline 1 is available [here](#). Further information on open access information requirements for local government is available [here](#).
- For more information on these requirements contact the IPC at 1800 472 679 or by email to ipcinfo@ipc.nsw.gov.au.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued guidance on the completion of disclosure of interest returns which is available [here](#).
- For more information on these requirements, contact OLG's Council Governance Team by telephone on 4428 4100 or by email to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawyes

Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Circular Details | 22-16 / 2 June 2022 / A821940 |
| Previous Circular | 21-15 |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers / Council finance staff / Companion Animal Enforcement and Administration Officers |
| Contact | Program Delivery Team – (02) 4428 4100 or 1300 134 460 pets@olq.nsw.gov.au |
| Action required | Council to Implement |

Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23

What's new or changing

- All registration and annual permit fees have been adjusted for 2022/23.
- The 2022-23 registration and permit fees effective from 1 July 2022 are prescribed below:

| Registration Category | New fee amount |
|--|----------------|
| Dog – Desexed (by relevant age) | \$69 |
| Dog – Desexed (by relevant age eligible pensioner) | \$29 |
| Dog – Desexed (sold by pound/shelter) | \$0 |
| Dog – Not Desexed or Desexed (after relevant age) | \$234 |
| Dog – Not Desexed (not recommended) | \$69 |
| Dog – Not Desexed (recognised breeder) | \$69 |
| Dog – Working | \$0 |
| Dog – Service of the State | \$0 |
| Assistance Animal | \$0 |
| Cat – Desexed or Not Desexed | \$59 |
| Cat – Eligible Pensioner | \$29 |
| Cat – Desexed (sold by pound/shelter) | \$0 |
| Cat – Not Desexed (not recommended) | \$59 |
| Cat – Not Desexed (recognised breeder) | \$59 |
| Registration late fee | \$19 |
| Annual permit category | New fee amount |
| Cat not desexed by four months of age | \$85 |
| Dangerous dog | \$206 |
| Restricted dog | \$206 |
| Permit late fee | \$19 |

- Councils must continue to register eligible pound/shelter animals through the NSW Companion Animals Register. Free registration for these animals does not mean that registration is not required. The established process of 'flagging' an animal as being purchased from an eligible pound/shelter is required to validate a free registration.

- When processing a registration for an eligible pensioner whose pet has been recommended by a vet to not undergo desexing (either temporarily or permanently), select the new “not desexed (not recommended – pensioner)” category. This will allow the eligible pensioner to claim the discounted registration.

Key points

- The *Companion Animals Regulation 2018* has been amended so that
 - cl.18(2)(a) sets the baseline registration fee for a dog at \$69; and
 - cl.18(2)(c) has been removed and replaced by a new clause under section 18(4) to prescribe that no registration fee is payable for a companion animal that is desexed and sold to the owner by a rehoming organisation.
- Clause 18(2)(b) is unchanged in that the registration fee for a cat would remain at \$10 less than the registration fee for a dog (\$69). However, to avoid doubt, a new clause prescribed as 18(6C) sets out the registration fee for a dog and cat at \$69 and \$59. The amounts include the CPI adjustment.
- The CPI adjusted registration fee for pensioners, the additional fee for a non-desexed dog, late fee and permit fees remain as per the notice (as outlined in the table above).
- The NSW Pet Registry will be updated to include the new fees for online registration and permit payments made by pet owners from 1 July 2022.
- Both the old and new fee structures will be maintained on the Companion Animals Register to allow councils to correct registration details for existing records and catch up on data entry backlogs (i.e. where fees have been receipted before 1 July 2022 but not entered on the Register).

Where to go for further information

- A list of registration categories, current fees and the new fees for 2022/23 is provided on the Office of Local Government's (OLG) website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/dogs-cats/nsw-pet-registry/microchipping-and-registration.
- Information relating to the processing of registration fees is available in *Companion Animals Guideline 1 – Registration Agents*, available on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/responsible-pet-ownership/nsw-pet-registry/the-cat-and-dog-register.



Ally Dench
Executive Director
Local Government



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Circular Details | Circular No 22-17 / 10 June 2022 / A824946 |
| Previous Circular | N/A |
| Who should read this | Councillors / General Managers / All council staff |
| Contact | Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au |
| Action required | Information |

Increase in tendering threshold for natural disaster response and recovery related contracts

What's new or changing

- The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* has been amended to prescribe a tendering threshold of \$500k for contracts entered into by councils for the purpose of responding to, or recovering from, a declared natural disaster within 12 months of the declaration of the natural disaster.

What this will mean for your council

- The amendment means that councils are not required to tender prior to entering into a contract with a value of less than \$500k where the contract:
 - is primarily for the purpose of response to or recovery from a "declared natural disaster", and
 - is entered into within 12 months after the date on which the natural disaster is declared.

Key points

- The phrase, "*declared natural disaster*", is defined in the Regulation to mean a natural disaster that has been declared in relation to the area of a council by either:
 - a Natural Disaster Declaration for the purposes of the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements jointly administered by the Commonwealth and the States and Territories, or
 - a declaration under the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, section 33.

Where to go for further information

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

Melanie Hawyes
Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Circular Details | Circular No 22-18 / 14 June 2022 / A824952 |
| Previous Circular | |
| Who should read this | General Managers / Staff responsible for land acquisitions |
| Contact | Performance Team |
| Action required | Information |

Subject

Updated statutory forms under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* to take effect from 8 June 2022

What's new or changing

- New versions of the statutory forms have been developed by the Department of Planning and Environment.
- The updated statutory forms are designed to be easier for both acquiring authorities and property owners to use, and contain more detail and instructions.
- The new statutory forms will supersede all previous versions and are to operate from 12:00 am on Wednesday, 8 June 2022.

What this will mean for your council

- Councils carrying out property acquisitions under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* are required to use these updated statutory forms from 12:00 am on 8 June 2022.
- Previous versions of the statutory forms should be archived in line with the council's information management policies and their usage should cease as from 12:00 am on 8 June 2022.
- Updated statutory forms should be issued to property owners and interest holders who are in possession of previous versions that are yet to be submitted.

Key points

- The updated statutory forms have been approved by the Minister for Lands and Water, the Hon. Kevin Anderson MP. Notice of Minister Anderson's approval was published in NSW Government Gazette No. 148 of 8 April 2022.
- The Department of Planning and Environment worked in consultation with the Centre for Property Acquisition, acquiring authorities, and the NSW Valuer General to update the statutory forms.
- The updates have been made to align with the recommendations from the Pratt Review of Housing Acquisition completed by the then Customer Service Commissioner, Mike Pratt, in 2016 that communications and collateral be reviewed to ensure they are clear, accurate, and current.
- The updated statutory forms will be made available to the general public on the [Property Acquisition NSW website](https://www.propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au) from 8 June 2022.

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

Where to go for further information

- The updated forms can be viewed at the Centre for Property Acquisition's Property Acquisition Portal, a resource available to all NSW acquiring authorities, including councils. You may register for access to the Property Acquisition Portal by [emailing the Centre for Property Acquisition](#).
- Enquiries about the new statutory forms may be directed to the Centre for Property Acquisition by [email](#) or by phone on 1300 029 146.
- Further information about the compulsory acquisition process can be found on the [Office of Local Government website](#).

Karin Bishop
Director, Sector Performance & Intervention

Office of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468

9.2 POLICY REVIEW - OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

File Number: RPT/22/367

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 21 are the responsibility of the Office of the General Manager.

For this Council meeting the Office of the General Manager has reviewed two policies and are presenting two to Council for adoption.

Recommendation

That Council approve the following policies:

- a) WR006 Draft Volunteers Policy
- b) WR008 Automated External Defibrillators Policy

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the process of the reviewing Council policies that has begun following the general election of all Councillors.

Background

After each general election of Councillors, the Act requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 21 are the responsibility of the Office of the General Manager.

Report Detail

For this report staff within the Office of the General Manager have reviewed the following policies:

- a) WR006 Draft Volunteers Policy
- b) WR008 Automated External Defibrillators Policy

The above policies have been reviewed and it has been determined that the policies are still required and that the current scope and intent of the policies is still relevant. Minor formatting and administrative updates in order to reflect best practice have been made to both policies.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review its official Council Policies following a general Election of Council. The Office of the General Manager is currently responsible for 21 Council policies. For this Council meeting the department has reviewed two policies and are presenting them to Council. It is recommended that both policies be adopted.

Attachments

1. Draft Volunteers Policy WR006 [↓](#)
2. Draft Automated External Defibrillators Policy WR008 [↓](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/21/20061

Council Policy No: WR0006**VOLUNTEERS POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This policy deals with people who volunteer to work with council. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that volunteers working for Wentworth Shire Council have work that is safe, significant, fulfilling and are appreciated. Volunteer positions will be developed in response to an identified need and where it has been assessed that the need would be more appropriately met by a volunteer.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to acknowledge that volunteers from the community make a valuable contribution to a range of activities in the Wentworth Shire. Through their commitment and energy, volunteers assist Council to achieve its vision, mission and broad objectives. This policy does not apply to Independent Organised Groups.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy is applicable to councillors, administrators and members of staff of council regarding volunteers.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|------------------------------------|--|
| GM | General Manager |
| Volunteer | A person who offers services without expectation of remuneration |
| Volunteer Coordinator | Manager Human Resources |
| Volunteer Supervisor | Paid employee of Council who is responsible for directing and supervising volunteers |
| Content Manager | Council Records Management System |
| Independent Organised Group | Groups external to Council who assist on a project by project basis |

4. POLICY CONTENT

- 4.1 Volunteers will not be used to perform the routine or specialist tasks usually undertaken by paid employees in place of those employees, but may be trained in such duties if applicable to their placement. Council will normally provide all equipment and materials necessary for volunteers to safely and effectively perform the specified duties. All volunteers, while involved in their duties, will be covered by personal accident and public liability insurance cover.
- 4.2 Volunteers who are working in areas of Council which require Working with Children Checks or Police Checks must first be screened before they can commence work in that area. If unable to provide/receive clearance for a child related position, the volunteer will not be able to work in the role.
- 4.3 Volunteers are required to accurately complete the Application to Work with Council as a Volunteer before commencement and only sign if they are able to meet the task, physical

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/21/20061

Council Policy No: WR0006**VOLUNTEERS POLICY**

and work environment requirements as identified. If a volunteer does not believe that they are able to fulfill all or some of the requirements they will need to discuss the issues with the Volunteer Coordinator and Volunteer Supervisor to see if any modifications can be made. If it's discovered that a volunteer provided misleading or inaccurate information on the application form it may result in disciplinary action or termination.

- 4.4 Council acknowledges that volunteers have the right to be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses. When claims for reimbursement are made they must be approved by the Director from that area of responsibility. All expenses must be authorized in writing by the Director before they are incurred.
- 4.5 Engagement and services as a volunteer with Council will not be construed as providing any access to, or right for consideration for future paid employment with Council without going through the appropriate recruitment process nor does it entitle the volunteer to the accrual of employment related benefits such as leave provisions or superannuation.
- 4.6 Both the volunteer and the Volunteer Supervisor may terminate the volunteer's service at any time without notice.
- 4.7 Each year during National Volunteer Week, Council will acknowledge the service and commitment of its Volunteers.
- 4.8 Volunteer Coordinators must: -
- Ensure that prior to a Volunteer being engaged, all relevant paperwork, fits work assessments, pre-employment drug and alcohol testing and inductions have been successfully completed
 - Ensure that attendance records for volunteers are put into TRIM at the end of each fortnight.
 - Provide a safe and healthy workplace as far as practicable for volunteers to perform their role at Council
- 4.9 Volunteer Supervisors must: -
- The supervisor will ensure that attendance records for volunteers are accurately completed and given to the Volunteer Coordinator at the end of each month.
 - If the Volunteers are working without direct supervision the Volunteer Supervisor is responsible for ensure that the work is being carried out to the appropriate standard and that the Volunteer is aware of what is expected and to what level.
 - That the Volunteer Policy and WPP are effectively implemented in their area of control.
 - Employees and volunteers under their control are consulted about issues affecting their health and safety.
 - Prompt action is taken to eliminate unsafe or unhealthy conditions or behavior.
 - Ensure that volunteers are supervised and trained sufficiently to perform the required tasks.
 - Review the performance of all volunteers and provide an opportunity for the volunteer to give feedback.
 - In the event that a volunteer's work is unsatisfactory or, deviates from principles and goals of service, contravenes the rights and responsibilities of volunteers or places a customer/employee or any other person at risk, will discuss the issue with the volunteer and establish the appropriate standard of conduct/performance with the volunteer, maintain a written record of the meeting and where required, seek assistance from the Volunteer coordinator.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/21/20061

Council Policy No: WR0006**VOLUNTEERS POLICY**

- Ensure that the Volunteer participates in site inductions.

4.10 Volunteers must: -

- Accurately complete the Application to work with Council as a Volunteer Form only signing if the volunteer is able to meet the task, physical and work environment requirements of the position.
- Make a realistic commitment in terms of involvement and reliability.
- Be aware of and adhere to Council's policies and procedures.
- Advise the supervisor if they are unable to attend during a scheduled placement.
- Take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and others.
- Follow all safe work procedures and seek instruction when required.
- Promptly report all incidents, accidents, illnesses and any risks to health and safety.
- Must keep all privileged information in relation to Council, staff and customers confidential.
- If required to drive a Council vehicle, must have a valid and current drivers' licence.
- Under no circumstances provide any comment to the media.
- Comply with all relevant Council policies and procedures.

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

Nil.

6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

7. 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:

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council

Date

Wentworth Shire Council

Document Reference:

Word: DOC/21/19970

Council Policy No: WR008**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS POLICY**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

This policy deals with the provisions and installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) at Council fixed sites.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to outline Council's commitment to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health & safety of all Council's workers and other persons in the workplace.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all areas of Council's operations and is applicable to Council fixed sites that have workers and/or are regularly attended by members of the general public and where prompt medical or emergency response may not always be readily available.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|------------------------|---|
| WHS Act | Work Health & Safety Act 2011 |
| WHS Regulations | Work Health & Safety Regulation 2017 |
| PCBU | Person who conducts a business or undertaking |
| Council | Wentworth Shire Council |
| AED | Automated External Defibrillator |
| SCA | Sudden Cardiac Arrest |

4. POLICY CONTENT

4.1 Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is one of the leading causes of death in Australia. Statistics provided by St Johns Ambulance Australia show that survival from SCA without early defibrillation with an AED is less than 5%. Defibrillation within the first few minutes of having a SCA, increases the survival rate to over 70%.

Over 90% of people who suffer SCA do not survive. For every minute that passes without defibrillation, the chance of survival reduces by 10%.

Council's (as the PCBU) duty of care under Section 19 of the WHS Act must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health & safety of the workers engaged & other persons in the workplace.

Council also has a duty to provide first aid under Clause 42 of the WHS Regulation, in which it must have regard for the nature of work, nature of hazards and the size & location of the workplace, also the number & composition of the workers and others persons at the workplace.

4.2 The General Manager will ensure that during normal operating hours, ready access to an AED is available at all Council fixed sites that have workers and/or are regularly attended by members of the general public.

Wentworth Shire Council

Document Reference:

Word: DOC/21/19970

Council Policy No: WR008**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS POLICY**

- 4.3** Council will provide sufficient funding for the purchase of the AEDs and any ongoing maintenance costs.
- 4.4** The General Manager will ensure that a system is implemented for the inspection and monitoring of the AEDs to ensure they remain operational and fit for use.
- 4.5** Council will provide information via the Council website, on the location of Council's AEDs.

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

- Work Health & Safety Act 2011
- Work Health & Safety Regulation 2017
- Local Government Act 1993
- Civil Liability Act 2002

6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

7. 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:

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council[Click here to enter a date.](#)**Date**

9.3 RELEASING FRESHWATER CATFISH INTO THEGOA LAGOON

File Number: RPT/22/403

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

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

Summary

Council has received correspondence from the Environment and Heritage Group, Department of Planning and Infrastructure seeking support for the release of Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon.

Recommendation

That Council support the release of Freshwater Catfish into the Thegoa Lagoon.

Detailed Report**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek support from Council for the release of Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon.

Background

Thegoa Lagoon currently receives water through environmental flows when water is available or flooding when the river level is high enough. Council manages and maintains the infrastructure that allows water to flow into the lagoon from the Murray River.

Report Detail

The Environment and Heritage Group, Department of Planning and Environment are seeking support from Council to translocate Freshwater Catfish from irrigation channels in Mildura to Thegoa Lagoon and manage the lagoon to keep permanent refuge pools with a partial dry down each year to support wetland plant growth and productivity. The Department has undertaken a preliminary inspection and it appears there may not be many fish in the lagoon, particularly carp, that they expect have been excluded by the screens. A proposal is attached which provides further detail. Should this proposal come to fruition it would ensure a more permanent supply of water and hence a healthier Thegoa Lagoon.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council support the proposal from the Department of Planning and Environment to translocate Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon.

Attachments

1. Proposal - Release of Freshwater Catfish into Thegoa Lagoon [↓](#)

Establishment of a threatened native fish sanctuary at Thegoa Lagoon

Proposal for the reintroduction of Freshwater catfish into Thegoa Lagoon as part of a Tri-State threatened native fish recovery program



Introduction

As a result of habitat loss, river regulation and pest species, several native fish species have declined in distribution such that they are currently absent across much of their former range (Ellis et al. 2016). The Murray-Darling basin population of Freshwater catfish is listed as an endangered (under the NSW under the Fisheries Management Act 1994) due to significant declines in numbers and distribution since the 1970's. As a recovery effort for the species, we propose here the reintroduction of Freshwater catfish (*Tandanus tandanus*) into Thegoa Lagoon, near Wentworth in NSW. The aim is to establish Thegoa Lagoon as a Freshwater catfish sanctuary to assist with broader (Tri-State) threatened native fish recovery efforts. The project is to be a collaborative effort between:

- NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Environment and Heritage Group (DPE - EHG)
- NSW Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries (DPI-F)
- Tri-State Alliance - Threatened Native Fish Recovery Program
- Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO) tbc

© State of New South Wales through Department of Planning and Environment 2022. Information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing, <Add Month and Year>, and is subject to change. For more information, please visit dpe.nsw.gov.au/copyright <CM9 Reference>

Establishment of a threatened native fish sanctuary at Thegoa Lagoon



- Wentworth Shire Council (WSC) tbc
- Barkindji Maraura Elders Environment Team (BMEET) tbc
- Western Local Land Services (Western LLS) tbc
- WaterNSW tbc
- Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) tbc

Freshwater catfish

Freshwater catfish (*Tandanus tandanus*), also known as Eel-tailed catfish, gets its name from the four pairs of whisker-like barbels around its mouth and its continuously joined second dorsal, caudal and anal fins. It is a benthic species preferencing warm slow-flowing lowland rivers and creeks, lakes and billabongs.



Photo by Gunther Schmidt

Threatening processes for the Freshwater catfish include modification of natural flow and temperature cues for breeding, introduced carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), habitat degradation, declines in water quality, historical and illegal fishing.

Thegoa lagoon is managed to control carp, improve vegetation and benthic habitat and improve water quality. Carp screens on the inlet regulator and on the western (bridge & culvert) connection to the River Murray (which connects at flows of >37,000 ML/day) exclude large (adult) carp from entering the lagoon. In addition, environmental water delivery to the lagoon is done during cooler months when carp are less active and small (juvenile) carp are less likely to be present. Exclusion of carp from the lagoon allows aquatic native vegetation, the benthic ecology (including molluscs, crustaceans & insect larvae) and water quality to improve.

Thegoa Lagoon

Thegoa lagoon is an 80-hectare billabong located at -34.098421, 141.896002 next to the junction of the Murray and Darling rivers on the western side of the township of Wentworth (Figure 1). The wetland has significant cultural values, including burial sites, scar trees, boundary trees and middens. Thegoa Lagoon is also a traditional meeting place, strategically located at the junction of the Murray and Darling rivers. The lagoon remains of special cultural significance to the Barkindji people.

Establishment of a threatened native fish sanctuary at Thegoa Lagoon



European settlement of the area occurred from the 1860s and the area (reserve) was named Wentworth Common. In the early 1950s, three agricultural leases were established within the area bounded by the lagoon, and the remaining area was gazetted as a reserve in 1956 for use as “community land for public recreation and plantation”.

The lagoon and surrounding floodplain comprise a diversity of habitats within a relatively small area. River Red Gum, River Cooba/Black Box and Chenopod Shrubland are the dominant vegetation communities on the floodplain. BioNet records indicate five native fauna and flora species occurring at the lagoon are listed as endangered, two as critically endangered, and eight species are listed as vulnerable.

Historically the wetland was inundated during high flows from either the Murray or Darling rivers but now relies primarily on water for the environment to meet its water requirements.

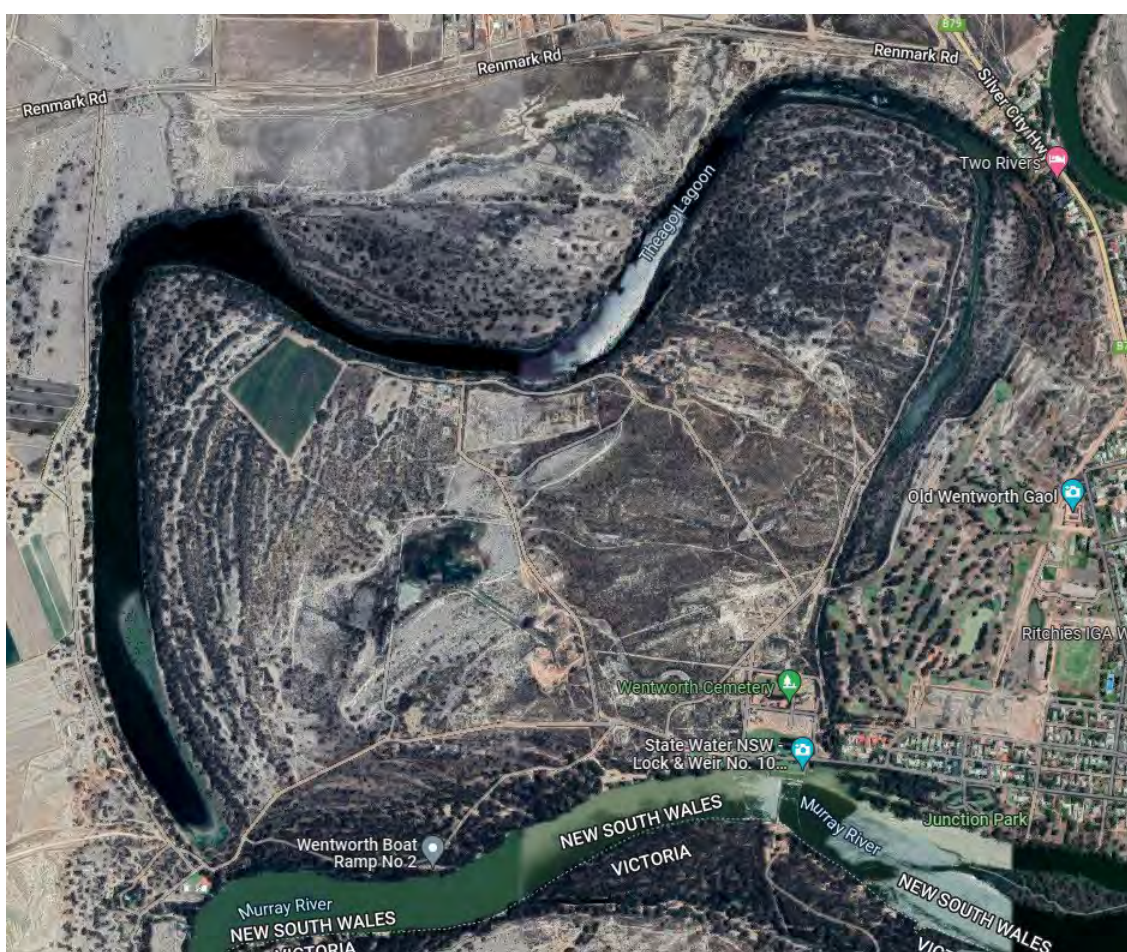


Figure 1 Aerial view of Thegoa lagoon (taken from Google maps, June 2022). The natural billabong is located to the north of the Murray River and to the west of the Darling River near the town of Wentworth in NSW.

Site suitability

Preliminary evaluation of the site as to its suitability as a Freshwater catfish sanctuary by fisheries and environmental water managers indicates it has good candidacy. Further investigations are required, including fish

Establishment of a threatened native fish sanctuary at Thegoa Lagoon



sampling to determine what fish species are currently present, a biosecurity risk assessment and standard water quality sampling to test salinity (EC), turbidity, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH and temperature.

Restocking and maintenance

Determinant on the site's suitability, we propose to restock the lagoon with Freshwater catfish translocated from sites (tbc) near Mildura in Victoria. Up to 200 catfish will be stocked into Thegoa lagoon each year for five years.

Each year during winter the lagoon will be topped up using water for the environment. Between top ups the lagoon will be allowed to partially dry down allowing 'amphibious' and 'terrestrial damp' plant species to colonise on the exposed and shallower areas within the lagoon. The partial wetting and drying will also drive carbon and nutrient cycling and food web productivity. Annual top ups will be managed to maintain the deeper refuge pools for Freshwater catfish year-round.

Water quality will be monitored every 3-months to ensure it remains suitable for catfish. In the event that water quality becomes unsuitable, remedial action may be taken such as top up with environmental water, mechanical aeration, translocation of catfish to a surrogate site (e.g. Wentworth Golf Course dam, Inland Botanical Gardens Lakes or the Murray River).

Sampling, using sunken fyke nets, will be undertaken every 6-12 months to monitor the catfish population (i.e. demographics, recruitment) and to check their condition (weight: length ratio, parasites & disease). Annual reports will be produced to document catfish status and related information such as water quality and water delivery details.

Proposed partner organisations, roles & responsibilities

The project will be an inter-agency collaboration involving local, state, commonwealth government agencies, traditional owners and other members of the community. The responsibilities of each organisation are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 Proposed delegation of responsibilities

| Organisation | Project responsibilities |
|----------------------|--|
| DPI Fisheries | <p>Pre-reintroduction fish sampling, WQ and habitat suitability (in conjunction with BMEET)</p> <p>3-monthly WQ (in conjunction with BMEET)</p> <p>6-monthly fish monitoring</p> <p>Annual reporting</p> |
| DPE EHG | <p>Environmental water management/delivery</p> <p>Assistance with WQ & fish monitoring as required (in-kind support)</p> <p>Other ecological monitoring (e.g. vegetation, waterbirds, frogs)</p> <p>Annual reporting</p> |

Establishment of a threatened native fish sanctuary at Thegoa Lagoon



| Organisation | Project responsibilities |
|--------------------|--|
| Tri-State Alliance | Source (salvage) Freshwater catfish from irrigation channels in Mildura Translocation permits (Victoria) |
| WSC | Infrastructure and site maintenance Water delivery in association with DPE EHG and WaterNSW |
| BMEET | 3-monthly WQ (in association with DPI-Fisheries and/or DPE EEG) Assistance with fish surveys (in association with DPI-Fisheries and/or DPE EHG) |
| CEWO MDBA | Water delivery partners in conjunction with DPE EHG Funding support for catfish reintroductions and monitoring activities |
| WaterNSW | Water delivery support |
| Western LLS | Maintenance and operation of the Log bridge (western inlet) carp screen (in association with DPE EHG and WSC) |

Project timeframe

The project will be for 5 years commencing 2023. A review of the project will be undertaken in the 4th year to evaluate the projects effectiveness and ongoing feasibility.

Associated projects

Depending on the progression of the Freshwater catfish reintroduction project and the results of associated investigations to assess water quality, aquatic vegetation and the presence of other fish species, the reintroduction of other threatened native fish species may be considered. Species for consideration include the Southern purple-spotted gudgeon (*Mogurnda adspersa*) and Southern pygmy perch (*Nannoperca australis*). Both species are listed as endangered in NSW under the Fisheries Management Act 1994 and are the focus of threatened species reintroductions at other sites in the region.

9.4 DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION FOR 2022/2023

File Number: RPT/22/351

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

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

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

Summary

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined a 2% increase to the Mayoral and Councillor fees for the 2022/23 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2022.

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 2022/23 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 \$9,560 and the maximum allowable is \$12,650. In addition to the fee paid as a Councillor, the minimum fee payable to the Mayor is \$10,180 and the maximum fee is \$27,600.

In May 2021, Council resolved to increase the fees for the 2021/22 to the maximum amount. The fees for 2021/22 are \$12,400 for Councillors plus an additional \$27,060 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 Tribunal.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of its obligation under the *Local Government Act 1993* to determine and fix the annual fee payable to the Councillors and Mayor for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Matters under consideration

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined there will be a 2% increase to Councillor and Mayoral fees for the 2022/23 financial year. The levels of fees depend on which category the Council is in, with Wentworth being classified as a Rural Council.

The schedule of fees is shown in the table below. (It should be noted that the fee payable to the Mayor/Chairperson is in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor (s.249 (2)).

| Category | | Councillor/Member Annual Fee (\$) effective 1 July 2022 | | Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee* (\$) effective 1 July 2022 | |
|---|-------------------------|---|---------|--|---------|
| | | Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum |
| General Purpose Councils - Metropolitan | Principal CBD | 28,750 | 42,170 | 175,930 | 231,500 |
| | Major CBD | 19,180 | 35,520 | 40,740 | 114,770 |
| | Metropolitan Large | 19,180 | 31,640 | 40,740 | 92,180 |
| | Metropolitan Medium | 14,380 | 26,840 | 30,550 | 71,300 |
| | Metropolitan Small | 9,560 | 21,100 | 20,370 | 46,010 |
| General Purpose Councils - Non-Metropolitan | Major Regional City | 19,180 | 33,330 | 40,740 | 103,840 |
| | Major Strategic Area | 19,180 | 33,330 | 40,740 | 103,840 |
| | Regional Strategic Area | 19,180 | 31,640 | 40,740 | 92,180 |
| | Regional Centre | 14,380 | 25,310 | 29,920 | 62,510 |
| | Regional Rural | 9,560 | 21,100 | 20,370 | 46,040 |
| | Rural | 9,560 | 12,650 | 10,180 | 27,600 |
| County Councils | Water | 1,900 | 10,550 | 4,080 | 17,330 |
| | Other | 1,900 | 6,300 | 4,080 | 11,510 |

*This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor/Chairperson as a Councillor/Member (s.249(2)).

In accordance with the schedule of fees shown above, the fee payable for each Councillor would range from \$9,560 to \$12,650. The fee payable to the Mayor would be an additional amount of between \$10,180 and \$27,600. If Council does not fix a fee, then Council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

Options

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

- Set the maximum fee allowable for Councillors and the Mayor; or
- Set an alternative fee for Councillors and the Mayor within the minimum and maximum range allowable.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

If Council does not fix a fee, then Council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

Conclusion

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council is to set the annual fee to be paid to each of the Councillors and the Mayor. The schedule of fees shows the minimum and maximum amounts payable, with Wentworth being designated as a Rural Council.

Attachments

Nil

9.5 ENDORSEMENT OF INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTATION

File Number: RPT/22/356

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

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

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

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Act (the Act) Council, following an ordinary election of Councillors, Council must review the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) before the 30 June following the election.

Additionally, Council must also review the Resource Strategy, and complete a four year Delivery Program and one year Operational Plan.

The suite of draft documents were presented to Council on 18 May 2022 and were subsequently placed on public exhibition, with submissions closing on 17 June 2022.

Council is now required to consider all submissions received prior to adopting the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) suite of documents and to make and levy the following rates and charges for 2022-23 including:

- 0.70% increase in the Ordinary rate for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Sewer Access Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Water Access Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Domestic Waste Charges for 2022-23.
- 2.50% increase in Water Consumption Charges for 2022-23.
- Charge the maximum 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges

At the time of writing this report there had been no submissions received from the public during the exhibition period. Any submissions received between the time of preparing this report and the conclusion of the public exhibition period will be the subject of a supplementary late report to be tabled at the Council meeting.

There have been minor administrative changes to all documents to reflect feedback received from Councillors and to reflect ongoing internal reviews and continuous improvement by Council officers.

The major change to the Community Strategic Plan was updating the vision from the previous vision of:

“A thriving region, supported by a robust economic base, distinctive open spaces, and strong local governance and leadership”.

To reflect the following:

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

Amendments have been made to the 2022-2023 Budget to reflect updated information received during the consultation period. The overall impact of the changes are as follows:

- Capital Grants & Contributions increased by \$2,697,436

- Operational Grants & Contributions increased by \$301,708
- Fees and Charges increased by \$150,000
- Materials & Contracts increased by \$301,708
- Other Expenditure increased by \$242,518
- Capital expenditure increased by \$3,030,437
- Use of Restricted Reserves to fund capital expenditure increased by \$300,000
- Total Surplus from Operating Activities increased by \$2,604,917
- Total 2022-2023 Cash Surplus decreased by \$125,619

Recommendation

That Council endorses the revised Community Vision as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan;

That Council endorses the 2022-32 Community Strategic Plan – Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Workforce Management Plan
- Asset Management Strategy

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan;

That Council endorses the 2022-2026 Delivery Program incorporating the 2022-2023 Operational Plan, Budget and Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to increase the General rate for the 2022-23 year by the maximum 0.70% rate pegged amount as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART);

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 Sections 534, 535 & 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) for the 2022-23 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 0.00334672 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 31.05% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$1,161,220.89

Farmland – Dry Land Grazing

- An ordinary rate of 0.00269869 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 17.94% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$736,409

Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

- An ordinary rate of 0.04014391 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$95.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 43.00% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$15,683

Residential Category

Wentworth

- An ordinary rate of 0.00435451 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to base amount of (\$240.00) for each assessment. The amount accounts for 45.09% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$323,640

Buronga

- An ordinary rate of 0.00392586 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 29.71% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$426,142

Gol Gol

- An ordinary rate of 0.00418719 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 25.76% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$597,530

Gol Gol East

- An ordinary rate of 0.00470828 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$360.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 22.68% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$357,091

Pooncarie

- An ordinary rate of 0.01407047 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 46.60% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$22,177

Dareton

- An ordinary rate of 0.01659654 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 48.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$76,832

Rural Residential

- An ordinary rate of 0.00382962 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 26.15% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$475,701

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 0.00716264 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 19.43% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$261,270

Business, Wentworth

- An ordinary rate of 0.00918108 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 37.89% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,192

Business, Mourquong

- An ordinary rate of 0.30967717 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 0.12% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$245,545

Business, Trentham Cliffs

- An ordinary rate of 0.00869766 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 4.17% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$11,450

Business, Arumpo

- An ordinary rate of 0.06598092 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment. The base amount accounts for 1.35% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$77,522

Business, Pooncarie

- An ordinary rate of 0.08716740 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 2022/23 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 \$888,000

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for 2022-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy fees and charges for Water Services for 2002-23 year as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue;

That Council resolves to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for 2022-23 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;

That Council resolves to fix the fees and charges as set out in the Annual Statement of Revenue; and

That Council resolves to charge the maximum 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government.

That Council approves the proposed borrowings for 2022-2023 as outlined in the Annual Statement Revenue.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to endorse the 2022-32 Community Strategic Plan, the 2022-32 Resource Strategy, Disability Inclusion Action Plan and Delivery Program incorporating the 2022-23 Operational Plan and Budget and the make and levy rates and annual charges for 2022-23 as required by the Local Government Act.

Background

The development of the Integrated Planning and Reporting suite of documents is a requirement of the Act.

As the ordinary election of Councillors took place in December 2021, Council is now required to review and update its IP&R documentation.

Matters under consideration

The **Community Strategic Plan** belongs to the community and encompasses the aspirations, ideas, issues and opportunities raised by members of the community throughout the plan's development. Its delivery will be the responsibility of everyone within our community and the commitments of Council made in its Delivery Program will help the community to achieve its vision for the region:

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

The long term strategies to be achieved within the revised ten year Community Strategic Plan are:

- Strategy 1 – Our Economy: Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region.
- Strategy 2 – Our Community: Wentworth Shire a Great Place to live.
- Strategy 3 – Our Environment: Wentworth Shire a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environmental.
- Strategy 4 – Our Civic Leadership: Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner.

Council's **Resource Strategy** consists of the Long Term Financial Plan; the Asset Management Plan and the Workforce Management Plan.

Council's **Delivery Program** is directly aligned to the strategies from the Community Strategic Plan to clearly show how Council will assist in progressing towards its long term vision.

The Delivery Program also incorporates the annual **Operational Plan** and budget with outlines Council's commitments and activities for the 2022-23 financial year.

The **Disability Inclusion Action Plan** outlines Council's commitment to ensuring that Wentworth Shire is a more inclusive and accessible community for people with disability, their families and carers.

Update from the draft documents

Since the documents went on public display there have been minor administrative updates made to the documents. One major change has been made to the Community Strategic Plan which changing the community vision from:

“A thriving region, supported by a robust economic base, distinctive open spaces and strong local governance and leadership”.

To the following:

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

This was based on feedback received from Councillors during the exhibition period.

There have been a number of changes made to budget for 2022-23 to better reflect information that has been received or clarified since the draft budget was prepared.

The changes to budget have resulted in the following:

- Capital Grants & Contributions increased by \$2,697,436
- Operational Grants & Contributions increased by \$301,708
- Fees and Charges increased by \$150,000

- Materials & Contracts increased by \$301,708
- Other Expenditure increased by \$242,518
- Capital expenditure increased by \$3,030,437
- Use of Restricted Reserves to fund capital expenditure increased by \$300,000
- Total Surplus from Operating Activities increased by \$2,604,917
- Total 2022-2023 Cash Surplus decreased by \$125,619

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Council has complied with its strategic and legislative responsibilities under the *Local Government Act* to review and update its Integrated Planning and Reporting documentation.

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.

Conclusion

Council is being asked to:

- Endorse the revised Community Vision as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan;
- Adopt the 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan – Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus;
- Adopt the 2022-2026 Resource Strategy, which includes the following documents:
 - Long Term Financial Plan
 - Workforce Management Plan
 - Asset Management Strategy
- Adopt the 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan;
- Adopt the 2022-2023 Delivery Program incorporating the 2022-2023 Operational Plan, Budget and Annual Statement of Revenue;
- Resolve to increase the rate income for the 2022-2023 year by the maximum 0.70% 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 2022-2023 year;
- Resolve to make and levy fees and charges for Sewer Services for 2022-2023 year as set out in the annual statement of revenue;
- Resolve to make and levy fees and charges for Water Services for 2022-2023 year as set out in the annual statement of revenue;
- Resolve to make and levy a Domestic Waste Management charge for 2022-2023 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;
- Resolve to fix the fees and charges schedule for 2022-2023 year as set out in annual statement of revenue;

- Resolve to charge 6.00% interest on overdue rates and charges as determined by the Minister for Local Government; and
- Resolve to approve borrowings for the 2022-2023 year.

The final version of the Integrated Planning and Reporting documentation must be uploaded to Council's website within 28 days of being approved.

Attachments

1. Community Strategic Plan - June 2022[↓](#)
2. Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023 - June 2022[↓](#)
3. Resource Strategy - June 2022[↓](#)
4. Disability Inclusion Action Plan - June 2022[↓](#)
5. Budget Changes Table[↓](#)



WENTWORTH SHIRE: OUR FUTURE IN FOCUS

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2032





This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.

Images were sourced from Council's Image Library unless otherwise stated.
© Copyright Wentworth Shire Council 2022

**Wentworth Shire Council would like to
acknowledge the Traditional Custodians
of the Land and pay its respects to Elders
past, present and emerging.**

This page has intentionally been left blank



Little Wings Puppet Show Pooncarie



WENTWORTH SHIRE: OUR FUTURE IN FOCUS COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2032

INDEX

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Your Council | 6 |
| Shire and Shire Tourism Profile | 7 |
| The Sights and Experiences of Wentworth Shire | 9 |
| Wentworth Shire At A Glance | 10 |
| Purpose of the Community Strategic Plan | 12 |
| Plan On A Page | 14 |
| The Plan | 16 |
| Aligning Our Plan With Other Initiatives | 18 |
| Engagement Activities | 22 |
| Community Vision | 26 |
| Council's Role and Services | 28 |
| Community Strategic Plan | 29 |
| Our Economy | 29 |
| Our Community | 31 |
| Our Environment | 34 |
| Our Leadership | 36 |



YOUR COUNCIL



Cr Tim Elstone - Mayor



Cr Daniel Linklater - Deputy Mayor



Cr Greg Evans



Cr Steve Heywood



Cr Susan Nichols



Cr Jo Rodda



Cr Brian Beaumont



Cr Peter Crisp



Cr Steve Cooper



SHIRE AND SHIRE TOURISM PROFILE

Wentworth is the region's oldest town, located at the junction of Australia's two largest rivers, where the Darling ends and joins the Murray. Its location made Wentworth an important port in the paddle steamer era. Once the busiest inland port in NSW, it was considered as the site for the Australian capital.

In 1829 exploration parties headed out west of Sydney towards the then unknown Murray and Darling rivers in an endeavour to discover an inland sea. Although no inland sea was found, Captain Charles Sturt, entered the headwaters of a wide river which he named the Darling. On his return to Sydney a Government conceived expedition then sent Sturt to trace the Murrumbidgee River. It was during this expedition that he entered a mighty river which he named the Murray. In 1830, while navigating the Murray, he came across a river junction which he was convinced was the Darling.

Joseph Hawdon and Charles Bonney drove cattle overland from New South Wales to Adelaide along the Murray and arrived at the Darling/Murray junction in 1838. Other overlanders followed the route, which became

known as the Sydney/Adelaide 'highway', and the river junction spot became an established camp site known as Hawdon's Ford. The actual junction at the time was called "The Rinty". The settlement was later referred to as the "Darling Junction".

A number of squatters established reign over the land along the Darling and Murray Rivers, expanding their holdings westwards from the Murrumbidgee area and north eastwards from South Australia. In the mid 1840's the settlement was known as McLeod's Crossing", named for the first white residents of the settlement.

With the arrival of the river steamers in 1853, the small European settlement found itself to be ideally situated as an administrative and commercial centre for the untapped wealth of the vast Outback. For many years Sydney was the only port in New South Wales to handle more cargo than Wentworth. The steamers brought a new sophistication to the rugged river towns. They carried the hopes and dreams of fragile communities for over three quarters of a century.



In 1857, Surveyor General Barney considered it time to establish a proper township. The town site was approved in 1859 and was named after the New South Wales explorer and politician William Charles Wentworth, on June 21, 1859. The area was proclaimed a municipality on January 23, 1879, and is the region's oldest settlement.

Throughout the prosperous river trade days Wentworth Shire suffered extremes in fortune and despair. The area suffered floods, droughts, rabbit plagues and overstocking which in turn caused erosion and land degeneration. Nonetheless, the settlements continued to thrive and grow at a reasonably rapid pace and by 1929 a series of locks and weirs, to assist navigation and pumping, had been completed on the Murray River.

In the early 1900's the first irrigation settlement in New South Wales was commenced at Curlwaa, seven kilometres east of Wentworth. Irrigation breathed new life into the district which led to pastoral properties being divided into smaller allotments (now referred to as "blocks").

An improved system of road networks, state-wide rail links and motorised transport reduced the need for riverboats as a source of transportation, communication and trade, thus forcing an end to the riverboat era.

Wentworth continues to be an important centre for the surrounding landholders. It is a town steeped in history and as a tourist area of great diversity. Wentworth has much to offer including; the Junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers, Locks and Weirs, Paddle steamers and Houseboats, Water sports, Historic Buildings, The Old Wentworth Gaol, Pioneer Museum, Aboriginal Culture and Galleries, Wineries, Perry Sandhills. The Wentworth Shire boasts the Australian Inland Botanical Gardens, Mungo National Park and the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area, unique scenery and native wildlife as key tourist attractions.

Wentworth is considered the gateway to Outback NSW and is situated on the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers in South-Western New South Wales.

Mildura, situated on the Victorian side of the Murray, is the nearest commercial centre of any size. Wentworth Shire is a region of great diversity and it offers you the opportunity to experience an introduction to Outback Australia.

The area can be an arid and harsh landscape or a landscape that is soft and serene in solitude. It is a land of rivers, creeks and lagoons; miles and miles of saltbush, acacia, casuarina and Mallee, wide flat plains, drifting desert sands, red roads and cobalt blue skies.

Remarkably for tens of thousands of years prior to Sturt naming the Darling river, the traditional owners who lived along it had called the river Baaka, hence their name Barkindji people, meaning 'Kinship to the river'.

In recent years, 'Baaka' the traditional name for the river has been more widely used by the broader community, giving back cultural recognition and respect to the First Nations people. The rivers and water are vital to Aboriginal culture, spirituality, mythical identity and wellbeing. For this reason, the Barkindji Native Title Group Aboriginal Corporation (BNTGAC) are leading the way for the Baaka to be formally recognised as a dual name for the Darling River.

The Canoe Tree

The magnificent canoe tree located in the Greater Murray Darling Junction Reserve makes for a grand entrance to Junction Island. These trees are remarkable examples of Aboriginal expertise and are the embodiment of the rich Aboriginal Cultural Heritage along the river.

To make a canoe, they would first make an outline of the shape required with cutting stones. Once the shape was decided, they would cut deeply into the tree to the heartwood (or xylem), prying the bark off in one piece with sticks or rocks. Some were made watertight by the addition of clay and grass in any leaky areas.

THE SIGHTS AND EXPERIENCES OF WENTWORTH SHIRE

1. The Confluence of the Darling and Murray Rivers can be best viewed from the observation tower.



2. Stand on the island at the confluence of the river with a natural reserve walking track near the Wentworth District Hospital.
3. The Old Wharf on the Darling and the Captain John Egge Memorial. A short walk from the main street on the river front, once the scene of a busy river trade.
4. Australia Inland Botanic Gardens



5. The Wentworth Rotary Pioneer Museum and The Old Gaol for a taste of Wentworth's history.

6. The PS Ruby, Wentworth's flagship.
7. Perry Sandhills – a natural wonder of Wentworth. Explore the drifting sands of this ice-age formation, home to mega fauna fossils and a second world war RAAF practice range. Enjoy a quiet stroll over the hills or go wild with the endless fun to be had up and down the dunes.
8. Visit the historic town of Pooncarie, once a thriving port town laden with wool plying the Darling downstream for South Australia.



9. Visit Mungo National Park with around 40,000 years of living culture. Mungo National Park is situated within the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area; it is an area of international significance for its cultural, archaeological, and natural landscape features.
10. Visit the Fergie Monument – a standing legacy to the wonderful tractor that saved Wentworth and surround during the 1956 floods.

Data based on the 2016 Census data

WENTWORTH SHIRE at a glance



*Data collected from Remplan and ABS

‘QUIET COUNTRY LIVING’



Fabulous river right on our doorstep’

‘CLEAN’



‘Awesome place to live’



‘PARKS AND GARDENS
WELL-MAINTAINED’



‘BEAUTIFUL, UNIQUE
LANDSCAPES AND
ATTRactions’



‘WONDERFUL
ENVIRONMENT
AND RIVER’



‘RELAXED’



‘ADJACENT TO MILDURA’

WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT WENTWORTH SHIRE

**‘STRONG SENSE OF
COMMUNITY’**



‘local organisations with great
visions’

‘NoTraffic’



‘PEACE & TRANQUILITY’



‘PLENTY OF GOOD FACILITIES’



‘easy access to all necessary
goods and services’



‘Semi-rural environment’



‘SHORT TRIP OVER THE RIVER TO
MILDURA’



‘GOOD COMMUNITY
OF VOLUNTEERS’



‘BLESSED WITH ALL THE ATTRIBUTES
PROVIDED BY TWO GREAT RIVERS’

‘friendly community with strong
involvement’



‘a delightful aesthetic’



‘Easy access to the
outback areas’



**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**



PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework NSW, Wentworth Shire Council is required to develop a Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The purpose of the CSP is to outline the future vision and aspirations of the community to assist with long term planning, prioritisation and decision making.

This document is a forward-looking aspirational Plan, and while it recognises the rich and significant history of the region, it also explores new approaches to ensuring the community can move towards its aspirational vision through innovation, technology and strategic thinking.

Developing a CSP which reflects the vision of the whole community is a challenging task. As with any community, there are differing opinions and perspectives about where Council should use its limited resources to best meet the needs of the community.

In order to overcome this challenge, Council is committed to gaining as full an understanding as possible about the key issues and opportunities the region is facing in the future. This includes drawing on exiting strategies and plans, staff knowledge, additional research, and most importantly – feedback received from the community.

Bearing in mind the purpose of the CSP is to outline and deliver on the vision and aspirations for the community, consultation feedback plays an essential role in guiding this objective. It is the input from the community which has shaped this document, and a successful CSP will see the fruition of an ongoing consultation process realising the desires and aspirations of the community into the future.

The CSP is also a reference point for decision making, so at any stage, elected representatives, members of the community and council staff can look to the CSP to help support or review decisions being made on specific issues, and ensure these decisions

align with the community vision.

As with any long-term plan, the CSP will be reviewed regularly to ensure that the direction it offers remains congruent with community needs which may change over time. Ultimately, this is the document which should ensure that the community is listened to and provided for in years to come.

The Community Strategic Plan is not able to be wholly implemented in one term of Council. The themes and directions outlined in the plan will inform Council's Delivery Program. The Delivery Program represents what the Council expects to achieve during the term of election for the Council, typically four years. The annual Operational Plan identifies the individual activities and projects that will be completed within the next financial year of the Delivery Program, which in turn drives the Council budget.

A long-term vision will not be achieved without formal identification and allocation of resources. The Resource Strategy outlines Council's capacity to manage assets and deliver services over the next ten years. It determines Council's capacity to manage its finances effectively, to sustain its workforce and manage the overall costs of community assets. The strategy is prepared under the following guiding principles:

- Our community is our responsibility;
- We strive for innovation and continuous improvement;
- We are informed and make decisions based on data and community involvement;
- We are resilient; and
- We facilitate smart local choices to be made at a local level.

It is important to track how we are progressing in delivering our Community Strategic Plan. Council will report back to the community at regular intervals on what has been achieved and how it is progressing. These reports include:

- Regular Operational Plan Review – Every three months Council will report on the progress that has been achieved in implementing the Actions identified in that year's Operational Plan.
- Annual Report – This is a report to the community every year on the progress in implementing the Operational Plan and Delivery Program.
- End of Term Report – This is a report to the community in line with the election cycle on how successful the community has been in achieving the objectives identified in the Community Strategic Plan.

"Balancing competing needs and principles is the most pressing challenge for all local government"



Bendigo Bank Agency 1st Birthday Celebration

PLAN ON A PAGE

ECONOMIC



**A VIBRANT, GROWING
AND THRIVING REGION**

YOU TOLD US YOU WANTED

- 'Major employment opportunities for businesses'
- 'Continuing to grow as it has over the last three years'
- 'Larger population, more tourists'
- 'The vision must be for economic change to the community'
- 'We need money spent here and not in Victoria'
- 'Bring tourist dollars to the town and the local community and business'
- 'Bigger and more developed with additional services'
- 'Promote the natural attractions within the Shire'
- 'Make our riverfront a feature'
- 'Build other infrastructure and services to attract visitors to enhance the tourist experience'
- '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'

| Objectives | Council's role |
|--|----------------------|
| 1.1. - Promote the shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative sustainable and diversified industries. | Provide |
| 1.2. - Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 1.3. - High quality connectivity across the region. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 1.4. - Encourage lifelong learning opportunities. | Advocate |
| 1.5. - Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities. | Provide/Advocate |

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- Business and Industry
- Developers
- State and Federal Government
- Department of Planning
- Department of Environment and Heritage
- Event organisers
- Far West Joint Organisation of Councils
- Regional Development Australia – Far West
- TAFE and Local Schools
- Destination NSW – Far West
- Murray Regional Tourism
- Mildura Regional Development

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Unemployment Rate
- Number of new industries and business in the region
- Regional economic activity
- Development applications approval time
- Population growth
- Visitation numbers (total visitors to the Wentworth region and total number of visitor nights)
- % Satisfaction with the Visitor Information Centre

SOCIAL



A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

YOU TOLD US YOU WANTED

- 'Better access to healthcare services and facilities'
- 'Childcare facilities for families'
- 'More aged care facilities to accommodate our aging population'
- 'Stronger police presence'
- 'Another school in Buronga or Gol Gol to accommodate growth in the area'
- 'An enhanced events calendar so residents have more to do'
- 'Proper monitoring and management of projects to ensure timely progression and reporting'
- 'More public artwork that improves Wentworth's presentation'
- 'Better water pressure and quality'

| Objectives | Council's role |
|---|------------------------------|
| 2.1. - Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 2.2. - Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community well-being and vulnerable people. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 2.3. - To have a safe community. | Provide/Advocate |
| 2.4. - A well-informed, supported and engaged community. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 2.5. - To have a strong sense of place. | Provide/Advocate/Collaborate |

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- Businesses and Industry
- State and Federal Government
- Far West Local Health District
- Local sporting and community groups
- Health Care providers
- TAFE and Local Schools
- Tourism operators
- Department of Education
- Department of Primary Industries – Crown Land

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Number of community clubs, groups and organisations supported
- Capital works projects completed on time and budget
- % Satisfaction with Library Services
- % Satisfaction with Council services / overall resident satisfaction
- Number of people volunteering in the Community
- % Satisfaction with appearance of the Wentworth region

Strategies and Objectives

ENVIRONMENTAL



A COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT ITS PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

YOU TOLD US YOU WANTED

- 'Better planning for infrastructures to support growth'
- 'A better waste management system that incorporates recycling and green waste bins'
- 'Stronger effort to protect our natural environment and waterways'
- 'Better maintenance of Council assets and infrastructure'
- 'More green spaces included in new developments'
- 'An environmentally sustainable Shire'
- 'Continued improvement of the Shire's presentation'

| Objectives | Council's role |
|---|---------------------|
| 3.1. - Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development. | Provide |
| 3.2. - Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well-maintained. | Provide |
| 3.3. - Minimise the impact on the natural environment. | Provide/Support |
| 3.4. - Use and manage our resources wisely. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 3.5. - Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire. | Provide/Advocate |

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- Businesses and Industry
- Far West Local Land Services
- Department of Environment and Heritage
- Land owners
- Department of Planning
- Department Primary Industries - Water
- Water NSW
- Transport for NSW
- Department of Infrastructure
- Developers
- Landcare

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Capital works projects completed on time and budget
- Drinking water quality indicators
- Satisfaction with condition and level of service of Council's assets
- % reduction in annual electricity costs
- % reduction in Council emissions
- Actions completed to decrease Council's energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions

CIVIC LEADERSHIP



IS SUPPORTED BY STRONG AND ETHICAL CIVIC LEADERSHIP WITH ALL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN AN OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE MANNER

YOU TOLD US 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'
- 'Proactive councillors, those who can make a vision reality, and be willing to influence change'
- 'Staff who are capable and passionate about the area'
- 'Broader community consultation'
- 'Inform the community and get community input'

| Objectives | Council's role |
|---|----------------------|
| 4.1. - Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making and advocating processes. | Provide |
| 4.2. - A strong, responsible and representative government. | Provide |
| 4.3. - An effective and efficient organisation. | Provide |
| 4.4. - Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 4.5. - Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long term sustainability and efficiency. | Support/Collaborate |

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- Businesses
- Event organisers
- Community Groups and Organisations
- Office of Local Government
- State and Federal Government
- Far West Joint Organisation
- Local Government NSW
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Neighbouring Councils
- Barkindji Native Title group
- Dareton Lands Council
- Indigenous Community and groups

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Community satisfaction with the performance of Council
- Number of followers on Council's social media platforms
- Number of hits on Council's website
- Increased community participation in engagement activities
- Strong financial sustainability
- Our community will be more aware of our elected leaders and Council operations



Wentworth Public School Consultation Session

THE PLAN

When the information we gathered was collated and analysed, 12 key themes emerged to describe the Wentworth Shire of the future.

Council has considered each of these themes, and underlying objectives and developed strategies to contribute towards achieving them.

This Plan is the overarching strategy to guide Council. All other strategies, plans and policies developed by Council seek to support the implementation of this Plan.

These are aligned to this Plan to ensure that what Council does within its area of control is always moving towards the aspirations the community has articulated.

Specifically, the plan aims to:

- Inform Council's priority setting and decision making;
- Set our principles and values that will guide our community;
- Inform the decision making of other agencies and organisations including State and Federal Governments;

- Inform stakeholders of the community's long-term vision for the Shire; and
- Guide local and regional planning documents and initiatives.

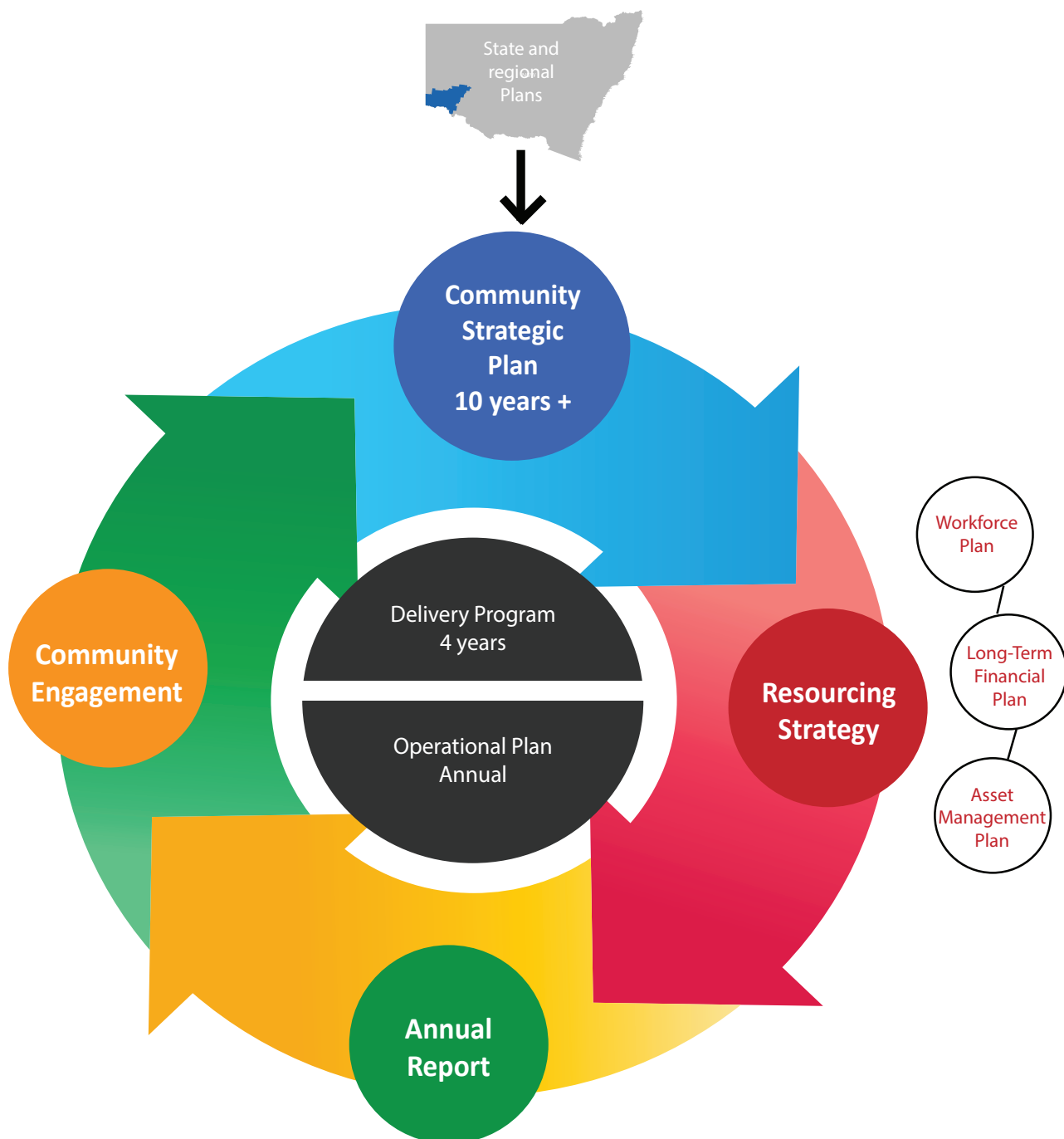
Integrated Planning and Reporting

In line with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework each NSW Council is required, by legislation, to prepare a range of plans and integrate them to obtain the maximum leverage from their efforts to plan for the future.

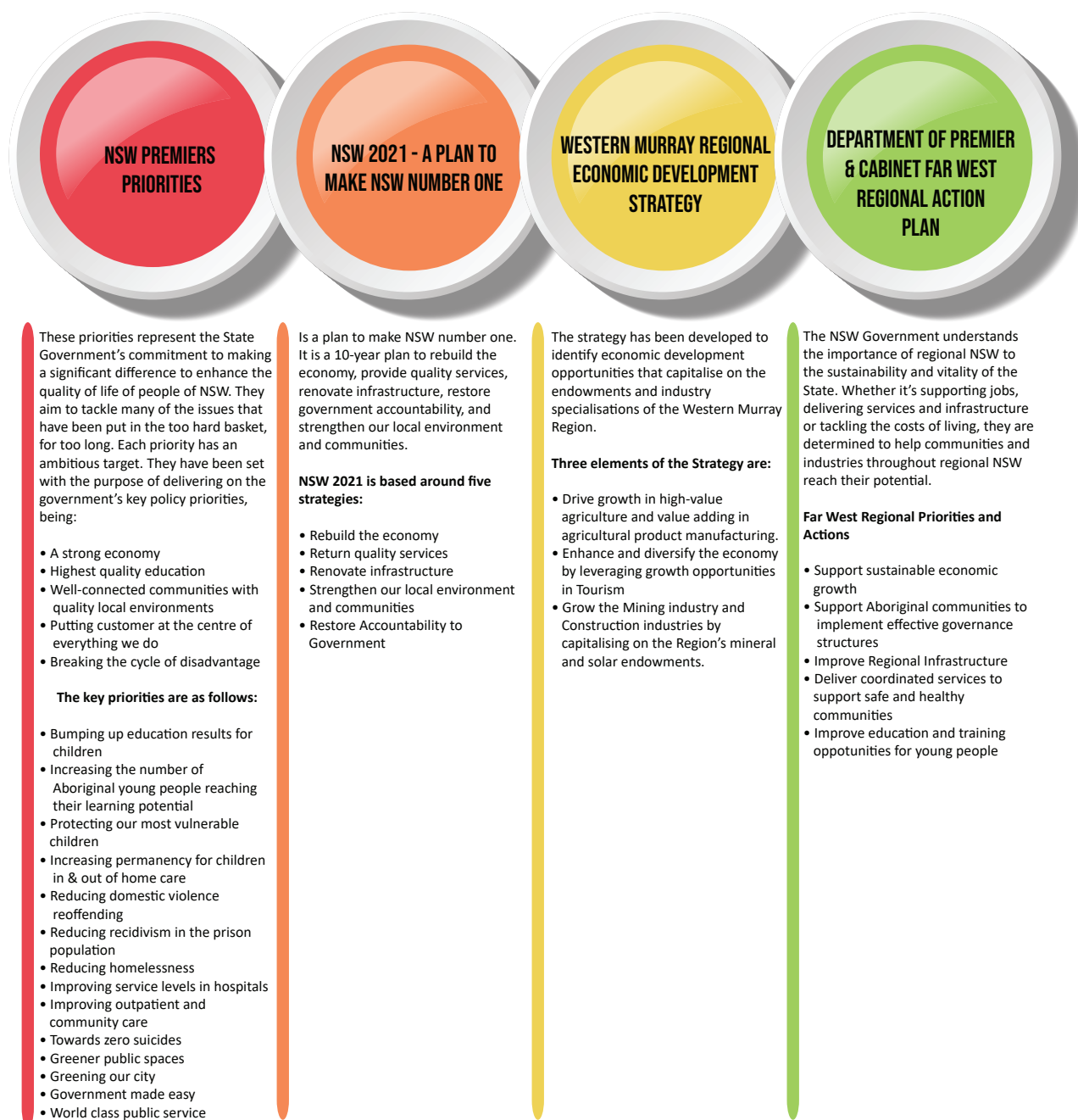
The IP&R Framework includes the Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and the Annual Report.

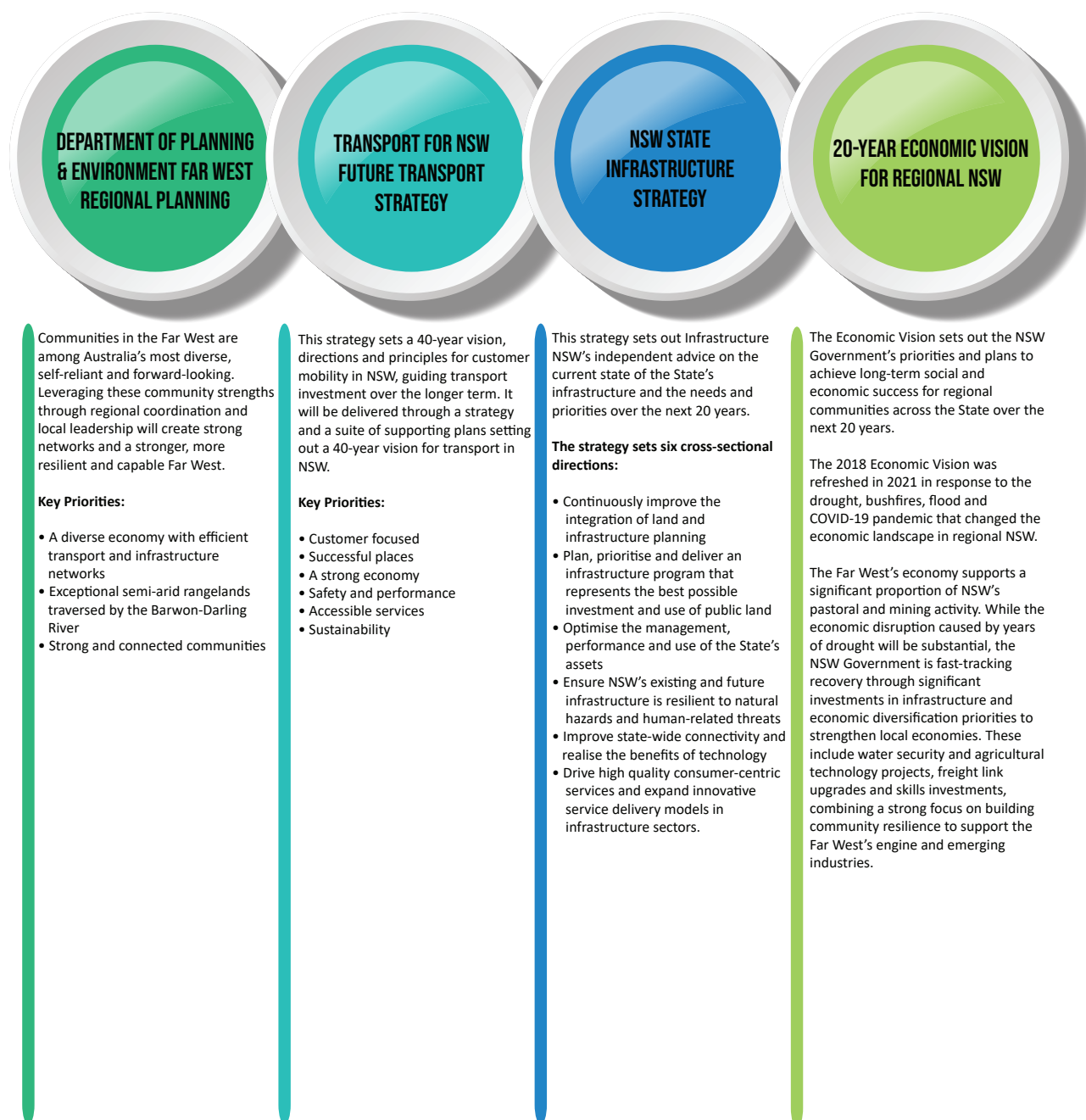
The aim of the IP&R Framework is to ensure each Council takes a long term, strategic approach to its activities and that these represents the needs of the community.

The relationship between community input and Council's plan is outlined in the following diagram of the IP&R Framework.



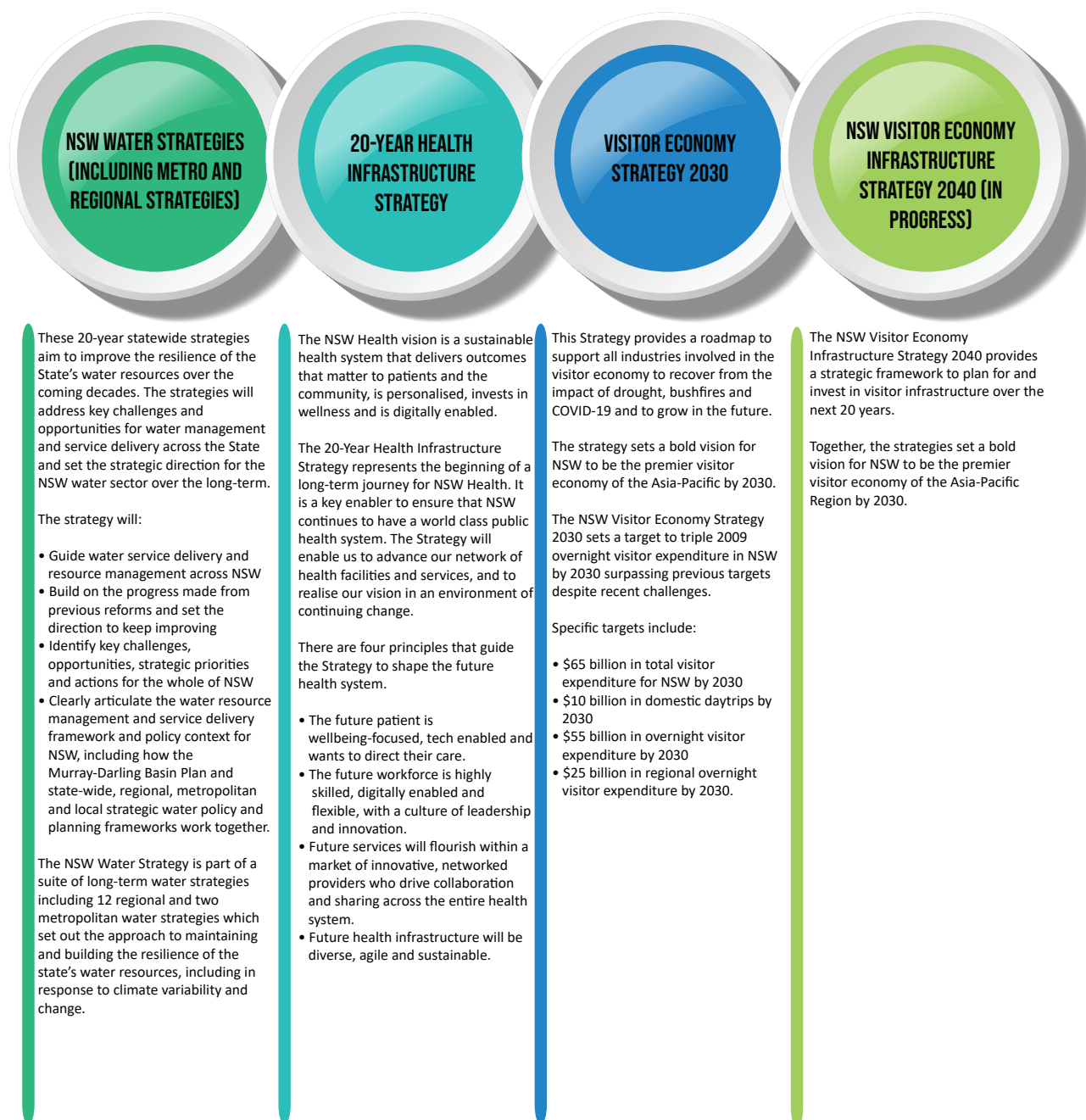
ALIGNING OUR PLAN WITH OTHER INITIATIVES





ALIGNING OUR PLAN WITH OTHER INITIATIVES







ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Community consultation is integral to the preparation of the Community Strategic Plan. This has been done to effectively identify the issues and opportunities in the community from a broad perspective and to assist in forming a vision and strategic objectives for the community.

The specific intents of the community consultation process were to:

- Ascertain and understand community and stakeholder views and opinions to inform the Plan;
- Identify issues and obtain community input on ways to resolve them;
- Assist in developing a vision for the community;
- Communicate and inform the community and stakeholders of the process and key

- messages of the Plan;
- Obtain feedback and input throughout the Plan preparation process; and
- Encourage public ownership of the final Plan.

Council aimed to provide numerous opportunities for the community and key stakeholders to provide formal and informal comment and feedback to assist with the continued preparation of the Plan. The consultation process allows the community and relevant stakeholders to identify various pertinent issues as being important for the future development, growth and sustainability of the Shire.

The specific consultation activities undertaken were:



Engagement Strategy

In April and May 2021 Council reviewed and updated its Community Engagement Strategy. Through its Community Engagement Strategy, Wentworth Shire Council works hard to establish opportunities for valuable two-way communication with the community.

Community Survey

An online survey was placed on Council's website for a six-week period from 1 November to 12 December 2021. The survey asked respondents to rank Council's performance and service delivery, how they feel about living in the Wentworth Shire, and the opportunities, threats, strengths and weaknesses for the community and where they would like to see the community in ten years' time. There were 112 respondents.

Community Consultation Sessions

A series of 8 consultation sessions were held between November 2021 and March 2022 in the following locations:

- Wentworth
- Dareton
- Gol Gol / Buronga
- Curlwaa
- Anabranah
- Pooncarie
- Pomona
- Eilerslie

A total of 106 residents attended the sessions which provided an opportunity to discuss the future of the Wentworth Shire and the actions required to achieve this future. Attendees were asked to identify what they felt were the top priorities going forward.

Targeted Consultation

Workshops and/or focused meetings were held with the following organisations:

- Bendigo Community Bank Board
- BMEET

- Coomealla High School
- Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club Board
- Coomealla Working Party Namatjira
- Dareton Senior Citizens
- Dareton Public School
- Gol Gol Public School
- Gol Gol Senior Citizens
- Mildura Base Public Hospital
- Mildura Rural City Council
- Murray House Board
- Wentworth Interagency Group
- Wentworth Public School
- Wentworth Senior Citizens

In addition to the above, the General Manager has also undertaken a number of individual consultation sessions with residents.

Feedback was collated and sorted into a series of themes which have been the source of the future directions outlined in this Community Strategic Plan.

Where are we now?

Determining where we are now allows us to more clearly identify what we, as a community, value about Wentworth and what issues we might face in the future. It helps in monitoring progress towards the community vision and provides a foundation for community discussion.

Where do we want to be?

Understanding where we want to be in the future is vital in developing the Community Strategic Plan. It helps us to communicate a shared vision and a set of outcomes statements that describe the hopes and aspirations of our community and also provides the basis for our road map for the future.

How will we get there and who can help us get there?

Delivering on a long-term community vision takes a thorough, thoughtful and coordinated approach. In exploring 'how will we get there' we looked in detail at what actually needs to be done and who might be able assist.

How are we tracking?

With so many contributors to developing and

delivering on this Community Strategic Plan it is crucial that we have a clear and effective way to measure and track its implementation. What are the key indicators we need to monitor and report against to measure progress.

The vision and commitment to the community objectives outlined in the CSP have been developed fundamentally from community feedback and engagement.

Although this is a long-term strategic plan, the state of change currently being experienced in Wentworth Shire in terms of population growth and development calls for ongoing and meaningful dialogue between the community and Council.

This CSP will be reviewed again at the start of the next Council term in 2024, however this is an opportunity for Council and the community to build on the engagement which has taken place and shaped this plan.

This is also a chance to explore community-lead engagement, and how Council can support the community Vision articulated in this Plan.

The community is invited to continue providing ideas and feedback as Council works towards delivering the Vision set out in this Plan, and to keep Council accountable to the commitments it has made to the community.





Social Justice Principles

The Community Strategic Plan has been developed in accordance with the NSW Government's social justice strategy, which is based on the following interrelated principles:

Equity

There should be fairness in decision making, prioritising and allocation of resources, particularly for those in need.

Everyone should have a fair opportunity to participate in the future of the community. The planning process should take particular care to involve and protect the interests of people in vulnerable circumstances.

Access

Everyone should have fair access to services, resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life.

Participation

Everyone should have the maximum opportunity to genuinely participate in decisions which affect their lives.

Rights

Equal rights should be established and promoted, with opportunities provided for people from diverse linguistic, cultural and religious backgrounds to participate in community life.

It is important that all communities have access to programs and services that support wellbeing, and have the opportunity to participate in the future of their region.

Participation helps build social cohesion and connectedness, and reduces isolation.

Many issues facing our community are beyond the direct control of Council, however, Council plays a lead role in advocating to government agencies and non-government organisations to address social wellbeing issues affecting the

community's quality of life.

Principles of good governance

Good governance is having the best possible processes for Wentworth Council's decision making:

- Accountability is a fundamental requirement of good governance. Local government has an obligation to report, explain and be answerable for the consequences of decisions it has made on behalf of the community it represents.
- People should be able to follow and understand the decision-making process. This means that they will be able to clearly see how and what decision was made – what information, advice and consultation council considered, and which legislative requirements (when relevant) council followed.
- Local government should always try to serve the needs of the entire community while balancing competing interests in a timely, appropriate and responsive manner.
- A community's wellbeing results from all of its members feeling their interests have been considered by council in the decision-making process. This means that all groups, particularly the most vulnerable, should have opportunities to participate in the process.
- Local government should implement decisions and follow processes that make best use of the available people, resources and time to ensure the best possible results for their community.

Anyone affected by or interested in a decision should have the opportunity to participate in the process for making that decision.

This can happen in several ways – community members may be provided with information, asked for their opinion, given the opportunity to make recommendations or, in some cases, be part of the actual decision-making process.

COMMUNITY VISION

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





| Our values | Our behaviour |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Honesty and Integrity | We deliver on commitments. We act ethically. |
| Accountability and Transparency | We take responsibility for our actions. We communicate openly and respectfully with our community. |
| Respect | We act professionally towards our community and our colleagues. |
| Quality | We do our best to provide the highest standard of goods and services to our community. |
| Commitment | We are responsive to the needs of our community and always look for ways to better serve our community. We are dedicated to fulfilling the Shire's vision and goals. |

COUNCIL'S ROLE AND SERVICES

Council has a number of key roles in working towards a sustainable future for the Shire with a healthy and resilient community, as a leader, advocate, custodian, facilitator, educator, regulator and service provider.

In order to help the community achieve its aspirations, Council will play the following roles:

- **Provide** services and infrastructure to the community
- **Collaborate** with other levels of government, agencies and community groups on projects and issues
- **Support** other organisations and groups to achieve outcomes by providing resources or bringing stakeholders together
- **Advocate** to decision makers on behalf of our community to raise issues and opportunities and inform other levels of government of local and regional priorities.

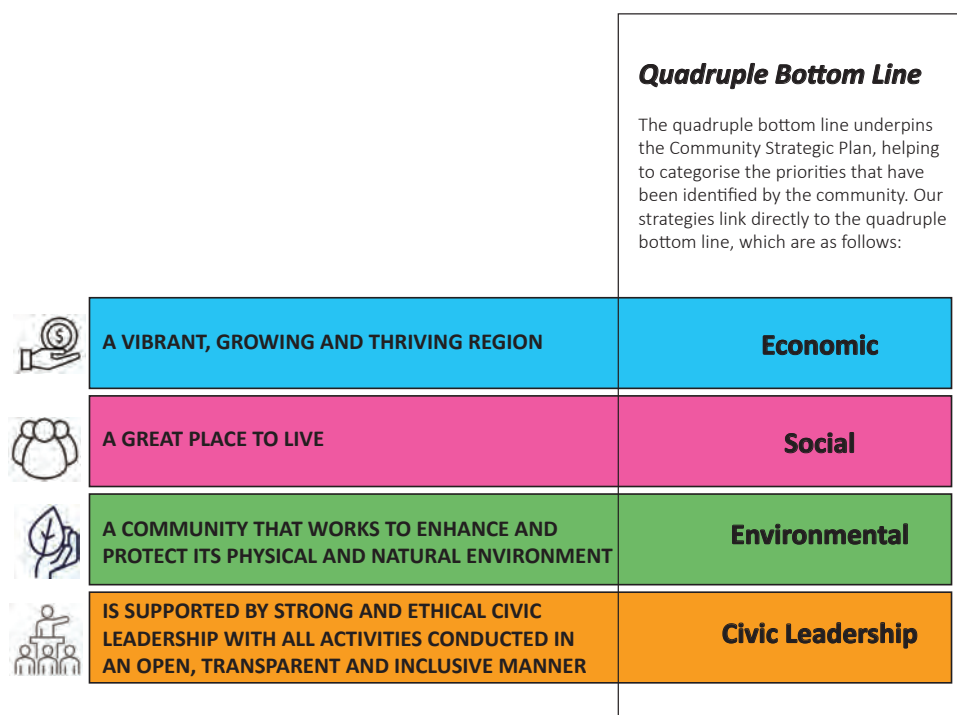
Council is committed to achieving our current vision as well as contributing to the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

To do this, Council applies a Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) approach that combines social, environmental, economic and governance considerations.

The Community Strategic Plan also uses a QBL approach so that our objectives and supporting strategies deliver outcomes in a balanced and holistic way.

Many parts of our vision cannot be placed under only one area, as they are interrelated and it is important to remember that an action in one area creates impact across each of the others.

Recognising interrelationships encourages us to come together to work towards shared goals and can also highlight otherwise unanticipated consequences of our actions.



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR ECONOMY



A VIBRANT, GROWING AND THRIVING REGION

In order to have a strong, sustainable economy it is important that existing core businesses and industries are enabled and encouraged to grow and prosper and that businesses are attracted to the region.

Further economic development can be achieved by seeking out opportunities to increase tourism and innovation, which will in turn provide more local employment, urban renewal and economic growth.

The visitor economy is a significant economic contributor for the Wentworth Region with a number of local tourist attractions and events.

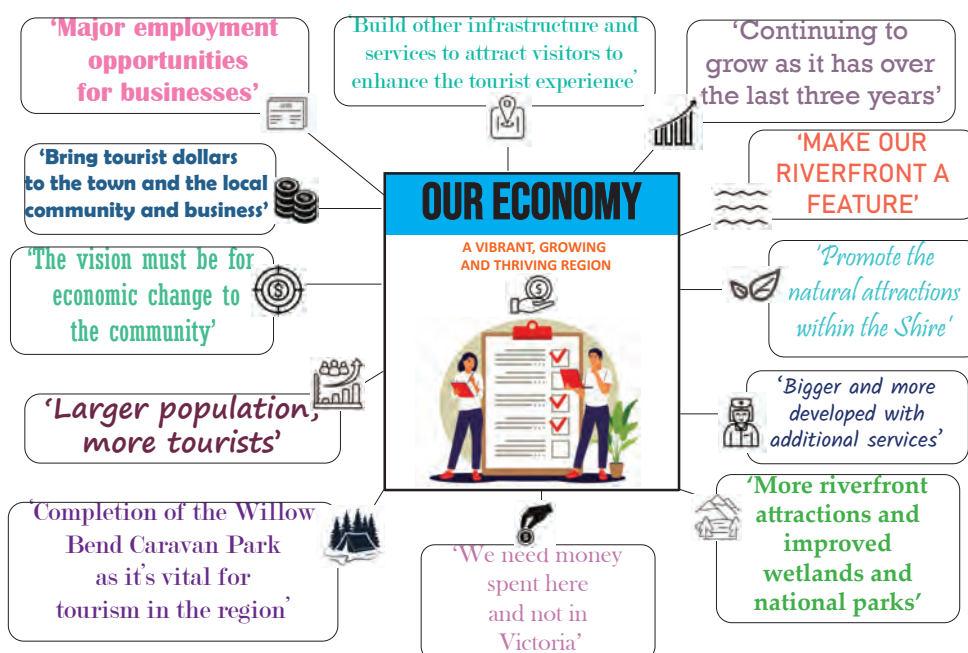
The community is concerned that more needs

to be done to promote the benefits of the region and to clearly define a clear point of difference in order to continue to attract tourists and visitors.

In terms of economic development, Council has both a direct and indirect role. Council provides employment for many residents as an employer of choice. Indirectly, Council can assist development by providing infrastructure and advocating on behalf of the business community.

Wentworth Shire is a growing region with an expanding sense of opportunity and there is a desire to capitalise on those possibilities for the benefit of all.

YOU TOLD US WHAT YOU WANTED





| Objectives | Council's role |
|--|----------------------|
| 1.1 – Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries. | Provide |
| 1.2 – Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 1.3 – High quality connectivity across the region. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 1.4 – Encourage lifelong learning opportunities. | Advocate |
| 1.5 – Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities. | Provide/Advocate |

What the Community can do

- Start a small business
- Shop locally to support our economy
- Create opportunities for traineeships, work experience and apprenticeships
- Promote our Shire as a tourism and business destination
- Upskill yourself
- Be a local tourist
- Work with Council to make this a great place to invest, work and live

What the Council can do

- Communicate opportunities
- Land use and development control planning
- Support for major events
- Advocate for funding for economic infrastructure
- Tourism, promotion and visitor facilities
- Library Services
- Economic Development
- Support local businesses by shopping local where possible

Links to various plans

- NSW Premiers Priorities
- NSW 2021
- Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy
- DPC Far West Regional Action Plan
- Department of Planning & Environment Far West Regional Plan
- Transport for NSW Future Transport Strategy

Other potential partners

- Business and Industry
- Developers
- State and Federal Government
- Department of Planning
- Department of Environment and Heritage
- Event organisers
- Far West Joint Organisation of Councils
- Regional Development Australia – Far West
- TAFE & Local Schools
- Destination NSW – Far West
- Murray Regional Tourism
- Mildura Regional Development

Measuring Progress

- Unemployment Rate
- Number of new industries and business in the region
- Regional economic activity
- Development applications approval time
- Population growth
- Visitation numbers (total visitors to the Wentworth region and total number of visitor nights)
- % Satisfaction with the Visitor Information Centre
- Number of households with internet connection
- Number of young people (15-24 years old) employed
- Numbers attending library programs
- Resident feedback

OUR COMMUNITY



A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Social

We have a unique community with a strong desire to have an input into the future of the region.

While there are many common features and pastimes which people enjoy, there are also many differing needs and priorities across a variety of demographics and segments of the community.

It is essential that all people, where ever they live, have access to services which enable them to feel included, to do what they love and to participate in cultural, sporting and social activities.

It is through these interactions that we are able

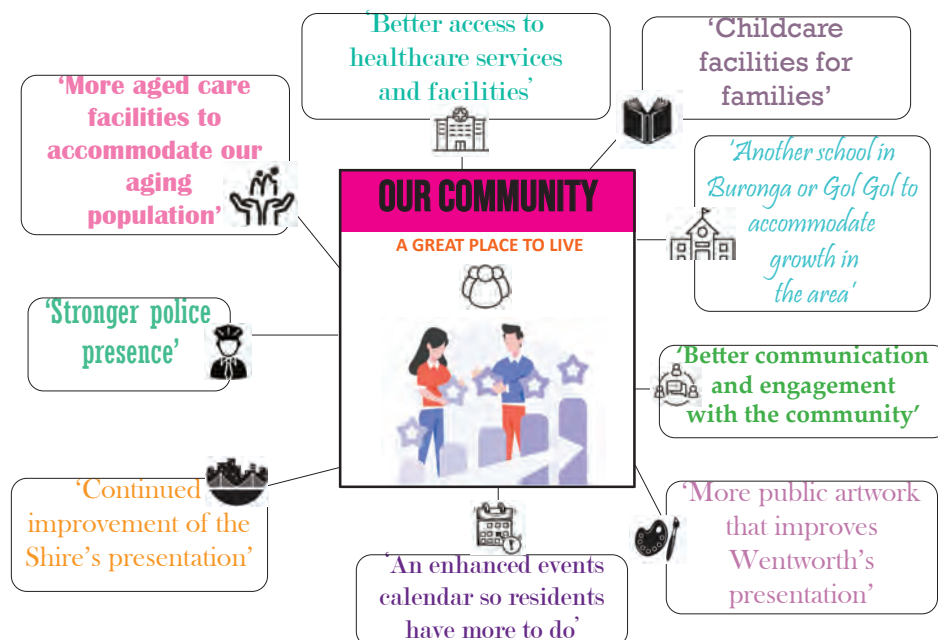
to maintain a strong sense of community.

The community expect to live in a safe and healthy community that offers equitable access to health and specialist services and supports the needs of the aged, disabled and disadvantaged.

We all need to provide opportunities for people to contribute to their community to build our sense of place and connection.

The challenge for Council is how we adapt to the changing requirements of our evolving community while advocating for the provision of essential social services in an equitable and affordable manner.

YOU TOLD US WHAT YOU WANTED





| Objectives | Council's role |
|---|------------------------------|
| 2.1 – Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 2.2 – Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 2.3 – To have a safe community. | Provide/Advocate |
| 2.4 – A well informed, supported and engaged community. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 2.5 – To have a strong sense of place. | Provide/Advocate/Collaborate |

What the Community can do

- Attend, or live stream a Council meeting
- Use local facilities and services
- Participate in a community, sporting or cultural group
- Participate in local health lifestyle activities
- Be a responsible pet owner
- Volunteer
- Have a good work/life balance
- Show mutual respect and acceptance of others
- Report illegal and anti-social behaviour
- Become a mentor to a young person

What the Council can do

- Parks and open spaces
- Public amenities
- Road Safety initiatives
- Library Services
- Advocate for better health services
- Advocate for better educational opportunities
- Promote the availability of services and how to access them
- Partner with local police and other agencies to develop strategies to reduce crime and improve community safety

Links to various plans

- NSW Premiers Priorities
- NSW 2021

- Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy
- DPC Far West Regional Action Plan
- Department of Planning & Environment Far West Regional Plan
- Transport for NSW Future Transport Strategy

Other potential partners

- State and Federal Government
- Far West Local Health District
- Local sporting and community groups
- Health Care providers
- TAFE and Local Schools
- Tourism operators
- Department of Education
- Department of Primary Industries – Crown Land
- Destination NSW – Far West
- Murray Regional Tourism
- Far West Joint Organisation of Councils
- NSW Police
- Businesses and Industry

Measuring Progress

- Number of community clubs, groups and organisation supported
- Capital works projects completed on time and budget
- % Satisfaction with Library Services



- % Satisfaction with Council services / Overall resident satisfaction
- People volunteering in the Community
- % satisfaction with appearance of the Wentworth region
- % of people who feel that the Wentworth Region is a safe place to live
- Implementation of actions in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Numbers attending library programs
- Improved health outcomes



OUR ENVIRONMENT



A COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT ITS PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Environmental

The distinctive landscape and environment across the region is a key part of our lifestyle.

It is important that measures and programs are in place to help our community adapt to ensure that future generations can enjoy the environment in which we live.

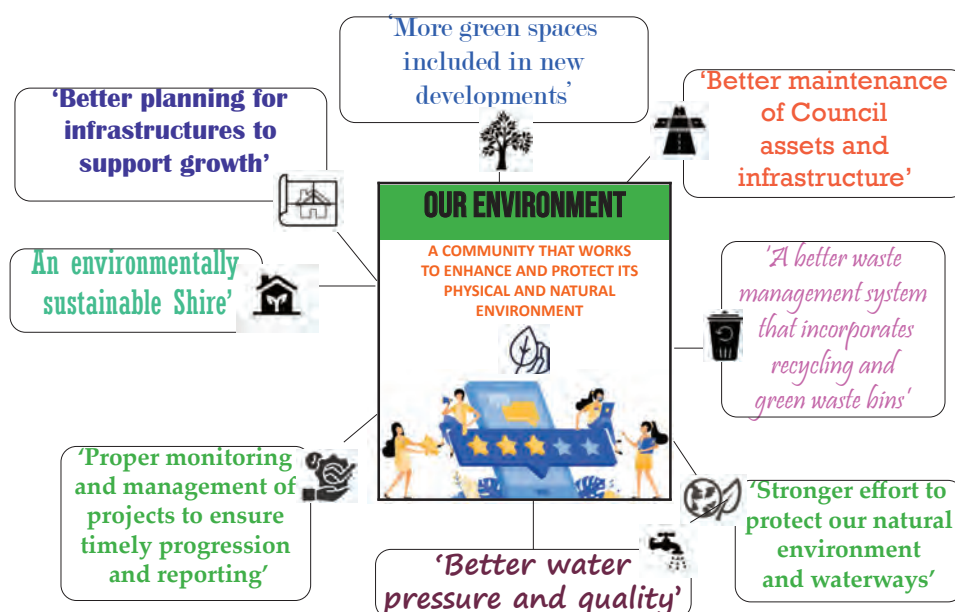
Council plays an important role in adopting sustainable practices itself and promoting them in the community. The community has expressed a desire to live more sustainably through improved resource management.

As a community there is a concern with the effect that the Region's growing population is having on the existing amenity of the Shire.

Council's strategic planning will focus on protecting the community from the effects of development and the need for infrastructure that reflects our current population profile and anticipated demographic changes.

Our infrastructure makes daily life possible, and it is essential that our infrastructure is maintained in a way which enables us to function in an effective and efficient manner as a community.

YOU TOLD US WHAT YOU WANTED





| Objectives | Council's role |
|--|---------------------|
| 3.1 – Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development. | Provide |
| 3.2 – Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained. | Provide |
| 3.3 – Minimise the impact on the natural environment. | Provide/Support |
| 3.4 – Use and manage our resources wisely. | Provide/Collaborate |
| 3.5 – Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire. | Provide/Advocate |

What the Community can do

- Report safety and maintenance issues to Council
- Obey load limits on roads and bridges
- Drive to the conditions of the road and obey speed limits
- Take responsibility for drive ways and verge mowing
- Dispose of waste responsibly and minimise waste going to landfill
- Use water thoughtfully
- Know what to do in an emergency
- Report illegal dumping, polluting, littering
- Avoid excessive packaging
- Preserve trees and grow plants in your garden
- Install energy efficient fixtures and appliances at your home
- Consider alternative energy sources

What the Council can do

- Flood levee banks
- Footpaths and cycleway networks
- Kerb and guttering
- Public facilities and Council buildings
- Water and sewerage network
- Stormwater network
- Street lighting and signage
- Keep streets clean
- Road network
- Environmental planning
- Noxious weeds control
- Waste management
- Sporting Facilities
- Community Facilities
- Swimming Pools

- Regulation and enforcement

Links to various plans

- NSW Premiers Priorities
- NSW 2021
- DPC Far West Regional Action Plan
- Department of Planning & Environment Far West Regional Plan
- Transport for NSW Future Transport Strategy

Other potential partners

- Businesses and Industry
- Far West Local Land Services
- Department of Environment and Heritage
- Land owners
- Department of Planning
- Department Primary Industries - Water
- Water NSW
- Transport for NSW
- Department of Infrastructure

Measuring progress

- Capital works projects completed on time and budget
- Drinking water quality indicators
- Satisfaction with condition and level of service of Council's assets
- % Reduction in annual electricity costs
- % reduction in Council emissions
- Actions completed to decrease Council's energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions

OUR LEADERSHIP



IS SUPPORTED BY STRONG AND ETHICAL CIVIC LEADERSHIP WITH ALL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN AN OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE MANNER

Civic Leadership

The community will benefit from a strong Council which delivers tangible outcomes, advocates and builds successful partnerships, with the leadership, culture, people and capabilities to meet community expectations.

It is important that opportunities are available for people to have a say in decision making, and that access to local representation is made possible.

The community have expressed the need for timely, improved and transparent communications and community engagement from Council in decisions that impact everyone and the need for Council to be responsive to community needs.

The Local Government Act provides guiding principles for Council in terms of its functions, decision-making and community participation, as well as principles for sound financial management and integrated planning and reporting.

Council is required to ensure that it:

- Is accountable and makes sound decisions;
- Meets its statutory obligations;
- Is sustainable as an organisation;
- Provides effective and efficient services; and
- Consults, involves and is accountable to the community

YOU TOLD US WHAT YOU WANTED





| Objectives | Council's role |
|--|----------------------|
| 4.1 – Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision making and advocating processes. | Provide |
| 4.2 – A strong, responsible and representative government. | Provide |
| 4.3 – An effective and efficient organisation. | Provide |
| 4.4 – Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future. | Collaborate/Advocate |
| 4.5 – Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long term sustainability and efficiency. | Support/Collaborate |

What the Community can do

- Stand for election to Council
- Regularly visit Council's website and read/listen to local media to keep up-to-date with Council activities
- Connect with Council on social media
- Get involved with community engagement programs run by Council
- Provide feedback to Council regarding services and customer service
- Volunteer and take part in community groups
- Exercise your right to vote
- Get involved – take an interest in civic affairs
- Attend a Council meeting
- Respect our Shire's resources and assets
- Value and consider feedback
- Support community groups and organisations
- Provide open and clear lines of communication with the community
- Be an organisation people want to work for
- Ensure local needs are reflected in state and regional plans

Links to various plans

- NSW Premiers Priorities
- NSW 2021
- DPC Far West Regional Action Plan
- Transport for NSW Future Transport Strategy

Other potential partners

- Businesses
- Event organisers
- Community Groups and Organisations
- Office of Local Government
- State and Federal Government
- Far West Joint Organisation
- Local Government NSW
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Neighbouring Councils

What the Council can do

- Civic services and representation
- Community engagement
- Customer services
- Governance
- Integrated strategic planning
- Focus on reducing red tape and simplifying process

- Barkindji Native Title Group
- Dareton Lands Council
- Indigenous Community and groups

Measuring progress

- Community satisfaction with the performance of Council
- Number of followers on Council's social media platforms
- Number of hits on Council's website
- Increased community participation in engagement activities
- Strong financial sustainability
- Our community will be more aware of our elected leaders and Council operations
- % of residents who feel Council understands the community's needs and expectations





Our values: Honesty and Integrity | Accountability and Transparency | Respect | Quality | Commitment



DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-2026

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE



This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.

Images were sourced from Council's Image Library unless otherwise stated.
© Copyright Wentworth Shire Council 2022

**Wentworth Shire Council would like to
acknowledge the Traditional Custodians
of the Land and pay its respects to Elders
past, present and emerging.**

This page has intentionally been left blank



DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-2026

INDEX

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mayor's Foreword | 5 |
| Shire Profile | 7 |
| Councillors | 9 |
| Services Council Provides | 10 |
| Organisation Overview | 11 |
| Community Strategies | 12 |
| Council's Guiding Principles | 13 |
| Three Levels Of Government | 16 |
| How To Read This Plan | 17 |
| Delivery Program | 18 |
| Our Economy | 18 |
| Our Community | 20 |
| Our Environment | 23 |
| Our Leadership | 26 |

MAYOR'S FOREWORD



On behalf of Councillors and staff I am pleased to present our Delivery Program and Operational Plan for the period 2022/23 to 2025/26.

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 corona virus 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.

Tim Elstone
Mayor

SHIRE PROFILE



Data based on the 2016 Census data

WENTWORTH SHIRE at a glance



*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.

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.



Cr Tim Elstone - Mayor



Cr Daniel Linklater - Deputy Mayor



Cr Greg Evans



Cr Steve Heywood



Cr Susan Nichols



Cr Jo Rodda



Cr Brian Beaumont



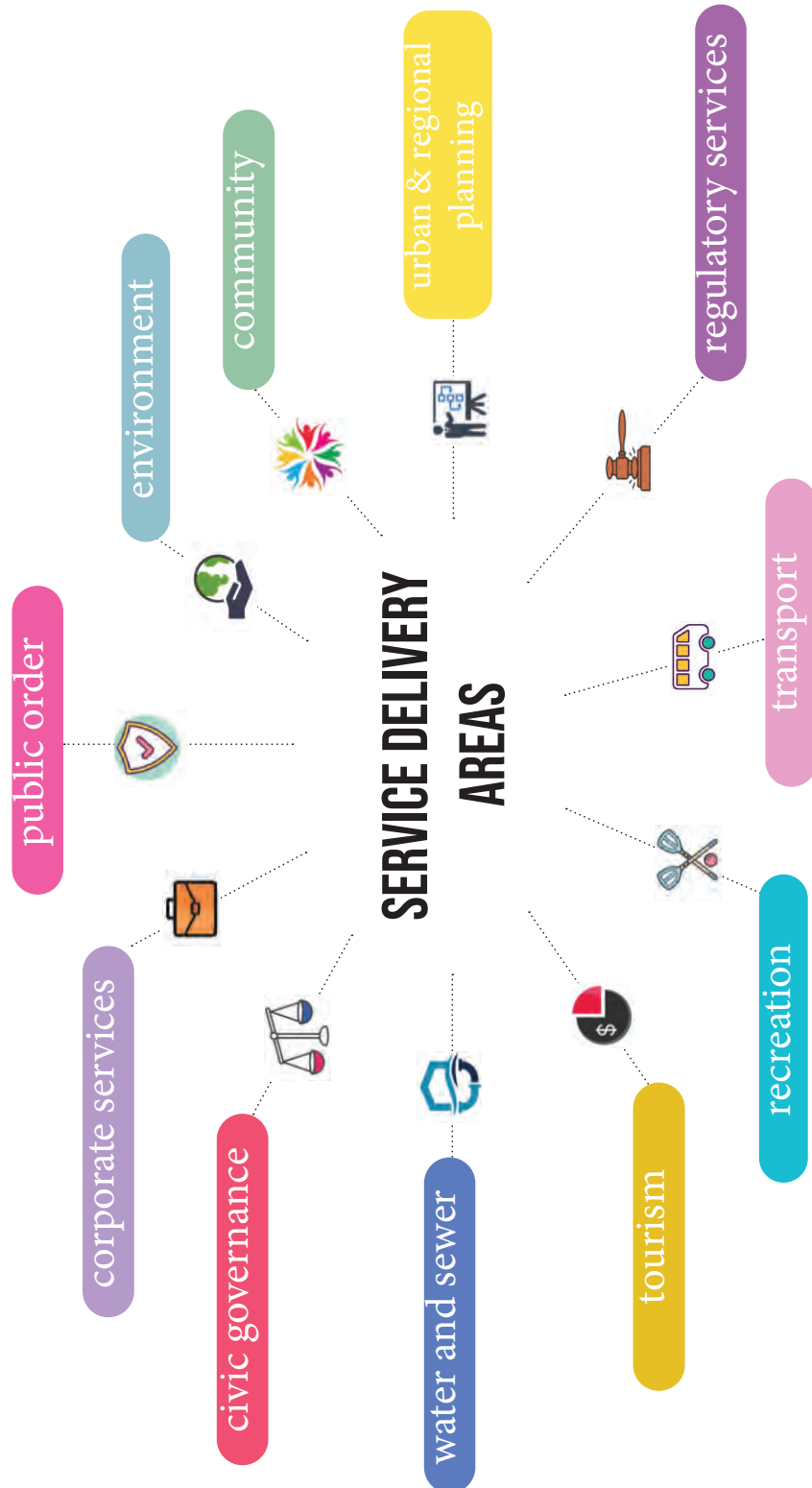
Cr Peter Crisp



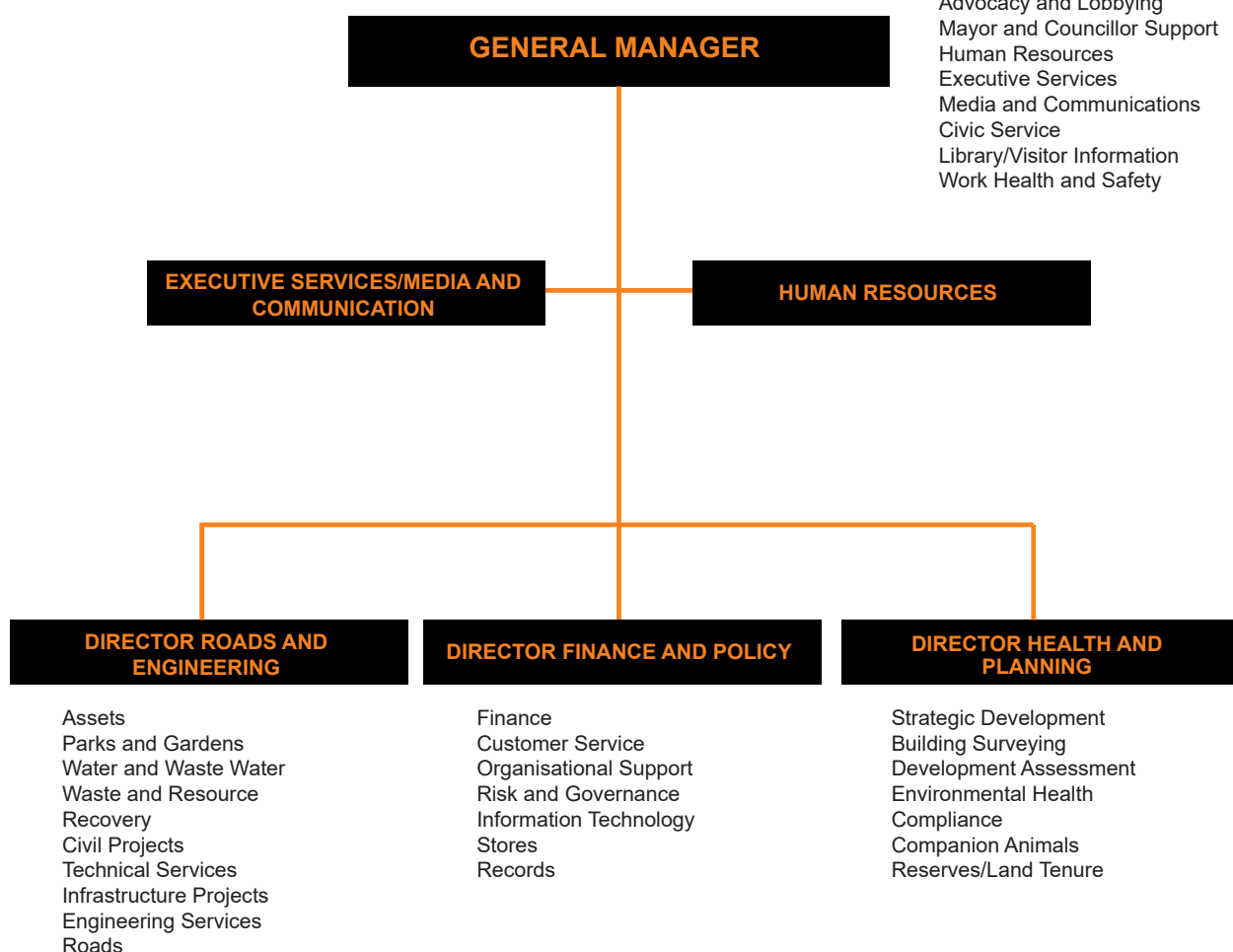
Cr Steve Cooper

SERVICES COUNCIL PROVIDES

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.

COUNCIL'S VISION

‘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:

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
|  | A VIBRANT, GROWING AND THRIVING REGION | Economic |
|  | A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE | Social |
|  | A COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT ITS PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT | Environmental |
|  | IS SUPPORTED BY STRONG AND ETHICAL CIVIC 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.



The Delivery Program is a statement of how Council aims to achieve the outcomes developed by the community, by implementing relevant actions, ensuring adequate resources, monitoring progress, advocating on behalf of the community, building partnerships and

ensuring accountability in everything Council does.

The 2022-26 Delivery Program has 20 desired objectives as identified in the Community Strategic Plan. They are listed below.

2022-2026 DELIVERY PROGRAM - OBJECTIVES

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

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

High quality connectivity across the region.

Encourage lifelong learning opportunities.

Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities.

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

Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.

To have a safe community.

A well informed, supported and engaged community.

To have a strong sense of place.

Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development.

An effective and efficient organisation.

Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained.

Minimise the impact on the natural environment.

Use and manage our resources wisely.

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

Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.

Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making and advocating processes.

A strong, responsible and representative government.

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

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 2022-2023 is the first 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 \$35 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.

“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”

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 assessment, 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.

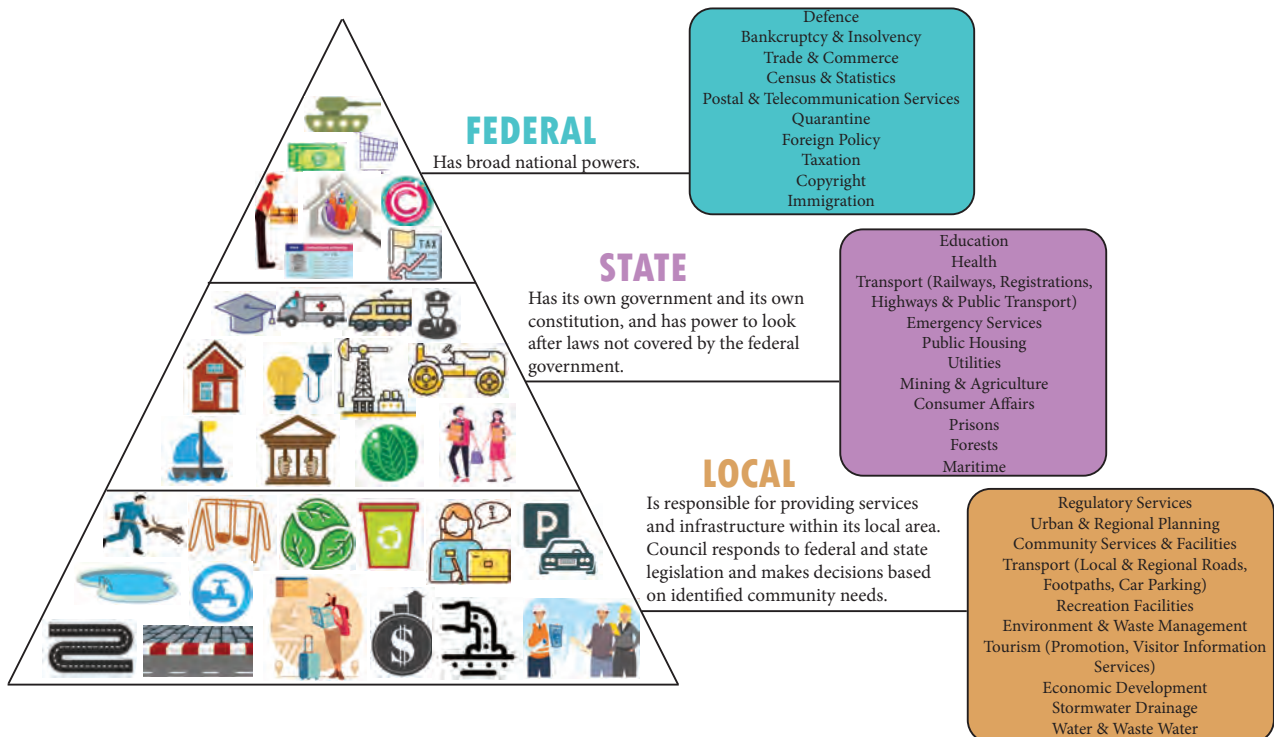
THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

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 in the infographic below.



HOW TO READ THIS PLAN

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

Our Economy

Strategy 1 – 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



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.

Actions

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

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.

| 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. |

Objectives

Provides specific focus points to achieve the community strategies.

Annual Actions

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

OUR ECONOMY



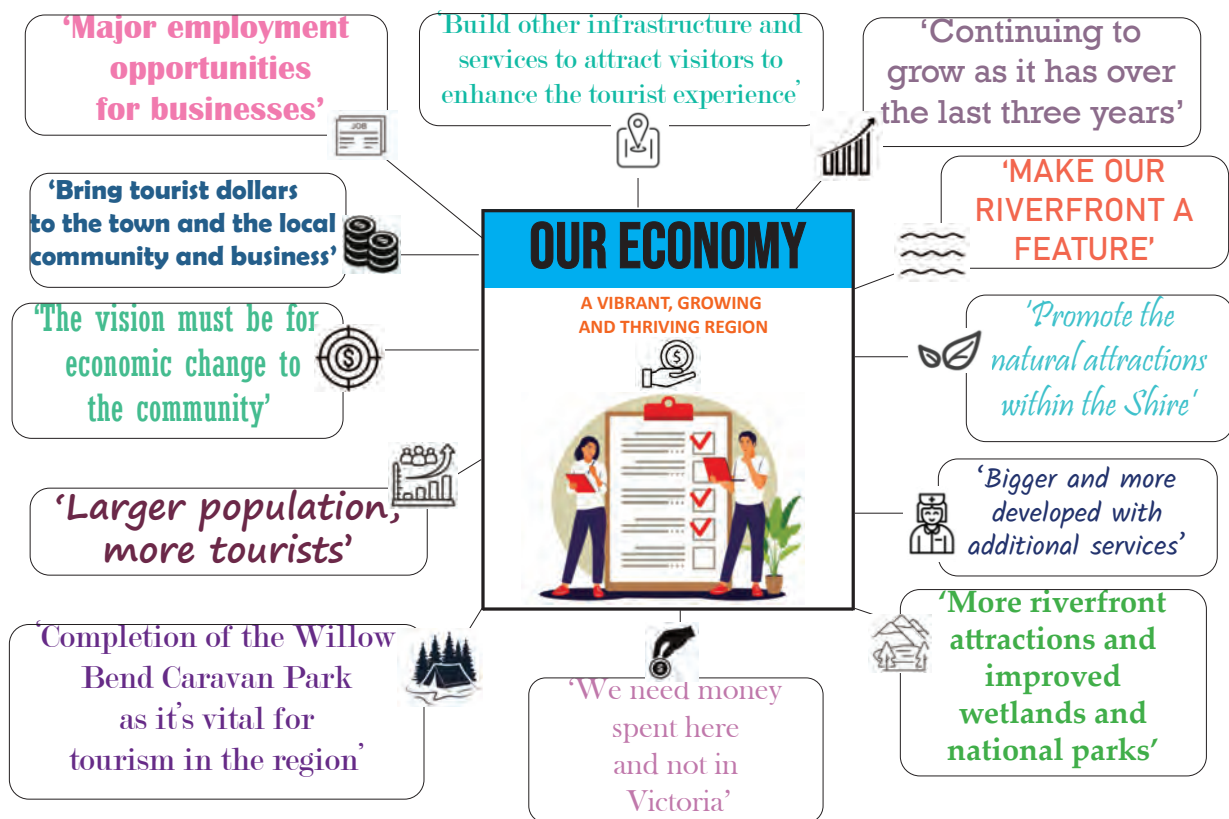
A VIBRANT, GROWING AND THRIVING REGION

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



| 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. |
| Undertake Economic Recovery Events Program utilising State Government Funding. |
| 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. |
| 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. |
| Identify opportunities to promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice for people with disability and from culturally diverse backgrounds. |
| Specific Actions |
| Promote the benefits of supporting Social enterprises and business to grow local employment opportunities. |
| Encourage businesses to employ people of all abilities and different backgrounds. |

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

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

OUR COMMUNITY



A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

Social

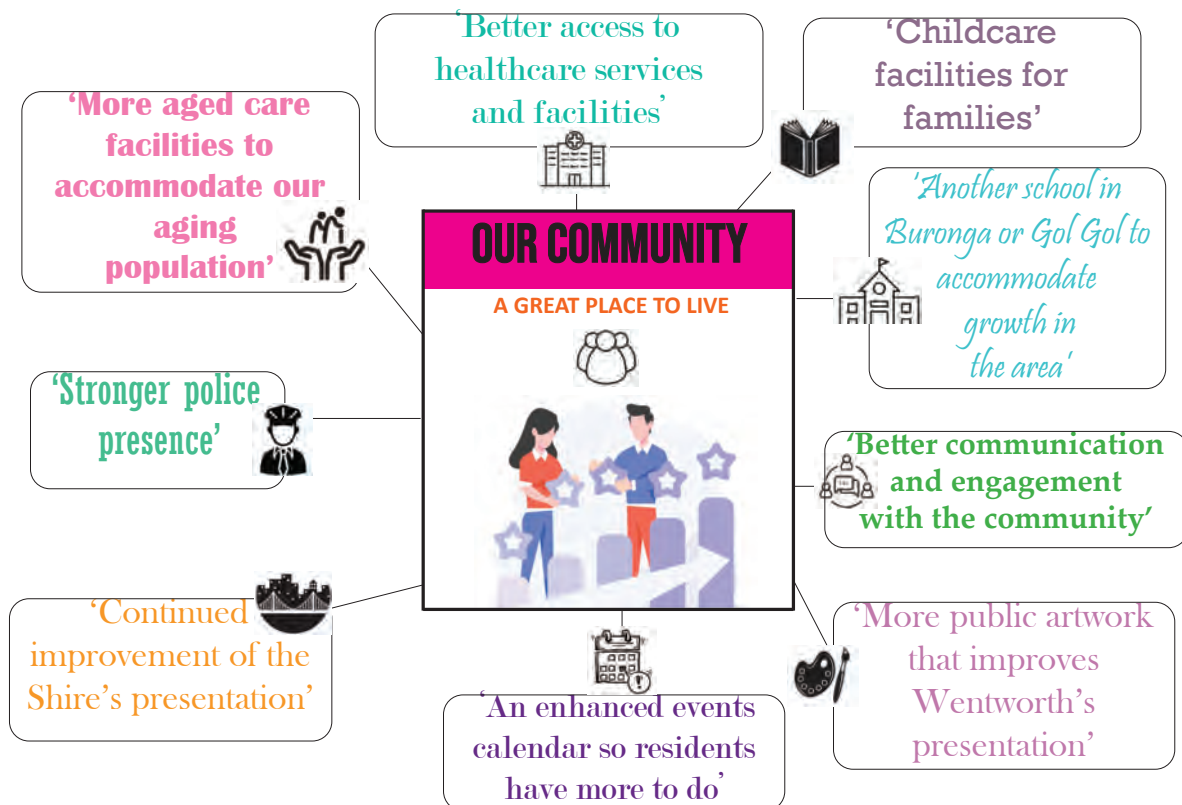
Community Outcome

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 the 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



| Objectivities & Actions |
|--|
| 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. |
| Support and empower the community to deliver community initiatives that improve the lives of residents and visitors to the region. |
| Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community. |
| Promote a welcoming and inclusive community that strengthens positive attitudes and behaviours towards people of all abilities. |
| Specific Actions |
| Explore opportunities to promote and celebrate Culturally and Linguistically Diverse events and celebrations. |
| 2.2 – Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people. |
| Annual Actions |
| Implement recommendations of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. |
| Undertake 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. |
| Works with external agencies to promote the benefits of an active lifestyle. |
| Specific Actions |
| Review and update the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. |
| Review Council facilities to ensure they are accessible to people with disability, including accessible pathways leading to accessible facilities. |
| Advocate for the construction of a PCYC facility in Dareton. |
| Support Dareton Men in a Shed relocation project. |
| Wentworth Extended Day Care |
| 2.3 – To have a safe community. |
| Annual Actions |
| 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 to continue to promote and encourage safe driving behaviours. |
| Specific Actions |
| Identify and resolve where possible road and pedestrian safety issues. |
| Pursue funding opportunities for construction of an off-leash area in Wentworth. |
| 2.4 – A well informed, supported and engaged community. |
| Annual Actions |
| Consistently communicate the role of Council to the community. |

| |
|---|
| Provide regular updates of Council's achievements, strategic objectives and actions. |
| Communicate funding opportunities available for the community. |
| Specific Actions |
| Continue to facilitate Council Connects and Quarterly newsletter. |
| 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. |
| Specific Actions |
| Engage with the community in the design and provision of public art within open space areas. |
| 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



A COMMUNITY THAT WORKS TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT ITS PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

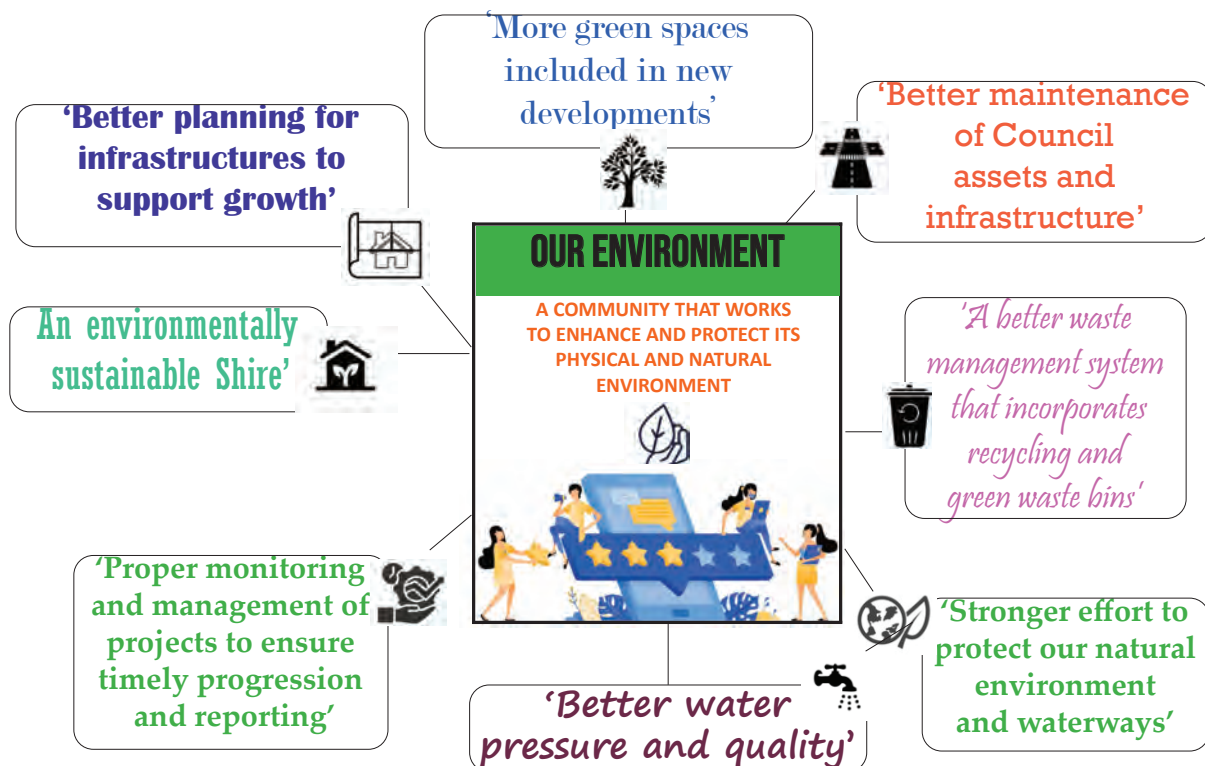
Environmental

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



| Objectives & Actions | |
|---|---|
| 3.1 – Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| | Ensure that all Development Applications and planning proposals mitigate the impact of development on the natural environment. |
| Specific Actions | |
| | Review and update the Local Environmental Plan, Development Control Plan, and Developer Contribution Plans. |
| | Progress Actions from the Sustainable Wentworth Strategy. |
| | Progress Actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan |
| | Progress Actions from the Dareton Revitalised Strategy. |
| | Continue to progress Rural Residential Study. |
| 3.2 – Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| | Land Tenure Program. |
| | Maintain transport network including Roads, Bridges and Footpaths. |
| | Maintain community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities. |
| Specific Actions | |
| | Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans. |
| | Continue to liaise with Crown Land to finalise Plans of Management for Community Land |
| 3.3 – Minimise the impact on the natural environment. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| | 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-Barka River and the Menindee Lakes. |
| Specific Actions | |
| | Identify opportunities to collaborate with other stakeholders on projects that protect the environment. |
| 3.4 – Use and manage our resources wisely. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| | Provide best practice water, waste water and stormwater management infrastructure. |
| | Collaborate with partners and the community to support innovative approaches to waste minimisation and increased reuse and recycling opportunities. |
| | Encourage businesses and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible. |
| Specific Actions | |
| | Identify strategic partnerships in order to introduce cost-effective recycling and green waste collection services. |
| | Review public place waste bins and revise service levels as required. |
| | 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 | |
| | Continue to explore funding opportunities for the delivery of key projects. |
| | Continue to lobby all levels of government to support the provision of essential infrastructure for the Region. |
| | Plan for appropriate infrastructure and services that support current and future needs. |
| Specific Actions | |
| | 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



IS SUPPORTED BY STRONG AND ETHICAL CIVIC LEADERSHIP WITH ALL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN AN OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE MANNER

Civic Leadership

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



| Objectives & Actions |
|---|
| 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. |
| Specific Actions |
| Undertake audit of Council's websites to ensure compliance with Website Accessibility Guidelines. |
| Implement actions outlined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan. |
| 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. |
| Specific Actions |
| Support Councillors to undertake ongoing professional development. |
| 4.3 – An effective and efficient organisation. |
| Annual Actions |
| Review services on a regular basis to ensure they are providing value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community. |
| 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 |
| Undertake regular surveys to assess community satisfaction with Council service delivery. |
| Review Information Technology Strategic Plan and implement actions accordingly. |
| 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. |
| Foster strong partnerships with all levels of government, peak bodies, agencies and the community. |
| Annual Financial Assistance Program. |
| Specific Actions |
| Undertake a review of the Annual Financial Assistance Program. |
| 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. |
| 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 |
| N/A |

Council Services that will contribute to this Strategy

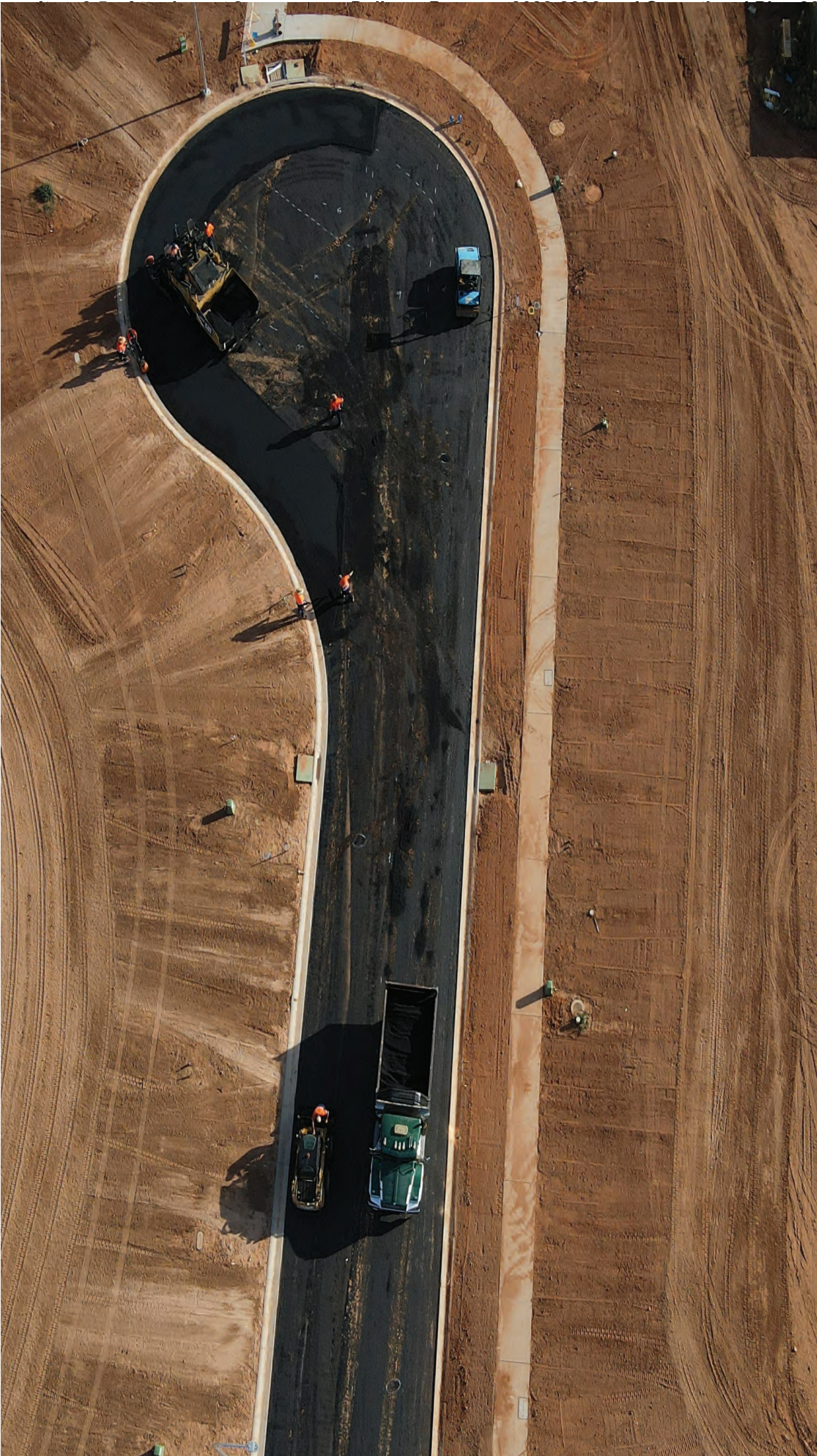
- All Council Services



Our values: Honesty and Integrity | Accountability and Transparency | Respect | Quality | Commitment

OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022-2023

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE





This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.

Images were sourced from Council's image library. Cover image shows a new subdivision being built at Gol Gol.

Copies of this plan can be viewed online at www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au
© Copyright Wentworth Shire Council 2022



2022-23 WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL OPERATIONAL PLAN

INDEX

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Overview | 4 |
| Introduction | 5 |
| Achieving the vision for 2032 | 8 |
| Financial Information | 10 |
| Contribution to CSP Objectives | 12 |
| Grant funded projects | 16 |
| Workforce requirements | 18 |
| Future year estimates | 20 |
| Further information | 21 |
| Attachments | 22 |
| Part 2 – Annual Statement of Revenue | |
| Part 3 – Annual Fees and Charges | |
| Part 4 – Rating Maps | |

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 2022/23 financial year.

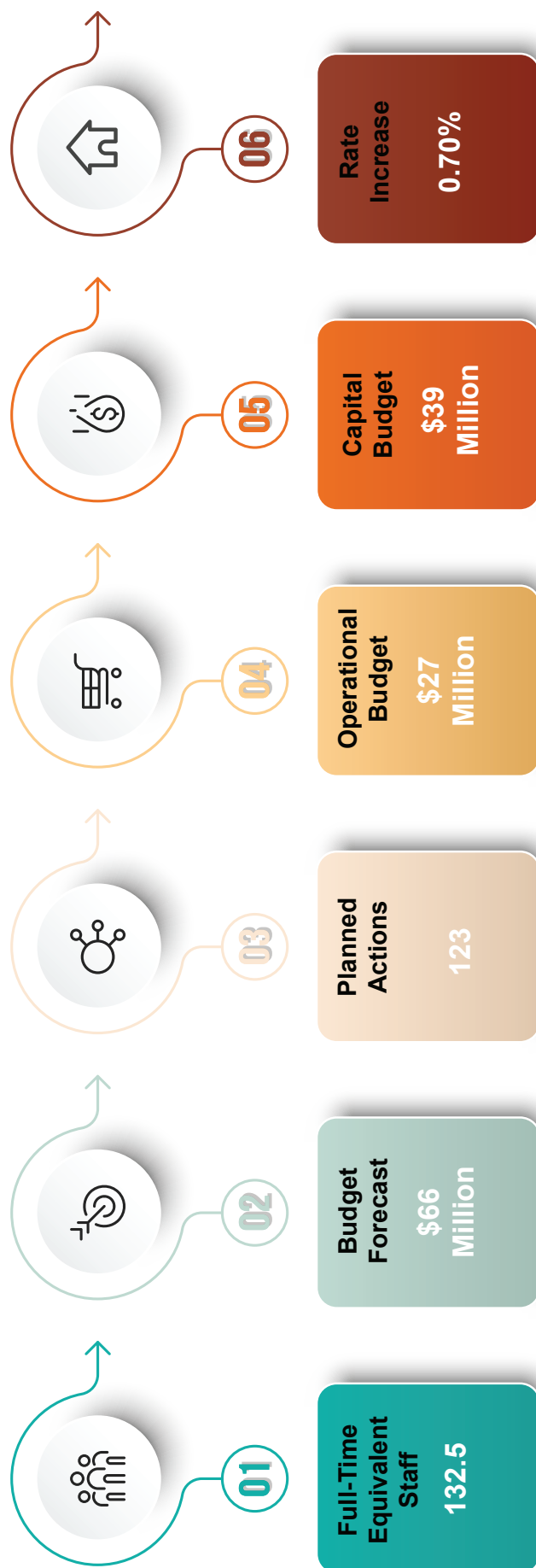
Council will report on the budget for 2022/23 quarterly as required.

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 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 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.



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL at a glance



**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**



Achieving the vision for 2032



Financial Information

| Budgeted Income Statement Summary | 2022/23 Budget |
|--|---------------------|
| Income from Continuing Operations | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | \$10,098,339 |
| User Charges & Fees | \$6,330,822 |
| Interest & Investment Revenue | \$238,500 |
| Other Revenues | \$1,228,245 |
| Grants - Operating | \$9,900,850 |
| Grants - Capital | \$20,180,510 |
| Net Gains from the disposal of assets | \$100,000 |
| Total Income | \$48,077,266 |
| Expenses from Continuing Operations | |
| Employee Benefits | \$10,744,520 |
| Borrowing Costs | \$391,205 |
| Materials & Contracts | \$4,175,082 |
| Depreciation & Amortization | \$8,024,848 |
| Other Expenses | \$3,368,209 |
| Total Expenses | \$26,703,864 |
| Operating Result from Continuing Operations | \$21,373,401 |
| Discontinued Operations | \$0 |
| Net Operating Result from Continuing Operations | \$21,373,401 |

| Funding Requirements | 2022/23 Budget |
|--|---------------------|
| Expenditure | |
| Operating Expenditure | \$26,703,864 |
| Capital Expenditure | \$39,467,529 |
| Total Expenditure | \$66,171,393 |
| less depreciation (incl. in expenditure) | \$8,024,848 |
| 2022/23 Cash Requirements | \$58,146,545 |

Cash Requirements funded from:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Operational Revenue | \$48,077,266 |
| Borrowings | \$8,000,000 |
| Retained Earnings | \$(735,721) |
| Council Restricted Reserves | \$2,805,000 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2022/23 Total Funding | \$58,146,545 |
|------------------------------|---------------------|

Projected Balances (Council Cash Reserves)

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Projected opening cash balance 01/07/2022 | \$ 40,000,000 |
| Add projected Cash surplus | \$ 735,721 |

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Projected cash balance at 30/06/2023 | \$ 40,735,721 |
|---|----------------------|

Represented as:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| - Cash on hand | \$ 5,735,721 |
| - Short Term Investments | \$ 20,000,000 |
| - Long Term Investments | \$ 15,000,000 |

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 2022/23 includes the following assumptions:

Rates and Annual Charges

- The Ordinary Rate will be increased by the maximum 0.70% (as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART)).
- Waste water access charges will be increased by 2.50%.
- Raw and filtered water access charges will be increased by 2.50%.
- Domestic waste charges will be increased by 2.50%.
- Water consumption charges will be increased by 2.50%.
- 6.00% 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 2022/23 financial year there will be loan borrowings of up to \$8,000,000 to help fund capital requirements for the:

- Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment
- Willowbend Caravan Park Upgrade

Restricted Reserves

Council will utilise the following restricted reserves to fund capital expenditure during the 2022/23 financial year:

Future Development Reserve

\$250,000 to fund ongoing land acquisitions.

T-Corp Loan Reserve

\$755,000 from previously approved loan to fund ongoing stormwater drainage upgrades.

Willowbend Caravan Park Loan Reserve

\$1,500,000 from previously approved loan to fund the Willowbend Caravan Park upgrade.















Capital Projects Reserve

\$300,000 to fund the finalisation of the Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Project.



Capital Expenditure

The following major projects will be undertaken during 2022/23:

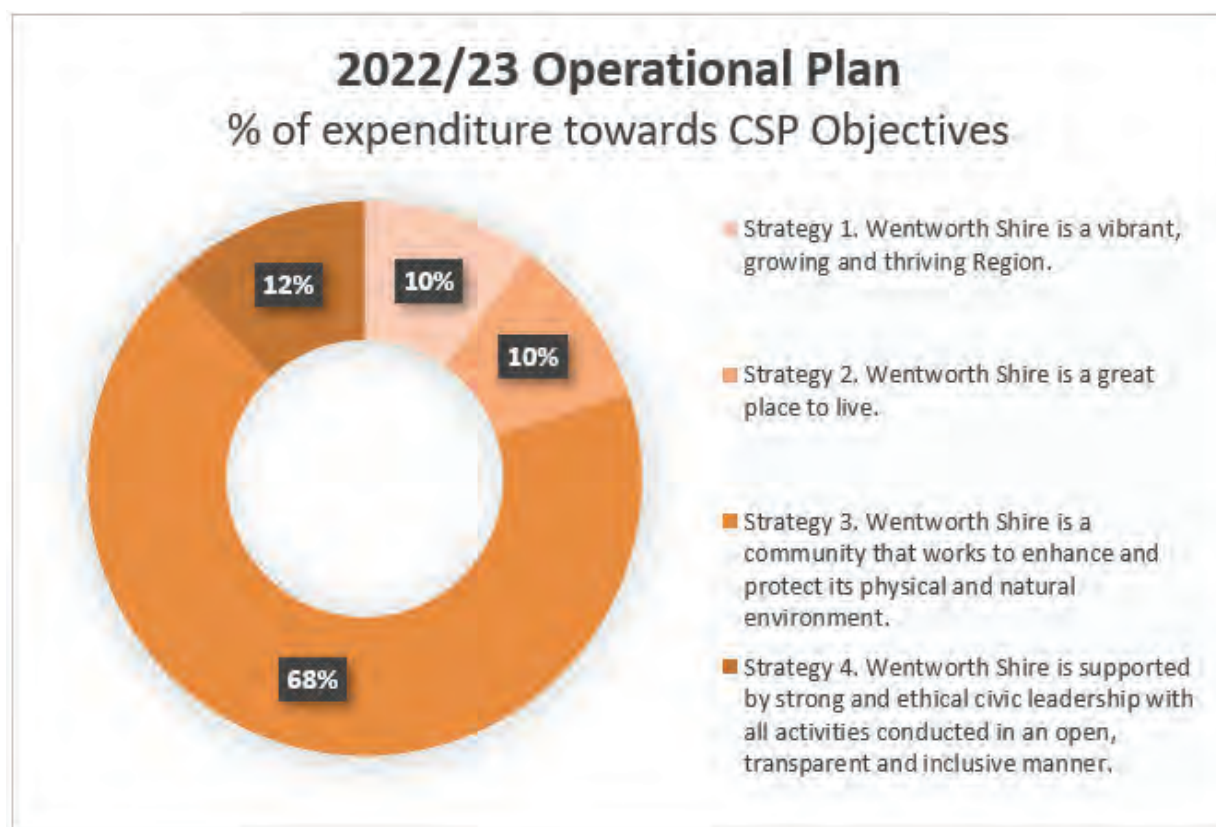
| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
|  Wentworth Civic Centre \$9,861,680 |  Pooncarie – Menindee Road \$8,750,000 |  Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment \$5,150,000 |  Road Upgrades \$3,098,095 |  Plant Replacement \$1,500,000 |  Sewer Upgrades \$1,287,560 |  Resources for Regions \$2,246,429 |
|  Stormwater Upgrades \$1,005,000 |  Local Roads & Community Infrastructure \$974,000 |  Water Upgrades \$791,838 |  Crown Reserve Improvement Fund \$630,000 |  Wentworth EDS \$622,000 |  Stronger Country Communities \$605,709 |  Fixing Local Roads \$475,800 |

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 2022/23 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.





2022/2023 Operational Plan Actions

OUR ECONOMY

Strategy 1 - Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region.

| 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 the local businesses on issues which further business and career opportunities for all. | General Manager |
| Support economic growth and expansion across the Shire through improvement of local infrastructure and the identification of land for commercial and/or industrial use. | Director Health & Planning |
| Specific Actions | |
| N/A | |
| 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 |
| Contribute to the promotion of tourism in the Wentworth Region through the management of Willowbend Caravan Park. | 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 | |
| Develop a Destination Management Plan/Tourism Strategy. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| o Work with FSWJO to complete Destination Management Plan for the region | |
| Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment. | Manager Engineering Services |
| o Civil Works | |
| o Ablution Block Upgrade | |
| Finalise development of a Shire Events Manual. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| Undertake Economic Recovery Events Program utilising State Government Funding | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| 1.3 – High quality connectivity across the region. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links. | General Manager |
| Specific Actions | |
| Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile phone connectivity. | General Manager |
| 1.4 – Encourage lifelong learning opportunities. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Undertake 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 |

| <i>Specific Actions</i> | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Advocate for improved school services across the Wentworth Shire. | General Manager |
| 1.5 – Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities. | |
| <i>Annual Actions</i> | |
| Promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice including offering apprenticeships and traineeships. | Manager Human Resources |
| Identify opportunities to promote Wentworth Council as an employer of choice for people with disability and from culturally diverse backgrounds. | Manager Human Resource |
| <i>Specific Actions</i> | |
| Promote the benefits of supporting Social enterprises and business to grow local employment opportunities. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| Encourage businesses to employ people of all abilities and different backgrounds. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 1

\$1,372,568

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 1

\$5,200,000

Measuring Progress

Average development application approval time

Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment completed on time and on budget

Far West Destination Management Plan Completed

Wentworth Shire Staff profile

Number of Library Programs Delivered



OUR COMMUNITY

Strategy 2 - Wentworth Shire is a great place to live.

| Objectivities & Activities | 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 and empower the community to deliver community initiatives that improve the lives of residents and visitors to the region. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community. | General Manager |
| Promote a welcoming and inclusive community that strengthens positive attitudes and behaviours towards people of all abilities. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| Specific Actions | |
| Explore opportunities to promote and celebrate Culturally and Linguistically Diverse events and celebrations. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| 2.2 – Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Implement recommendations of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. | Manager Works |
| Undertake 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. | General Manager |
| Promote and foster an accessible community that encourages access by people of all abilities. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| Work with external agencies to promote the benefit of an active lifestyle. | Manager Tourism & Promotion. |
| Specific Actions | |
| Review Council facilities to ensure they are accessible to people with disability, including accessible pathways leading to accessible facilities. | Manager Works |
| Advocate for the construction of a PCYC facility in Dareton. | General Manager |
| Support Dareton Men in a Shed relocation project. | Director Finance & Policy |
| Wentworth Extended Day Care | Manager Engineering Services |
| 2.3 – To have a safe community. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Provide Public Health Function. | Director Health & Planning |
| Companion Animals & Buronga Pound Operations. | Director Health & Planning |

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Provide Building Compliance Function. | Director Health & Planning |
| 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. | General Manager |
| In partnership with Transport for NSW continue to promote and encourage safe driving behaviours. | Manager Engineering Services |
| Specific Actions | |
| Identify and resolve where possible road and pedestrian safety issues. | Manager Engineering Services |
| 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. | General Manager |
| Communicate funding opportunities available for the community. | Director Finance & Policy |
| Specific Actions | |
| Continue to facilitate Council Connects & Quarterly newsletter. | Manager Tourism & Promotion |
| 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 | |
| Engage with the community in the design and provision of public art within open space areas. | General Manager |
| Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects. | Manager Engineering Services |
| ○ Reserve Upgrades | |
| ○ Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block | |
| ○ Pooncarie Toilet Block | |
| ○ Wetlands Standpipe Area | |
| ○ Junction Island Bridge | |
| ○ Astronomy Park | |

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 2

\$3,349,422

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 2

\$3,241,194

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

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Strategy 3 - Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment.

| Objectives & Activities | Responsible Officer |
|--|------------------------------|
| 3.1 – Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Ensure that all Development Applications and planning proposals mitigate the impact of development on the natural environment. | Director Health & Planning |
| Specific Actions | |
| Review and update the Local Environmental Plan, Development Control Plan, Local Strategic Planning Statement and Developer Contribution Plans. | Director Health & Planning |
| o Review and Update Development Control Plan. | |
| Progress Actions from the Sustainable Wentworth Strategy. | Director Health & Planning |
| o Finalise and submit gateway determination for rezoning of Thegoa Lagoon. | |
| Continue to progress Rural Residential Strategy. | 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. | Manager Works |
| Specific Actions | |
| Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans. | Manager Works |
| o Fixing Local Roads – Punt Road | |
| o Fixing Local Roads – Fletchers Lake Road | |
| o Fixing Local Roads – Log Bridge Road | |
| o Fixing Local Roads – Bridge Road | |
| o Pooncarie – Menindee Road | Manager Engineering Services |
| o Wentworth & Dareton Pool Lighting Upgrade | |
| o Buronga Wetlands Sharedway | |
| o Pooncarie Telegraph Building | |
| o Pooncarie Aerodrome Lighting | |
| o Wentworth Showgrounds Female Change Rooms & Running Rail Replacement | |
| o Wentworth EDS | |
| o Wentworth Rowing Club Extension | |
| o Pooncarie Race Course | Director Health & Planning |
| o Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer | |
| Continue to liaise with Crown Land to finalise Plans of Management for Community Land. | |
| 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-Barka River and the Menindee Lakes. | General Manager |
| Specific Actions | |
| Identify opportunities to collaborate with other stakeholders on projects that protect the environment. | Director Roads & Engineering |
| 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 |
| Collaborate with partners and the community to support innovative approaches to waste minimisation and increased reuse and recycling opportunities. | Manager Works |
| 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. | Manager Engineering Services |
| o Progress Buronga Landfill Expansion | |
| Review public place waste bins and revise service levels as required. | Manager Works |
| Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan. | Manager Engineering Services |
| o Finalise Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan | |
| 3.5 – Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Continue to explore funding opportunities for the delivery of key projects. | Director Finance & Policy |
| Continue to lobby all levels of government to support 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. | Manager Engineering Services |
| o Pink Lake Stormwater | |
| o Crane Drive Stormwater | |
| o Wilson Drainage Reserve | |
| o Kingfisher Road Stormwater & Sewer Pump Station | |
| o Corbett Avenue Sewer Pump Station | |
| o King Ridge Landscaping | |
| Undertake a review of current and future sporting needs within the Shire. | Director Roads & Engineering |

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 3
\$14,990,055
Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 3
\$30,544,014

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
 Thegoa Lagoon rezoning gateway determination submitted
 Number of land acquisitions completed.

OUR LEADERSHIP

Strategy 4 - Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner.

| 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 |
| Specific Actions | |
| Undertake audit of Council's websites to ensure compliance with Website Accessibility Guidelines. | Manager Technology Services |
| Implement actions outlined in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan. | Director Finance & Policy |
| 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 |
| Specific Actions | |
| Support Councillors to undertake ongoing professional development. | General Manager |
| 4.3 – An effective and efficient organisation. | |
| Annual Actions | |
| Review services on a regular basis to ensure they are providing value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community. | 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 | |
| Undertake regular surveys to assess community satisfaction with Council service delivery. | Director Finance & Policy |
| Review Information Technology Strategic Plan and implement actions accordingly. | Manager Technology Services |
| 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. | General Manager |
| Annual Financial Assistance Program. | Director Finance & Policy |
| Specific Actions | |
| Undertake a review of the Annual Financial Assistance Program. | Director Finance & Policy |
| 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. | Director Finance & Policy |
| 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. | Manager Human Resources |
| ○ Review flexible working practices | |
| ○ Formulate a learning and development framework | |
| ○ Develop succession/transition plan | |
| ○ Health and Well Being Strategy | |
| 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 | |
| N/A | |

Total Council Operational Budget Committed to Strategy 4

\$6,710,236

Total Council Capital Budget Committed to Strategy 4

\$783,450

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
 Websites are progressively updated to comply with Accessibility Guidelines
 Quarterly Progress Reports completed on time
 Engagement activities undertaken as per Community Engagement Strategy



Workforce Requirements



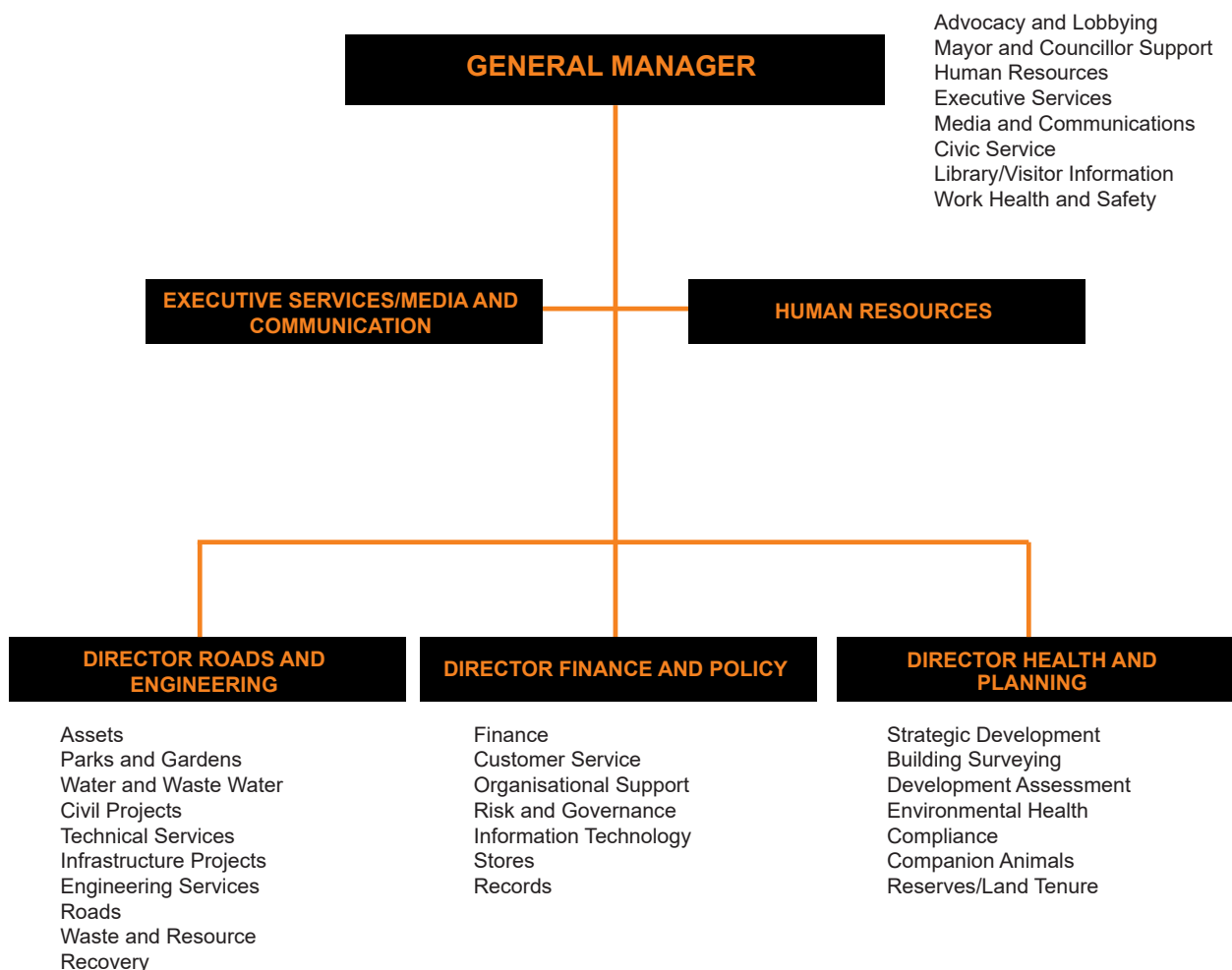
On 22 January 2020 Council adopted a revised structure consisting of 132.45 full time equivalents (FTE's) up 17.5 from the previously adopted structure.

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 2022/23 financial year total employment costs are forecast to be \$10,744,520 which is a 4.40% increase on the previous financial year's budget.

The following diagram depicts the Organisational Structure.

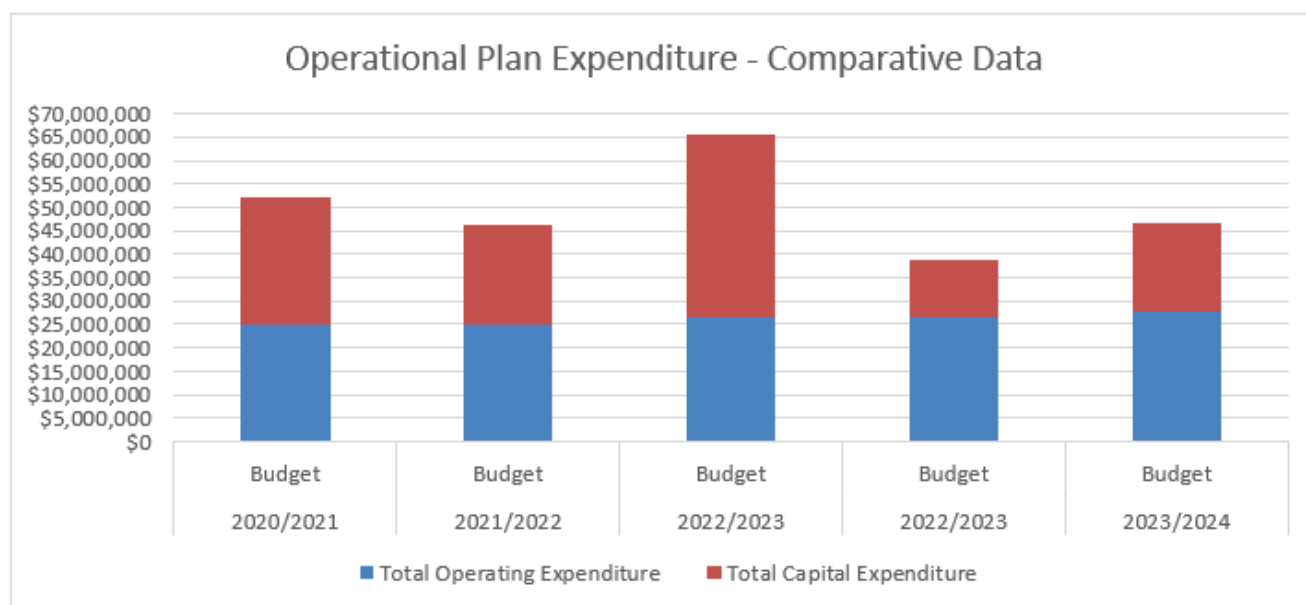




Future year estimates

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 2023/24.

Based on the current Delivery Program projects and forecasts from 2022/23 onwards the level of capital expenditure reduces as the current four-year Delivery Program council comes to an end.



| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Total Operating Expenditure | 25,126,642 | 25,124,643 | 26,616,364 | 26,595,423 | \$ 27,586,770 |
| Total Capital Expenditure | 27,088,080 | 21,098,111 | 39,014,529 | 12,109,943 | \$ 18,891,481 |

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Annual Statement of Revenue provide 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 2022/23 financial year.



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL OPERATIONAL PLAN

Part 2: Statement of Revenue

WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL



The Annual Statement of Revenue forms part of the 2022/23 Operational Plan and includes the 2022/23 Fees and Charges.

These documents have been prepared in accordance with Section 403(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.



ANNUAL STATEMENT OF REVENUE

INDEX

| | |
|--|----|
| Statement of Revenue Policy | 5 |
| Introduction | |
| Rating | |
| Budget analysis | 7 |
| Operating Revenue | |
| Operating expenditure | |
| Expenditure challenges | |
| Capital expenditure | |
| Rate Levy 2022/23 | 11 |
| Farmland category | |
| Residential category | |
| Business category | |
| Water and Sewer Charges | 18 |
| Water charges | |
| Sewerage charges | |
| Domestic Waste | |
| Statement of the types of fees | 22 |
| Statement of Council's Pricing Policy | 22 |
| Statement of the amounts or rates proposed | 23 |
| Statement of Proposed Borrowings | 23 |



STATEMENT OF REVENUE POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The information pertained in this Statement of Revenue comes directly from Council's Long Term Financial Plan. 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 (i.e.: 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 2022/2023, rates are based on property values as at 1 July 2019.

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 a decade, 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 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Rate Pegging % Increase | 1.50 | 2.30 | 2.70 | 2.60 | 2.00 | 0.70 |
| Rateable Value | 504,286,220 | 511,880,220 | 518,336,290 | 862,040,158 | 879,598,432 | 885,520,951 |
| Total General Rate Income \$ | 4,978,068 | 5,146,523 | 5,324,988 | 5,460,635 | 5,673,409 | 5,724,454 |
| Increase \$ | 104,444 | 168,455 | 140,986 | 138,450 | 212,774 | 51,045 |



BUDGET ANALYSIS

This section provides comments on the main expenses and revenues, and capital expenditure for 2022/23.

OPERATING REVENUE

Council has forecasted to generate \$48,077,266 in revenue for 2022/2023.

Extract of Operating Statement

| Operating Revenue | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Rates & Annual Charges | \$10,098,339 | \$10,845,185 | \$11,610,702 | \$12,395,357 |
| User Charges & Fees | \$6,330,822 | \$6,705,398 | \$7,299,952 | \$12,211,434 |
| Interest | \$238,500 | \$244,463 | \$250,574 | \$256,838 |
| Grants & Contributions (Op) | \$9,900,850 | \$9,812,247 | \$10,030,677 | \$10,254,570 |
| Grants & Contributions (Cap) | \$20,180,510 | \$1,803,846 | \$527,267 | \$528,936 |
| Other Operating Revenue | \$1,228,245 | \$1,241,414 | \$1,254,296 | \$1,287,500 |
| Net gain/loss Disposal of Assets | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,00 |
| TOTAL | \$48,077,266 | \$30,752,551 | \$31,073,470 | \$37,034,637 |

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 \$10,098,339 from rates and annual charges for 2022/2023. 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 2022/2023.

Interest charges on unpaid rates and charges will accrue on a daily basis at the rate of 6.00% 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. Ratepayer 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 2022/2023 budget.

The Roads and Maritime Services contract (RMCC) is classed as a fee for service and accounts for approx. \$1.7 million of revenue annually.



Council also operates the Buronga Landfill. It is expected that this operation will generate \$3,000,000 in revenue for 2022/2023. Overall Council expects to raise \$6,330,822 from user fees and charges for 2022/2023.

INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS

Council has an investment portfolio that varies in size from year to year however it is projected to be between \$30m and \$35m for the majority 2022/2023.

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 Councils 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 \$32,000,000 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. Even with interest rates currently at an all-time low Council still expects to receive \$238,500 from investments in 2022/2023.

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 grant 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 and 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 council's and communities with the greatest needs. Generally, council's 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 council's when a fixed 30% of the grant must be allocated based on population increases/decreases.

Council has forecasted to receive \$30,081,360 in operating and capital grants in 2022/2023.

Council will receive capital grants and contributions in 2022/2023 which will contribute to funding the following projects:

- Roads to Recovery Program
- Regional Roads Block Grant and Repair Program
- Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Projects
 - o Wentworth Showgrounds Running Rail
 - o James King Park Riverfront Upgrade
 - o Pooncarie Telegraph Building
 - o Pooncarie Aerodrome Lights
 - o Willowbend Caravan Park Ablutions Block
 - o Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment
- Fixing Local Roads

- o Punt Road
- o Fletchers Lake Road
- o Log Bridge Road
- o Bridge Road
- Stronger Country Communities
 - o Wentworth Showgrounds Female Jockey Room
 - o Wentworth & Dareton Swimming Pool Lights Upgrade
- Resources for Regions
 - o Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment – Visitor Information Centre
 - o Wentworth EDS
 - o Reserves Upgrades
 - o Men's Shed Contribution
 - o Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block
 - o Pooncarie Toilet Block
 - o Buronga Wetlands Sharedway
- Growing Local Economies
 - o Pooncarie-Menindee Road Upgrade
- Crown Land Improvement Fund
 - o Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment
 - o Wentworth Astronomy Park
 - o Pooncarie Racecourse
- NSW State Library Grant
 - o Wentworth Library Relocation

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 \$1,228,244 in 2022/2023.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Council has forecasted \$26,703,864 in operating expenditure for 2022/2023.

Extract of Operating Statement

| Operating Expenses | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Employee Costs | \$10,744,520 | \$11,054,476 | \$11,373,340 | \$11,701,368 |
| Materials & Contracts | \$4,175,082 | \$3,626,531 | \$3,762,620 | \$4,601,447 |
| Borrowings | \$391,205 | \$515,005 | \$826,871 | \$778,320 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | \$8,024,848 | \$8,024,848 | \$8,024,848 | \$8,424,848 |
| Other Operating Expenses | \$3,368,209 | \$3,374,563 | \$3,599,090 | \$3,524,928 |
| TOTAL | \$26,703,864 | \$26,595,423 | \$27,586,770 | \$29,030,910 |

EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

Employee expenses comprise approximately 40% of Council's operating costs with 132.45 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% and will progressively increase to 12% starting in 2022-23. 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 2022/2023. 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 2022/20223 Operational Plan is based on the figure of 132.45 equivalent fulltime employees (EFT's). Council's total employee costs for 2022/2023 is expected to be \$10,744,520.

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 \$391,205 in 2022/2023.

MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS

Materials and Contracts represent the principal costs used to deliver services to the community and are forecast to increase by 2% in 2022/2023 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.

Budgeted expenditure for 2022/2023 is \$4,175,082.

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 2022/2023 is \$8,024,848.

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 by approximately 2% above CPI each year. Budgeted expenditure for 2022/2023 is \$3,368,209.

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 visions 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 service 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 2022/23 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 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Existing Infrastructure Renewals | \$24,580,962 | \$8,274,452 | \$8,311,888 | \$9,230,470 |
| Projects Carried forward from previous years | \$10,681,680 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| New Capital Expenditure | \$3,350,429 | \$2,598,000 | \$9,000,000 | \$0 |
| Capital loan repayments | \$854,458 | \$1,267,488 | \$1,579,593 | \$1,547,093 |
| TOTAL | \$39,467,529 | \$12,109,943 | \$18,891,481 | \$10,777,563 |

The Major Projects and Capital Expenditure Program for 2022/23 will be \$39,467,529.

Capital works are funded from the following sources:

- Loans/financing \$8,500,000
- Restricted Funds \$2,805,000
- Retained Earnings \$0
- Council Operations \$7,529,019
- Grants and contributions \$20,633,510



RATE LEVY 2022/23

Council has received advice from the Minister for Local Government that the rate pegging limit for 2022/23 is 0.70%. 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 2022/2023.

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 2022/23 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 Farmland, Dry Land Grazing and Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline.

Farmland

An ordinary rate of 0.00334672 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 31.05% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$1,161,220.89.

Farmland – Dry Land Grazing

An ordinary rate of 0.00269869 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$510.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 17.94% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$736,409.

Farmland, Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline

An ordinary rate of 0.004014391 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$95.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 43% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$15,683.

RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY

Wentworth

An ordinary rate of 0.00435451 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



2022/23 rating period, subject to base amount of (\$240.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 45.09% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$323,640.

Buronga

An ordinary rate of 0.00392586 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 29.71% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$426,142.

Gol Gol

An ordinary rate of 0.00418719 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$260.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 25.76% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$597,530.

Gol Gol East

An ordinary rate of 0.00470828 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$360.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 22.68% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$357,091.

Pooncarie

An ordinary rate of 0.01407047 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 46.60% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$25,177.

Dareton

An ordinary rate of 0.01659654 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 48.22% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$76,832.

Rural Residential

An ordinary rate of 0.00382962 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$195.00) for each assessment.



The base amount accounts for 26.15% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$475,701.

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 0.00716264 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 19.43% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$261,270.

Business, Wentworth

An ordinary rate of 0.00918108 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$270.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 37.89% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$39,192.

Business, Mourquong

An ordinary rate of 0.30967717 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$100.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 0.12% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$245,545.

Business, Trentham Cliffs

An ordinary rate of 0.00869766 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$120.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 4.17% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$11,450.

Business, Arumpo

An ordinary rate of 0.06598092 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 2022/23 rating period, subject to a base amount of (\$210.00) for each assessment.

The base amount accounts for 1.35% of the estimated yield for this category. The estimated yield for this rate is \$77,522.

Business, Pooncarie



An ordinary rate of 0.08716740 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

2022/23 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 \$888,000.

WATER AND SEWER CHARGES

It is necessary to increase Water & Waste Water by 2.50% per property for 2022/23 to cope with the cost of operational and capital expenditure required to provide this service to the ratepayers.

- Water Access Charges will increase by 2.50% per rateable property in 2022/23
- Sewer Access Charges will increase by

- 2.50% per rateable property in 2022/23
- Water Consumption Charges will increase by 2.50% per rateable property in 2022/23.

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 CHARGES

| Filtered Water | Charge | Unit |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Access Charge | \$307.50 | per annum |
| Water Cost - 0-250kl | \$1.28 | per kl |
| Water Cost - over 250kl | \$2.87 | per kl |
| Raw Water | Charge | Unit |
| Access Charge | \$169.00 | per annum |
| Water Cost - 0-700kl | \$0.46 | per kl |
| Water Cost - over 700kl | \$1.13 | 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 | 2,488 | 307.50 | 250 kl | \$ 765,060.00 |
| | 25 | 32 | 480 | 500 kl | \$ 15,360.00 |
| | 32 | 8 | 787 | 750 kl | \$ 6,296.00 |
| | 40 | 17 | 1,230 | 1,000 kl | \$ 20,910.00 |
| | 50 | 14 | 1,921 | 1,750 kl | \$ 26,894.00 |
| | 80 | 2 | 4,920 | 4,000 kl | \$ 9,840.00 |
| | 100 | 1 | 7,687 | 6,250 kl | \$ 7,687.00 |
| | 150 | 0 | 17,296 | 14,000 kl | \$ 0.00 |
| | 200 | 0 | 30,750 | | \$ 0.00 |
| | | | | | \$ 852,047.00 |
| Raw Water | Size (mm) | Assessments | Raw Water Access Charge | Allowance 1st Step | Notional Income |
| Residential or Non Residential | 20 | 2,344 | 169 | 700 kl | \$ 396,136.00 |
| | 25 | 42 | 264 | 1,400 kl | \$ 11,088.00 |
| | 32 | 11 | 433 | 2,100 kl | \$ 4,763.00 |
| | 40 | 19 | 676 | 2,800 kl | \$ 12,844.00 |
| | 50 | 16 | 1,056 | 4,900 kl | \$ 16,896.00 |
| | 80 | 3 | 2,704 | 11,200 kl | \$ 8,112.00 |
| | 100 | 1 | 4,225 | 17,500 kl | \$ 4,225.00 |
| | 150 | | 9,506 | 39,200 kl | \$ 0.00 |
| | 200 | | 16,900 | | \$ 0.00 |
| | | | | | \$ 454,064.00 |



| Rural 1(c) Raw Water | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Size of Connection | | Access Charge | First Step \$0.26 | Second Step \$0.82 |
| 20mm | 235 | \$231.00 | 0-2,000 kilolitres | 2,001+ kilolitres |
| Rural Raw Water Only | 24 | \$231.00 | 0-2,000 Kilolitres | 2,001+ kilolitres |
| | | | | \$ 54,900.00 |
| Industrial Water | | | | |
| Filtered | | Up to 4,000kl | \$1.12 | per kl |
| | | Next 4,000kl | \$1.84 | per kl |
| | | Next 4,000kl | \$1.74 | per kl |
| | | over 12,000kl | \$1.64 | per kl |

Total Water Access Charges \$ 1,365,940.00

PENSIONER CONCESSIONS

Water pensioner concessions \$32,000



SEWERAGE CHARGES

| Description | Assess | Charge | Notional Income | Pensioner Rebate |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Sewerage Connected | 1,859 | 840.50 | \$1,562,490 | \$29,500 |
| Sewerage Unconnected | 140 | 570.00 | \$79,800 | |
| Sewerage 1st Pedestal | 30 | 840.50 | \$25,215 | |
| Sewerage Pedestal WC | 706 | 118.00 | \$83,308 | |
| Sewerage Urinal | 60 | 58.00 | \$3,480 | |
| Sewerage Church WC | 38 | 63.00 | \$2,394 | |
| Sewerage 2 Flats | 8 | 1,260.75 | \$10,086 | |
| Sewerage 3 Flats | 4 | 1,681.00 | \$6,724 | |
| Sewerage 4 Flats | 4 | 2,101.25 | \$8,405 | |
| Sewerage 5 Flats | 4 | 2,521.50 | \$10,086 | |
| Sewerage 6 Flats | 3 | 2,941.75 | \$8,825 | |
| Sewerage 7 Flats | 3 | 3,362.00 | \$10,086 | |
| Sewerage 9 Flats | 0 | 4,205.50 | \$0.00 | |
| Sewerage 10 Flats | 1 | 4,622.75 | \$4,623 | |
| Sewerage 12 Flats | 1 | 5,463.25 | \$5,463 | |
| Sewerage 14 Flats | 0 | 6,303.75 | \$0.00 | |
| | | | \$1,820,985 | \$29,500 |



DOMESTIC WASTE

Domestic Waste collection charges will increase by 2.50% 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 | Assess | Charge | Notional Income | Pensioner Rebate |
| Domestic Waste Urban | 2,215 | 252 | \$558,180 | \$26,000 |
| Domestic Waste Rural | 981 | 307.50 | \$301,658 | \$6,000 |
| | | | \$859,838 | \$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 2022/23 fees and charges schedule on 29 June 2022, 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 2022/23. 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 2022/23 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.

Statement of proposed borrowings

The Wentworth Shire Council is proposing to borrow/finance up to \$8,000,000 in 2022/23 to help fund capital requirements for the redevelopment of the:

- Wentworth Civic Centre; and
- Willowbend Caravan Park



WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL OPERATIONAL PLAN

Annual Fees and Charges

WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL



The Annual Fees and Charges forms part of the 2022/23 Operational Plan.

These documents have been prepared in accordance with Section 403(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.



ANNUAL FEES AND CHARGES

INDEX

| | |
|--|----|
| Economic Development & Tourism | 4 |
| Planning & Development Applications | 6 |
| Planning & Development Applications | 10 |
| Regulatory Functions | 14 |
| Waste Management Charges | 17 |
| Finance and Customer Service Fees | 21 |
| Library Fees | 22 |
| Hire of Plant Items | 24 |
| Cemeteries | 25 |
| Water & Waste Water | 36 |
| Appendix A - Bodies Granted Exemptions | 37 |
| Appendix B – Section 68 Local Government Act Approvals Not Otherwise Listed Health & Planning Division | 38 |



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Paddle Steamer Ruby Hire

| Day Cruises from Wentworth Wharf | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|-----|
| One Hour Ruby Cruise - minimum booking 30 passengers | | | |
| Adult ticket (aged 18 and over) | | \$30.00 | 10% |
| Child under 18 years of age and Concessional Card Holders | | \$20.00 | 10% |
| Child under 12 years of age | | Free | 10% |
| Family ticket (2 Adults & 2 children) | | \$76.00 | 10% |
| Two Hour Ruby Cruise - including Lock passage minimum booking 25 passengers | | | |
| Adult ticket (aged 18 and over) | | \$45.00 | 10% |
| Child under 18 years of age and Concessional Card Holders | | \$25.00 | 10% |
| Child under 12 years of age | | Free | 10% |
| Family ticket (2 Adults & 2 children) | | \$116.00 | 10% |
| Overnight Cruises from Wentworth Wharf of Fotherby Park, including dinner, bed & breakfast | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| 1 night - 4 hours steaming and returning to Wentworth | per person | \$236.00 | 10% |
| 2 nights - 8 hours steaming and return to Wentworth | per person | \$471.00 | 10% |
| Longer cruises by arrangement | per person | Quote per charter | 10% |
| Group Booking Packages | | | |
| Discount of 10% is available when one booking fills the vessel manifest | | | |
| Static Vessel Hire at Wentworth Wharf or Fotherby Park (see note 6) | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Overnight Accommodation Hire at Wentworth Wharf or Fotherby Park | | | |
| Cabin accommodation only - Minimum 20 adult passengers | per person | \$45.00 | 10% |
| Cabin including breakfast - Minimum 20 adult passengers | per person | \$57.00 | 10% |
| Cabin including dinner, bed & breakfast - Minimum 20 adult passengers | per person | \$116.00 | 10% |
| Static Vessel Hire at Fotherby Park | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Group Hire - Full day, dry hire - Maximum 30 passengers (NO BYO) | | \$957.00 | 10% |
| Conference Hire - Full day, light lunch & refreshments - Maximum 25 passengers | | \$1,915.00 | 10% |
| Celebration Hire - Half day hire - Maximum 80 passengers on vessel (NO BYO) | | \$1,915.00 | 10% |
| * A Bond is payable for all Static Hire Bookings | | \$500.00 | 0% |
| Additional Information | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Audio Visual Equipment Hire | | | |
| LCD Screen and DVD Player | per day | \$60.00 | 10% |
| Specialty Catering Requests | | | |
| Any special catering packages/requirements are to be negotiated at additional cost. | | | 10% |
| Cleaning & Rubbish removal (all hiring's) | | | |
| Note: Hirers are responsible for cleaning and rubbish removal. If required, the cost for additional cleaning & rubbish removal will be deducted from the bond. An invoice will be raised for amounts in excess of the bond paid. | | Cost | 10% |

**Paddle Steamer Ruby Hire additional notes**

- The Vessel may only carry 100 day passengers
- The Wheelhouse deck may only carry 30 persons at a time
- The passenger deck may only carry 60 persons at any time
- All passengers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult
- Overnight Cruises require 20 passengers to fill a booking.
- Fotherby Park provides overnight parking in a CCTV controlled area
- Each cabin has one upper and one lower bunk
- Luggage space in cabins is limited
- Linen is also included in all overnight cruises
- Single cabin occupancy rate is 70% of the fees shown
- Special dietary requirements are to be made known at the time of booking
- There are no disabled or wheelchair facilities on board
- Animals are not permitted on board
- An Officer of P.S. Ruby will be in attendance at all hire events
- Extra security is the responsibility of the hirer

Note: Embarkation may be cancelled by the Captain at his absolute discretion.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

| Construction Certificates | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|--|-----|
| The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.35% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$25,000 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 | \$457.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$560.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$1,115.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$1,780.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$2,026 plus \$1.89 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Class 10 Buildings (Sheds, Carports, Pools, Fences) | | |
| Up to \$5,000 | \$457.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$519.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$772.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$1,096.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$1,333 plus \$1.79 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Class 2 - 9 Buildings (Commercial, Industrial & Public Buildings) | | |
| Up to \$5,000 | \$560.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$1,115.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$1,780.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$2,234.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$2,583 plus \$2.00 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Contribution Plan (if applicable) | | |
| Up to \$100,000 | 0% | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$200,000 | 0.50% | 10% |
| \$200,001 and above | 1% | 10% |



| Complying Development Certificates | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|--|-----|
| The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.35% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$25,000 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 | \$457.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$560.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$1,115.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$1,780.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$2,026 plus \$1.89 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Class 10 Buildings (Sheds, Carports, Pools, Fences) | | |
| Up to \$5,000 | \$457.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$519.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$772.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$1,096.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$1,333 plus \$1.79 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Class 2 - 9 Buildings (Commercial, Industrial & Public Buildings) | | |
| Up to \$5,000 | \$560.00 | 10% |
| \$5,001 to \$20,000 of Building Value | \$1,115.00 | 10% |
| \$20,001 to \$100,000 of Building Value | \$1,780.00 | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$250,000 of Building Value | \$2,234.00 | 10% |
| \$250,001 + of Building Value | \$2,583 plus \$2.00 per \$1,000 over \$250,000 | 10% |
| Contribution Plan (if applicable) | | |
| Up to \$100,000 | 0% | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$200,000 | 0.50% | 10% |
| \$200,001 and above | 1% | 10% |



| Civil Works | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|--|-----|
| The Long Service Levy Corporation Fee is payable at 0.35% of the value of building and construction work where the cost of the building is \$25,000 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 | \$128.00 | 10% |
| 4 - 20 Lots | \$382.00 | 10% |
| 21 - 49 Lots | \$637.00 | 10% |
| 50 Plus Lots | \$891.00 | 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% | 10% |
| \$100,001 to \$200,000 | 0.50% | 10% |
| \$200,001 and above | 1% | 10% |
| Headworks Charges (Servicing Plans 1 & 2) | | |
| Filtered water fee (per Lot) | \$1,595.00 | 0% |
| Filtered water fee (per Lot) – Trentham | \$5,000.00 | 0% |
| Unfiltered water fee (per Lot) | \$1,728.00 | 0% |
| Sewerage Fee (per Lot) | \$8,340.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|---|--------------------------------|-----|
| Certificate and progress reports on buildings under construction | \$179.00 | 10% |
| Minor amendments to Construction Certificates / Complying Development Certificates | \$179.00 | 10% |
| Amendment > 50% of plan – Construction / Complying Development Certificates | 50% of fee for new application | 10% |
| Re-inspection for a critical stage building inspection | \$105.00 | 10% |
| Subscriber fee for provision of ABS data – full year | \$228.00 | 0% |
| Search and copy of records (per search) | \$101.00 | 0% |
| Copy of building plans (per sheet) | Standard Copy Fee | 10% |
| Private Certifier lodgement fee (cl 263 EP&A Reg 2000) | \$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 | \$367 + .88c per km | 10% |
| - dwelling within Council area | \$387.00 | 10% |
| Building Information Certificate – Class 1 & 10 where work involves no additional floor space (cl 260 EP&A Reg 2000) | TBC | 0% |
| Building Information Certificate – Class 1 & 10 involving additional floor space (cl 260 EP&A Reg 2000) | TBC | 0% |
| Inspection Fee where more than one inspection is required prior to issuing a Building Information Certificate (cl 260(2) EP&A Reg 2000) | TBC | 10% |
| Building Information Certificate where a DA, CDC or CC was required for the erection of the building or any of the other conditions prescribed in Regulation 260(3A) of the EP & A Act Apply. Note: DA, CC or CDC fee addition only applies if the building erection/alteration happened 2 years immediately preceding date of building certificate application. | TBC | 0% |
| Fee for copy of a Building Information Certificate (cl 261 EP&A Reg 2000) | TBC | 0% |
| Infrastructure Protection Permit Fee (includes inspections) | \$210.00 | 0% |
| Infrastructure Bond (Refundable) – This bond applies to all construction works \$25,001 and above. | \$3,000.00 | 0% |

Note: Due to changes in Planning regulations, the fees for Building Information Certificates will be updated once the department has provided updated amendments and fee schedules.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

| Swimming Pool Fence Inspection Fee | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|------------------------|-----|
| Audit inspection initiated by Council – 1 st Inspection | \$0.00 | 0% |
| Mandatory inspection for a swimming pool (cl 18A Swimming Pool Reg 2008) | \$150.00 | 10% |
| Follow up inspection when 1 st inspection not compliant (cl 18A Swimming Pool Reg 2008) | \$100.00 | 10% |
| Local Government Act Approvals | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Application to install on-site Sewerage Management System (Septic Tank/AWTS) | \$476.00 | 0% |
| Application to alter on-site Sewerage Management System (Septic Tank/AWTS) | \$476.00 | 0% |
| Application to amend existing approval to install an on-site sewerage management system | \$226.00 | |
| Install Grey Water System | \$273.00 | 0% |
| Amend Grey Water System | \$155.00 | 0% |
| Raw Water Sign | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Trade Waste Discharge Application Fee | \$673.00 | 10% |
| Industrial Sewerage Management System (20 plus persons) | \$673.00 | 0% |
| Amendment to Industrial Sewerage Management System (20 plus persons) | \$673.00 | 0% |
| Application for approval to connect to sewer | \$476.00 | 0% |
| Application to alter existing sewer plan | \$476.00 | 0% |
| Re-inspection for a mandatory plumbing inspection stage | \$105.00 | 0% |
| Section 68 Installation of a Relocatable Home, Moveable Dwelling or Associated Structure | | |
| Up to \$5,000 of Building Value | \$53 + 0.5% | 10% |
| \$5,001 - \$100,000 of Building Value | \$79 + 0.3% | 10% |
| \$100,001 - \$250,000 of Building Value | \$378 + 0.2% | 10% |
| >\$250,001 of Building Value | \$693 + 0.1% | 10% |
| Stormwater Legal Point of Discharge | \$80.00 | 0% |
| Caravan Parks – Inspection fee + (per site) 5 year fee | \$300 + \$5 (per site) | 0% |
| Caravan Parks noncompliance re-inspection fee (per hour) | \$192.00 | 0% |
| Section 68 Local Government Approvals not otherwise listed – Refer Appendix B | \$256.00 | 0% |



| Development Applications | Fee (Including 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 (Including 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 | \$7,019.00 | 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 | | 0% |
| 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 (Including 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 (Including 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 | \$134.00 | 0% |
| Sewer Diagram | \$22.00 | 0% |
| Notification of Outstanding Orders | \$80.00 | 10% |
| Certificate under Section 735A of the Local Government Act 1993 | \$80.00 | 10% |
| Designated Development Schedule 4 Part 3 EP&A Reg 2021 | Fee (Including 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 (Including 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 (Including 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 (Including 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 (Including GST) | GST |
| Fee to give notice of Prohibited development | \$62.00 | 0% |
| Permissive Occupancy Licence Fees | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Application Fee (new or transfer) | \$218.00 | 0% |
| Annual Rent Payable | \$218.00 | 0% |
| Application for Mooring Sites | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Mooring Sites (private) | \$347.00 | 0% |
| Mooring Sites (commercial) | \$687.00 | 0% |



REGULATORY FUNCTIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM INSPECTION FEES

| Public Health Program Inspection Fees | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| Food Premises Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$61.00 | 0% |
| Food premises - administration fee (yearly) | \$200.00 | 10% |
| Food premises - fee per inspection | \$160.00 | 0% |
| Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice (including one inspection) | \$330.00 | 0% |
| Hairdressers and like Premises Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$116.00 | 0% |
| Hairdressers and like Premises - administration fee (yearly) | \$188.00 | 10% |
| Hairdressers and like Premises - fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 0% |
| Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice (including one reinspection) | \$465.00 | 0% |
| Temporary Event - Application to Sell Food Fee (single day/event) | \$66.00 | 0% |
| Annual approval (covers all events for the year) | \$166.00 | 0% |
| Mobile Vendor Permit – Application to Sell Food | | |
| New Application Annual Fee | \$66.00 | 0% |
| Renewal Application Annual Fee | \$166.00 | 0% |
| Skin Penetration Premises Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$179.00 | 0% |
| Skin Penetration Premises – administration fee (yearly) | \$188.00 | 10% |
| Skin Penetration Premises – fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 0% |
| Accommodation Premises Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$116.00 | 0% |
| Accommodation Premises – administration fee (yearly) | \$188.00 | 10% |
| Accommodation Premises – fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 0% |
| Cooling Towers - administration fee (yearly) | \$320.00 | 10% |
| Cooling Towers - fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 0% |
| Cooling Towers - per km | \$0.38 per km | 0% |
| Warm Water Systems Inspections – administration fee (yearly) | \$188.00 | 10% |
| Warm Water System - fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 0% |
| Warm Water System - per km | \$0.38 per km | 0% |
| Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$116.00 | 0% |
| Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool – administration fee (yearly) | \$188.00 | 10% |
| Swimming Pool and/or Spa Pool – fee per inspection | \$149.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| Registration/Change of Details Fee | \$61.00 | 0% |
| Administration Fee (yearly) Up to and including 5 FTE food handlers | \$390.00 | 10% |
| Administration Fee (yearly) More than 5 but not more than 50 FTE food handlers | \$450.00 | 10% |
| Administration Fee (yearly) More than 50 FTE food handlers | \$600.00 | 10% |
| Fee per Inspection per hour | \$299.00 | 0% |
| Maximum fee for issuing improvement notice | \$347.00 | 0% |

COMPANION ANIMAL FEES

| Other Regulatory Function Charges | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| Micro-chipping Service | \$62.00 | 10% |
| Surrender Fees | \$105.00 | 0% |
| Release Fee - Cats | \$105.00 | 0% |
| Release Fee - Dogs | \$105.00 | 0% |
| Release Fee - Livestock (per animal) | \$105.00 | 0% |
| Livestock Sustenance - per day | \$18.00 | 10% |
| Trap Hire - Refundable Deposit | \$30.00 | 0% |
| Impounded Vehicles | \$541.00 | 10% |
| Animal Services Officer - After hours attendance (in addition to any fines imposed) | \$290.00 | 10% |
| Lifetime Registration Fees (as per Companion Animals Regulation 2008) | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Dog - Desexed (by relevant age) | \$69.00 | 0% |
| Dog - Desexed (by relevant age eligible pensioner) | \$29.00 | 0% |
| Dog - Desexed (sold by pound/shelter) | Free | 0% |
| Dog - Not-Desexed or Desexed (after relevant age) | \$234.00 | 0% |
| Dog - Not Desexed (not recommended) | \$69.00 | 0% |
| Dog - Not Desexed (recognised breeder) | \$69.00 | 0% |
| Dog - Working | Free | 0% |
| Dog - Service of the State | Free | 0% |
| Lifetime Registration - Assistant Animals | Free | 0% |



| | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------|
| Cat – Eligible Pensioner | \$29.00 | 0% |
| Cat – Desexed (sold by pound/shelter) | Free | 0% |
| Cat – Not Desexed (not recommended) | \$59.00 | 0% |
| Cat – Not Desexed (recognised breeder) | \$59.00 | 0% |
| Registration late fee | \$19.00 | 0% |
| Annual Permits | Fee (Including 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 2022.

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 2022



WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGES

| Landfill Charges | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| 1 Bag of Rubbish | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Station wagon / car boot | \$17.00 | 10% |
| 240 ltr MGB | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Domestic (Home) Waste | | |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level | \$22.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped | \$40.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged | \$59.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level | \$44.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped | \$67.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged | \$91.00 | 10% |
| Commercial/Industrial (Work) Waste | | |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level | \$34.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped | \$60.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged | \$87.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level | \$66.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped | \$101.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged | \$138.00 | 10% |
| Green Waste (Domestic) | | |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level | \$4.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped | \$7.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged | \$12.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level | \$7.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped | \$12.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged | \$16.00 | 10% |
| Green Waste (Commercial/Industrial) | | |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - water level | \$6.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - heaped | \$12.00 | 10% |
| 6 x 4 Trailer / Utility - caged | \$18.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - water level | \$12.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - heaped | \$18.00 | 10% |
| 7 x 4 Tandem Trailer or larger - caged | \$24.00 | 10% |
| Truck loads - (per tonne) | \$157.80 | 10% |
| Concrete (per tonne) - excluding concrete pipes | \$120.00 | 10% |
| Asbestos (per tonne) | \$225.00 | 10% |
| Problematic Waste | \$206.80 | 10% |
| Disposal of car bodies | NIL | 0% |
| Car and Motorbike Tyres | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Small Truck Tyres | \$24.00 | 10% |
| Large Truck Tyres | \$44.00 | 10% |
| Super Single Tyre | \$44.00 | 10% |
| Earthmoving/Tractor Tyres | \$184.00 | 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 | \$20.00 | 10% |
| Mattress - Double or bigger | \$38.00 | 10% |
| Deep Burial | \$174.00 | 10% |



TRADE WASTE CHARGES

| Trade Waste Fees and Usage Charges | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Annual Trade Waste Fee | | |
| Category 1 Discharger | \$131.00 | 10% |
| Category 2 Discharger | \$261.00 | 10% |
| Large Discharger | \$878.00 | 10% |
| Industrial Discharger | \$261.00 | 10% |
| Re-inspection Fee | \$123.00 | 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 | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Category 2 Discharge with appropriate equipment (note 1) | \$245.00 | 10% |
| Category 2 Discharge without appropriate pre-treatment | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Food Waste Disposal | \$42.00 | 10% |
| Non-compliance pH charge | | |
| Value of coefficient K in equation 3 of Liquid Trade Waste Policy | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Excess Mass Charges - Substance price per kg | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Aluminium | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Ammonia (as N) | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Arsenic | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Barium | \$54.00 | 10% |
| Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Boron | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Bromide | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Cadmium | \$509.00 | 10% |
| Chloride | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Chlorinated hydrocarbons | \$54.00 | 10% |
| Chlorinated phenolics | \$2,202.00 | 10% |
| Chlorine | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Chromium | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Cobalt | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Copper | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Cyanide | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Fluoride | \$7.00 | 10% |
| Formaldehyde | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Oil and Grease (Total O&G) | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Herbicides/defoliants | \$1,101.00 | 10% |
| Iron | \$5.00 | 10% |



| Excess Mass Charges - Substance price per kg | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| Lead | \$54.00 | 10% |
| Lithium | \$12.00 | 10% |
| Manganese | \$12.00 | 10% |
| Mercaptans | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Mercury | \$3,670.00 | 10% |
| Methylene blue active substances (MBAS) | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Molybdenum | \$110.00 | 10% |
| Nickel | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Nitrogen (Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen - Ammonia) as N | \$27.00 | 10% |
| Organoarsenic compounds | \$1,101.00 | 10% |
| Pesticides general (excludes organochlorines and organophosphates) | \$1,101.00 | 10% |
| Petroleum hydrocarbons (non-flammable) | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Phenolic compounds (non-chlorinated) | \$12.00 | 10% |
| Phosphorous (Total PP) | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Selenium | \$78.00 | 10% |
| Silver | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Sulphate (SO ₄) | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Sulphide | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Sulphite | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Suspended Solids (SS) | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Thiosulphate | \$4.00 | 10% |
| Tin | \$12.00 | 10% |
| Total dissolved solids (TDS) | \$3.00 | 10% |
| Uranium | \$12.00 | 10% |
| Zinc | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Charges for tankered waste - Fees in \$/kL (note 1) | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Chemical Toilet | \$24.00 | 0% |
| Septic Tank Waste | | |
| Effluent | \$5.00 | 0% |
| Septage | \$30.00 | 0% |
| Charges for use of Riverboat Pump-Out Stations (per each dump) | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Disposal of effluent from riverboats | \$30.00 | 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 (Including 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) | | \$40.00 | 0% |
| Sundry Charges | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including 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 | \$111.00 | 10% |
| Grants – Auspice of grant funds on behalf of others (this covers preparation of reports for funding body & audit certificate) | | \$1,629 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 (Including GST) | GST |
| Tent Erection Fees - outside licensed Caravan Parks | | \$124.00 | 0% |
| Tent Erection / Clearing | | \$713.00 | 0% |
| Deposits - Tents for Circus, travelling shows and other commercial enterprises | | \$600.00 | 0% |
| Valuer General's Insertion into Rates Notices | per hour | \$78.00 | 0% |
| Misc. Rates Charges | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| 603 Certificate | | \$90.00 | 0% |
| 603 Certificate Urgent Request | | \$141.00 | 0% |
| Special Meter Reading - 603 Certificate | | \$78.00 | 0% |
| Meter Check - Fault Report | | \$132.00 | 0% |
| Copy of Rates Notice (per request) | | \$10.00 | 0% |
| General Administration Fee | | \$25.00 | 0% |
| Extraction from Valuation Book | | \$24.00 | 0% |
| Rural Addressing - Provision of new address plate or replacement plate | | \$49.00 | 10% |
| Account review administration fee | | \$148.00 | 10% |
| Dishonour Fee (Bpay, Bill Pay & Direct Debit) | | \$27.00 | 10% |
| Interest on overdue rates | | 6.00% | 0% |

Note: These fees are GST exempt if associated with the provision of regulatory information



LIBRARY FEES

| Service | Fee (Including 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% |
| Facsimile | | |
| First page | \$5.00 | 10% |
| Subsequent pages each | \$2.00 | 10% |
| Overseas minimum charge | \$9.00 | 10% |
| Receiving fax (per 5 pages) | \$3.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|---|---|-----|
| Road Opening Permits | | |
| Permit | \$170.00 | 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 | \$170.00 | 10% |
| Plan Assessment Fee | \$155.00 | 0% |
| Hire Fee per day - Signs / Bollards / Traffic Cones | \$32.00 | 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) | \$25.00 | 10% |
| Each additional empty/clean (per bin) | \$25.00 | 10% |
| Replacement of Mobile Garbage Bin | \$113.00 | 10% |
| Misc. services | | |
| Hire of barbeque - per day | \$204.00 | 10% |
| Access permits - Heavy Vehicle National Law | \$105.00 | 10% |
| Weeds Inspections | | |
| Inspections within the built-up horticultural areas (i.e. Wentworth to Monak) | \$192.00 | 10% |
| Inspections in rural areas (travel is calculated to and from the property) | \$192/hr plus \$55/hr after the first 2 hours + .85c per km | 10% |
| Grid Replacement (refer 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% |

Notes:

(1) On completion of the job, the deposit will be refunded, less the restoration charges and any additional costs which may be required to restore the trench.

(2) The restoration 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.



HIRE OF PLANT ITEMS

| Plant Item (refer notes) (Price per hour unless otherwise stated) | Plant Number (s) | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----|
| CAT 12M | 533 & 534 | per hour | \$359.00 | 10% |
| Tractors and Implements | 34, 39 & 51 | per hour | \$251.00 | 10% |
| CAT Backhoe | 30 | per hour | \$224.00 | 10% |
| CAT 910F FEL | 31 | per hour | \$234.00 | 10% |
| John Deere Tractor & Implements | 41 | per hour | \$287.00 | 10% |
| CAT D6 Dozer | 36 | per hour | \$359.00 | 10% |
| JCB Loadalls | 44 | per hour | \$259.00 | 10% |
| CAT 938F FEL | 47 | per hour | \$244.00 | 10% |
| Low Loader Prime Mover | 507 | per km | \$10.00 | 10% |
| Low Loader | 75 | per hour | \$359.00 | 10% |
| Bitelli MT Rollers | 56 & 57 | per hour | \$251.00 | 10% |
| CAT 613B scraper | 55 | per hour | \$287.00 | 10% |
| Bomag Vib Roller | 58 | per hour | \$224.00 | 10% |
| Mobile Street Sweeper | 65 | per hour | \$224.00 | 10% |
| Bobcat & Attachments | 62 | per hour | \$377.00 | 10% |
| CAT mini excavator | 67 | per hour | \$377.00 | 10% |
| Water Carts | 513, 519 & 523 | per hour | \$207.00 | 10% |
| Truck and Dogs | 483 & 520 | per hour | \$278.00 | 10% |
| Truck and Dogs | 531 & 771 | per hour | \$278.00 | 10% |
| Tip Truck | 536 | per hour | \$224.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| Purchase of burial plot | \$1,164.00 | 0% |
| 1st interment | \$1,612.00 | 10% |
| 2nd interment | \$1,612.00 | 10% |
| Placement of infant in existing grave site (shelved grave) | \$1,002.00 | 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 | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Affixing a plaque | \$281.00 | 10% |
| Monumental (Denominational) Wentworth, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Cal Lal | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Purchase of plot | \$1,164.00 | 0% |
| 1st interment | \$1,792.00 | 10% |
| 2nd interment | \$1,964.00 | 10% |
| Placement of infant in existing grave site (shelved grave) | \$1,002.00 | 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 | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Affixing a plaque | \$281.00 | 10% |
| Cal Lal Cemetery – all purchases and interments quoted on a case by case basis | Actual Cost | 10% |
| Niche Wall - Coomealla Memorial Gardens | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Purchase Plot in Niche Wall - includes purchase of standard size black stone tile (maximum of 2 sets of ashes per plot) | \$727.00 | 10% |
| Placement of ashes in Niche Wall & fixing of stone tile (per set of ashes). NB Engraving of stone tile is not included | \$486.00 | 10% |
| Re-open of existing Niche | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Location and consent to place Monument or Headstone | \$171.00 | 10% |
| Amendment to Headstone | \$45.00 | 10% |
| Removal of ashes - Consent required | Actual Cost | 10% |
| Ground Plots (placement of plaques or memorial items) | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Coomealla, Wentworth and Gol Gol | \$537.00 | 10% |
| Placement of ashes in ground plots | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Re-open of existing Ground Plot | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Removal of ashes - Consent required | Actual Cost | 10% |



| Ashes Columbarium | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| Gol Gol and Wentworth (maximum of 2 sets of ashes per columbarium) | \$727.00 | 10% |
| Placement of ashes in Columbarium (per set of ashes) | \$486.00 | 10% |
| NB: engraving of stone tile is not included – contact Davis Monumental | | |
| Re-open of existing ashes columbarium compartment | \$447.00 | 10% |
| Plot Selection | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| On-site attendance by WSC Officer to assist in plot selection | \$88.00 | 10% |
| Cemetery Administration Fee | \$88.00 | 10% |
| Memorial seating – purchase & installation of approved memorial seat | Actual Cost | 10% |
| Additional notes (all cemeteries and memorials) | Fee (Including 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) | \$441.00 | 10% |
| Placement of black granite remembrance plaque – (150 x 150mm) – Sextons Hut Wentworth Cemetery (includes inscription & installation) | \$529.00 | 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, Anabranah 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 (Including GST) | GST |
| Community Use | | |
| Community (not for profit) 4 hours or less (note 1) | \$50.00 | 10% |
| Community (not for profit) more than 4 hours (note 1) | \$111.00 | 10% |
| Bond Community Group (note 2) | \$100.00 | 0% |
| Per day fee for use of Anabranah Hall amenities in relation to camping on the Anabranah. Please note a bond of \$500 will apply. | \$50.00 | 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 | \$129.00 | 10% |
| 4 hours to 24 hour period | \$257.00 | 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 | \$257.00 | 10% |
| 4 hours to 24 hour period | \$426.00 | 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 and kindergartens) 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 (Including GST) | GST |
| Community Use | | |
| Community (not for profit) Half Day Hire – hire cost is for each designated area per 0-4 hour period. | \$50.00 | 10% |
| Community (not for profit) Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period. | \$111.00 | 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 | \$129.00 | 10% |
| Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period. | \$257.00 | 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 | \$214.00 | 10% |
| Day Hire more than 4 hours – hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period | \$426.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| Unpowered Site – per person x 2 people | \$26.00 | 10% |
| Extra Child | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | \$10.00 | 10% |
| Family | \$105.00 | 10% |
| Powered Site – per person x 2 people | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Extra Child | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | \$10.00 | 10% |
| Family | \$118.00 | 10% |
| Hire of Council venues for School & Community Service Organisations from within WSC | | |
| <p>Registered Schools (including pre-schools and kindergartens) 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.</p> <p>For Community/Private Use the above charge will only apply in the following instances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>Cancellation or no show</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 | | |



| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|-----|
| Wentworth Showgrounds Hire | | | |
| <p>The following areas are available for hire:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Yards & Stalls • Festival Parade • Arena • Dog Show Parkland <p>Camping is not permitted at the showgrounds unless it is in conjunction with an event.</p> | | | |
| Hire Type – Casual Hire of Showgrounds | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Hire of Designated Areas and amenities. Hire cost is for each designated area per each 24 hour period. | | \$170.00 | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
| Unpowered Site | | \$26.00 | 10% |
| Extra Child | | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | | \$10.00 | 10% |
| Powered Site | | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Extra Child | | \$6.00 | 10% |
| Extra Site | | \$10.00 | 10% |
| A cancellation fee will be charged as follows: | | | |
| Cancellation or no show | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater than 90 days prior to event • Less than 90 days prior to event • Less than 1 week prior or no show • Bond | <p>Full refund less deposit paid</p> <p>50% refund</p> <p>Full forfeiture</p> <p>Fully refundable</p> | | |
| | | | |
| Reserve Annual Use Fees and Charges | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Reserve Lease Application/Administration Fee (Commercial Lease) Note: If legal advice is required, this is charged at cost price. | | \$257.00 | 10% |
| Reserve Licence Application/Administration Fee (Commercial Licence) Note: If legal advice is required, this is charged at cost price. | | \$257.00 | 10% |
| Temporary Licence to occupy the reserve | | \$257.00 | 10% |

| Sundry Fees and Charges | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Event Management Fee - for groups without public liability insurance | per hire | \$50.00 | 10% |
| Power - access and any use within 24 hour period from time of access | per day per unit accessed | \$32.00 | 10% |
| Key Replacement - lost key or not returned | per key | \$32.00 | 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 | \$257.00 | 10% |
| Hire of Pooncarie Depot Quarters | per person, per night | \$78.00 | 10% |
| Swimming Pools | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including 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 | | \$112.00 | 10% |
| Adults | | \$75.00 | 10% |
| Children | | \$56.00 | 10% |
| Aerodrome | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Airport Landing Charge (ALC) | Per tonne | \$16.00 | 10% |
| Aircraft Parking Charge (APC) – short term | Per day or part day | \$11.00 | 10% |
| Aircraft Parking Charge (APC) – long term | Per month | \$231.00 | 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 | \$38.00 | 10% |
| Training Aerodrome Circuits (TAC) – Night Rate | Per hour | \$57.00 | 10% |
| Airside Supervision Charge (ASC) – Business Hours | Per ARO | \$116.00 | 10% |
| Airside Supervision Charge (ASC) – After Hours | Per ARO | \$168.00 | 10% |
| Airside Environmental Charge (AEC) – Minimum Charge | | \$233.00 | 10% |
| Aircraft Hanger Charge (AHC) – New | Per year | TBD | 10% |
| Aircraft Hanger Charge (AHC) – Kevin J Thomas Hanger | Per year | \$1,533.00 | 10% |
| Call Out Fee (COF) – minimum 2 hour charge | Per hour | \$116.00 | 10% |
| Vehicle Parking Charge (VPC) | Per day or part day | \$3.00 | 10% |



| Midway Centre Hire Fees | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|-----|
| <u>Midway Function Centre & meeting rooms</u> | | | |
| Stadium (includes stage area) | per hour | \$139.00 | 10% |
| Function Room and shared foyer | per hour | \$116.00 | 10% |
| Service kitchen (includes crockery, cutlery & glassware for 250 persons) | per use | \$174.00 | 10% |
| Meeting Room 1 with shared foyer and shared kitchenette | per hour | \$46.00 | 10% |
| Meeting Room 2 with shared foyer and shared kitchenette | per hour | \$46.00 | 10% |
| Foyer / Gallery Space (as a stand-alone space) | per hour | \$36.00 | 10% |
| <u>Midway Serviced Offices</u> | | | |
| Health Services Room with shared foyer & shared kitchenette | per hour | \$46.00 | 10% |
| Office 1 or 2 with shared foyer & shared kitchenette | per hour | \$36.00 | 10% |
| <u>Service Centre Facilities</u> (NB these facilities are only available during centre opening hours) | | | |
| Service Centre Officer 1 or 2 | per hour | \$40.00 | 10% |
| Craft Room | per hour | \$40.00 | 10% |
| <u>Bond and cleaning charges</u> | | | |
| | 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 (Including GST) | GST |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Daily Rate - Stadium, Function Room, Service kitchen, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 and Foyer/Gallery Space. | 24 hours | \$4,342.00 | 10% |
| Daily Rate – Stadium, Function Room, Service kitchen and Foyer/Gallery Space. | 24 hours | \$3,231.00 | 10% |
| Daily Rate – Stadium | 24 hours | \$1,667.00 | 10% |
| Daily Rate - Function Room, Service kitchen and shared foyer/gallery space | 24 hours | \$1,563.00 | 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. <i>NB cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts.</i> | 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 (including GST) | GST |
| Teleconference equipment | Each use | \$41.00 | 10% |
| Portable data projector & stand | Each use | \$23.00 | 10% |
| Whiteboard & whiteboard markers | Each use | \$13.00 | 10% |
| Urn (20 litre capacity) | Each Use | \$13.00 | 10% |
| Labour hire (assistance with set up and pull down) – if required | per person/per hour | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Event facilitation and coordination (if required) | per hour | \$174.00 | 10% |
| On-site IT support (if required) | per hour | \$174.00 | 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 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 |



WILLOW BEND CARAVAN PARK

| Fees | Unit of Measure | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|-----|
| Cabins - Off Peak | | | |
| Single | per night | \$85.00 | 10% |
| Double | per night | \$102.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | per night | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Children 0 - 5 years | per night | Free | 0% |
| Children 5 - 16 years | per night | \$8.00 | 10% |
| Single Weekly Stay | per week | \$499.00 | 10% |
| Double Weekly Stay | per week | \$563.00 | 10% |
| Cabins - Peak | | | |
| Single | per night | \$95.00 | 10% |
| Double | per night | \$105.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | per night | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Children 0 - 5 years | per night | Free | 0% |
| Children 5 - 16 years | per night | \$8.00 | 10% |
| Powered Sites - Off Peak | | | |
| Single | per night | \$28.00 | 10% |
| Double | per night | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | per night | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Children 0 - 5 years | per night | Free | 0% |
| Children 5 - 16 years | per night | \$8.00 | 10% |
| Weekly Stay | per week | \$200.00 | 10% |
| Powered Sites - Peak | | | |
| Single | per night | \$36.00 | 10% |
| Double | per night | \$39.00 | 10% |
| Extra Adult | per night | \$17.00 | 10% |
| Children 0 - 5 years | per night | Free | 0% |
| Children 5 - 16 years | per night | \$8.00 | 10% |
| Weekly Stay | per week | \$210.00 | 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:

(1) Peak (minimum 2 nights) Country Music Festival, Christmas School Holidays, Easter

(2) Linen can be hired at a fee of \$10

(3) Deposit of one night's accommodation required at time of booking



WATER AND WASTE WATER

| Filtered and unfiltered water supply | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
|--|----------------------------|------------|
| Tapping Fees | | |
| 20mm | \$505.00 | 0% |
| 25mm | \$569.00 | 0% |
| 32mm | \$807.00 | 0% |
| 40mm | \$923.00 | 0% |
| 50mm | \$1,035.00 | 0% |
| 80mm | \$1,654.00 | 0% |
| 100mm | \$2,069.00 | 0% |
| Meter Charges | | |
| 20 mm meter - filtered | \$337.00 | 0% |
| 20mm meter - unfiltered | \$360.00 | 0% |
| 25 mm meter - filtered | \$490.00 | 0% |
| 25mm meter - unfiltered | \$542.00 | 0% |
| 32 mm meter - filtered | \$721.00 | 0% |
| 32 mm meter - unfiltered | \$779.00 | 0% |
| 40 mm meter - filtered | \$764.00 | 0% |
| 40 mm meter - unfiltered | \$857.00 | 0% |
| 50 mm meter - filtered | \$907.00 | 0% |
| 50 mm meter - unfiltered | \$1,044.00 | 0% |
| 80 mm meter - filtered | \$1,435.00 | 0% |
| 80 mm meter - unfiltered | \$1,624.00 | 0% |
| 100 mm meter - filtered | \$2,019.00 | 0% |
| 100 mm meter - unfiltered | \$2,244.00 | 0% |
| Misc. Water and Sewer Charges | Fee (Including GST) | GST |
| Standpipe fee | \$3,239.00 | 0% |
| Flow control valve - for unfiltered water to subdivisions - East of Gol Gol creek and at Wentworth Aerodrome | \$64.00 | 0% |
| Cut in new sewer junction (supervision fee only - applicant to supply all fittings) | \$202.00 | 0% |

Notes:

(1) Meter Charge is from the meter to inside of building/property

(2) Meter Charge includes inspection fee

(3) 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 2022/23 financial year

| Organisation | Purpose | Qty | \$ Waived |
|---|---|-----|---------------------|
| Australian Inland Botanic Gardens | Contribution to operational costs | 1 | \$45,900 |
| Buronga Go Gol Senior Citizens Club | Contribution towards photocopying done at the Buronga Library | 1 | \$177.00 |
| Buronga Gol Gol Senior Citizens Club | Regular hiring of Midway Meeting Rooms, Kitchen and Foyer @ 3 hours per week | N/a | \$2,424.00 |
| Combined Churches Group | Hiring of Wentworth Town Hall (bond waived) for annual Combined Churches' Christmas carols | 1 | \$111.00 |
| Coomealla Senior Citizens Club | Regular hiring of Dareton Senior Citizens Rooms (bond waived) | N/a | \$11,172.00 |
| Coomealla Senior Citizens Club | Refund of public liability insurance premium up to maximum of \$607 | 1 | \$637.00 |
| Dareton Community Creative Centre Inc. | Waiver of hire costs for the use of the Dareton Activity Centre | 1 | \$4,432.00 |
| Gol Gol Hawks Football Netball Club | Use of James King Park for annual Easter fundraising activities | 1 | \$426.00 |
| Gol Gol Primary School | Hiring of wheelie bins for annual country fair | 10 | \$250.00 |
| Koori Kids | Donation | 1 | \$250.00 |
| Murray House Aged Care | Hiring of Wentworth Town Hall (bond waived) for entertainment activities | 1 | \$117.00 |
| 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 | \$222.00 |
| New South Western Standard Bulletin | Exclusive use of Council controlled building | N/a | \$8,067.00 |
| Rotary Wentworth Op Shop | Exclusive use of Council controlled building | N/a | \$11,999.00 |
| St John's Anglican Ladies Guild | 2 Annual Hire Fees for War Memorial Rooms | 2 | \$100.00 |
| Sunraysia Aero modellers | Hiring of Showgrounds for NSW state model gliding contest | 2 | \$340.00 |
| Sunraysia Aero modellers | Hiring of wheelie bins for NSW state model gliding contest | 2 | \$50.00 |
| Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch | Hiring of Wentworth Wharf Lawns (bond waived) for annual Anzac day lunch | 1 | \$111.00 |
| Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch | Hiring of wheelie bins for annual Anzac day lunch | 4 | \$100.00 |
| Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch | Exclusive use of Council controlled building | N/a | \$8,067.00 |
| Wentworth District R.S.L Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary | Annual licence fee for meetings held in Memorial Rooms | 1 | \$257.00 |
| Wentworth Rotary Club | Hire of Rubbish Bins for Christmas Eve Street Party | 8 | \$200.00 |
| Wentworth Senior Citizens Club | Regular hiring of Wentworth Memorial Rooms (bond waived) 12 uses @ \$106 per day and 24 uses @ \$48 (1/2 day) | N/a | \$2,532.00 |
| Wentworth Senior Citizens Club | Refund of public liability insurance premium up to maximum of \$924 | 1 | \$1,019.00 |
| 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 | | | \$104,320.00 |

Notes:

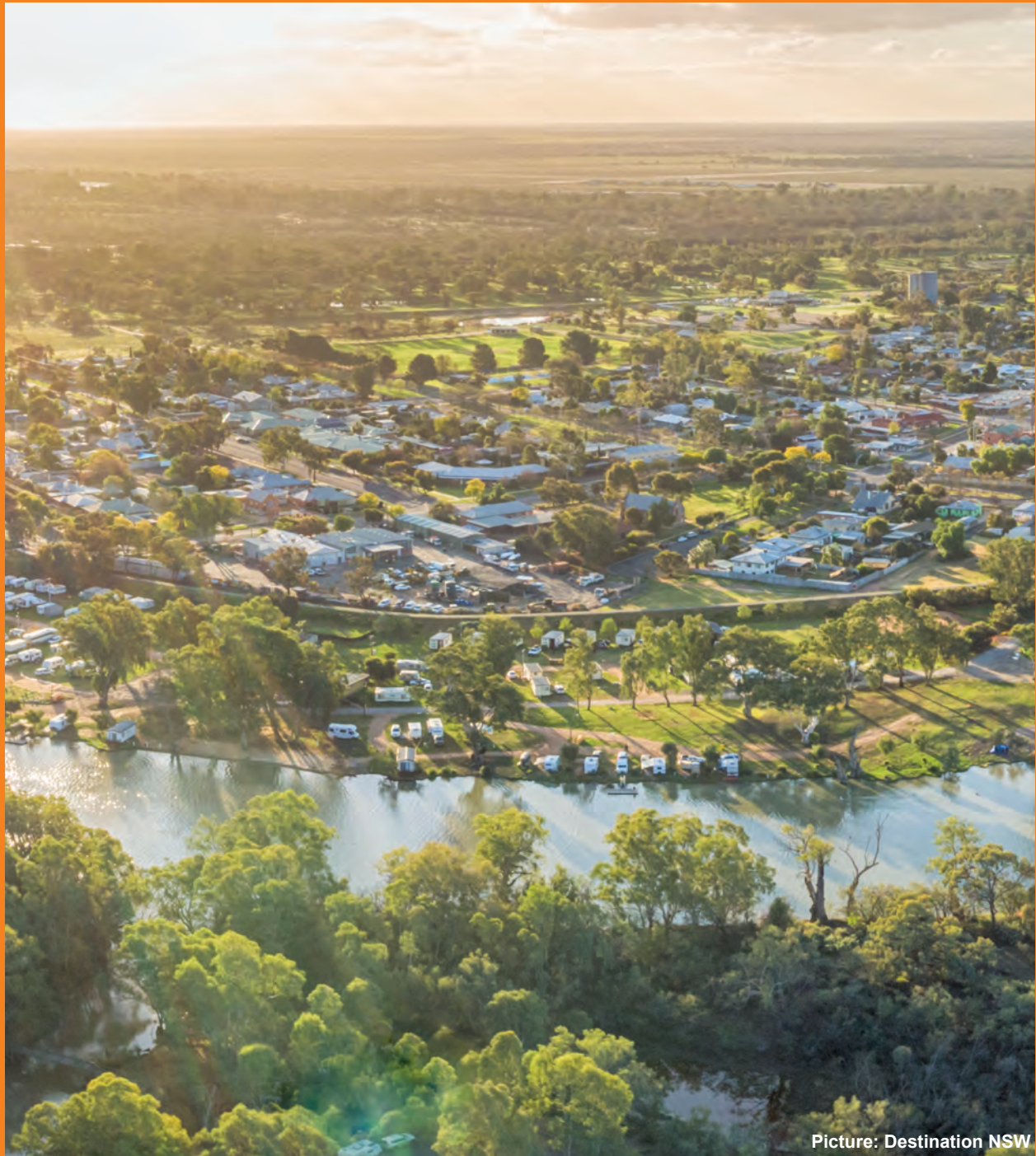
(1) Registered Schools (including pre-schools and kindergartens) operating within the Wentworth Shire are granted automatic fee waivers for the hire of any Council venue (hall, meeting room). Any preparation costs (such as line marking of ovals) will be charged at standard cost. Bookings must still be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

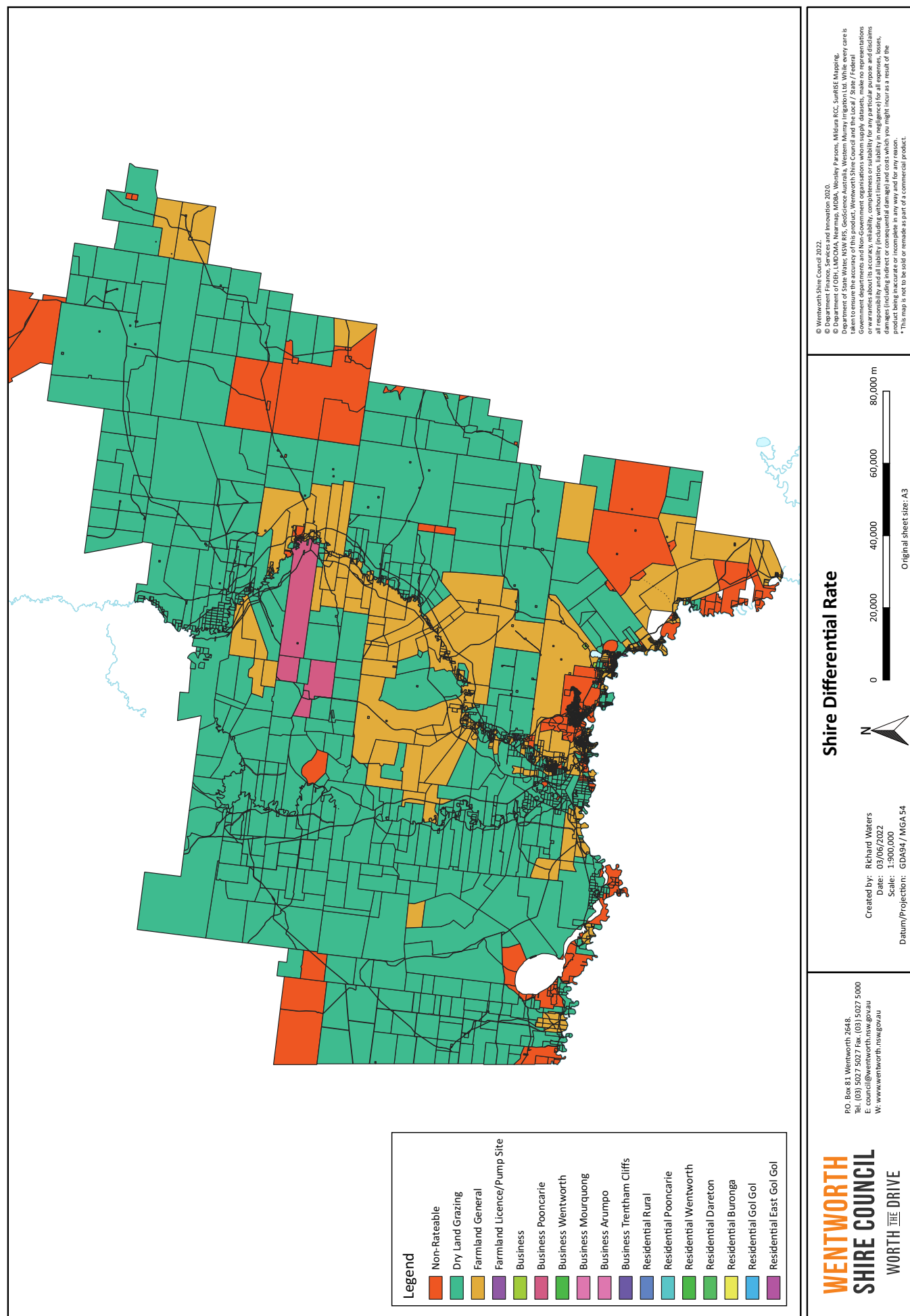


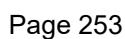
Picture: Destination NSW

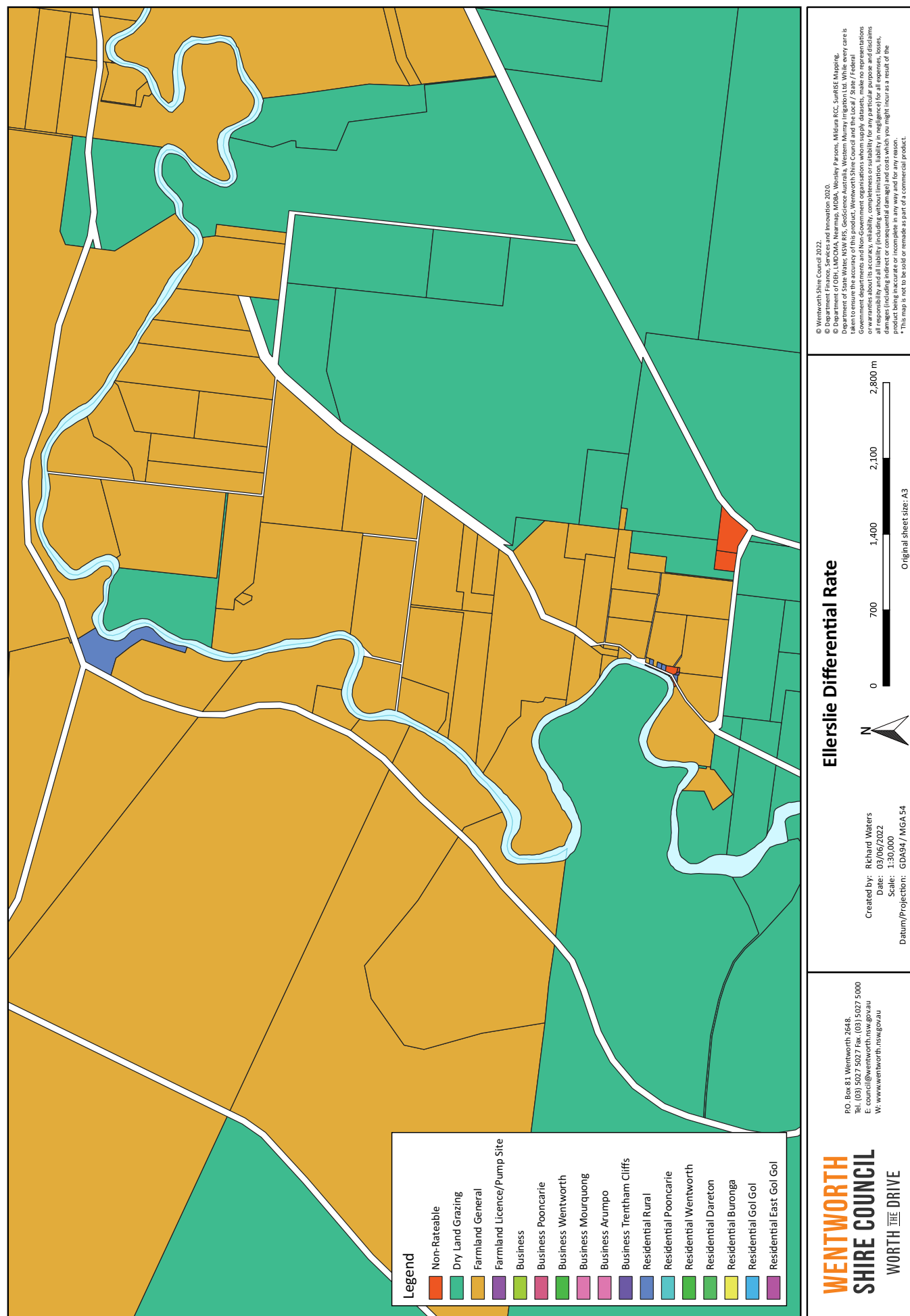
WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL OPERATIONAL PLAN

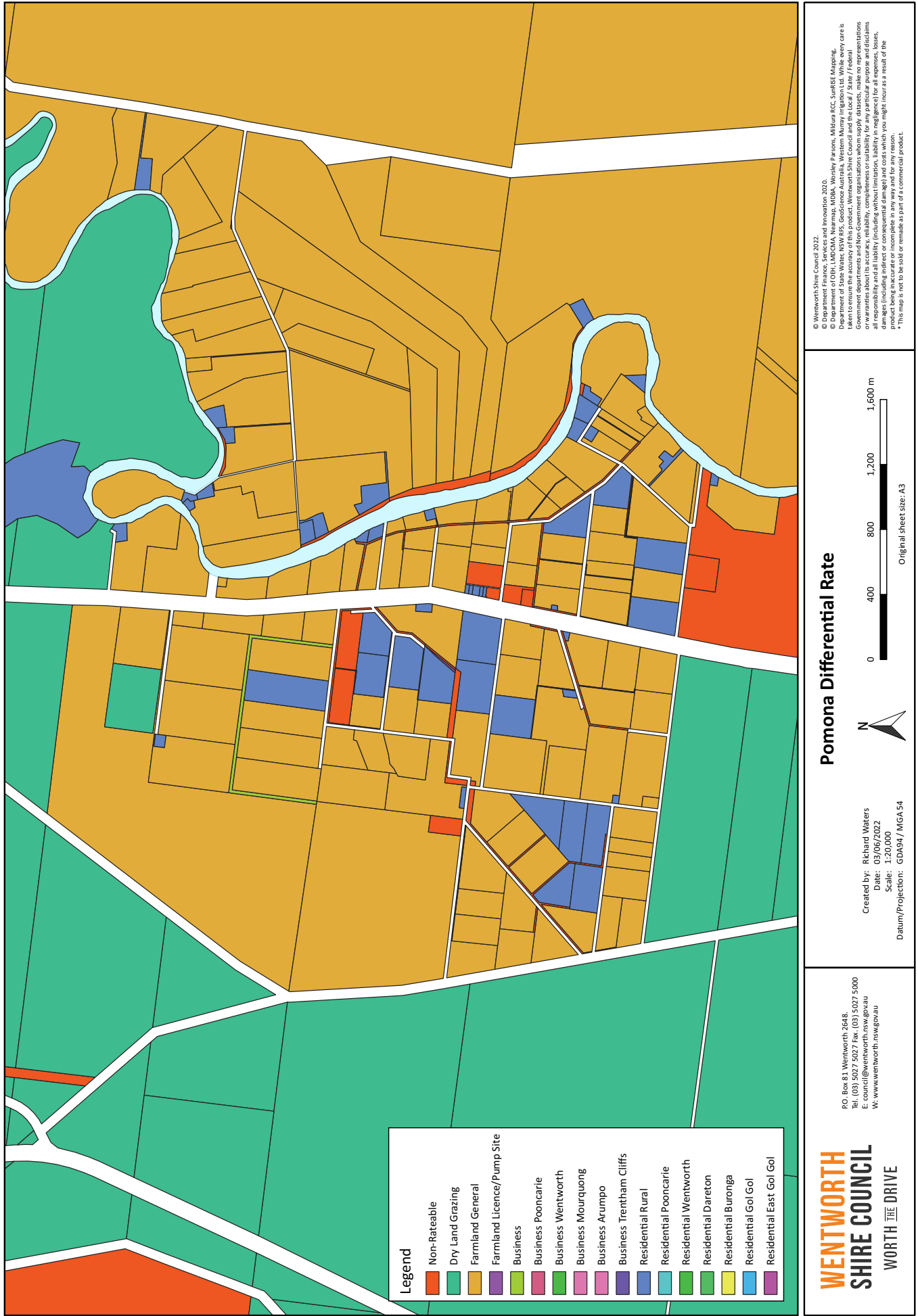
Part 4: Rating Maps

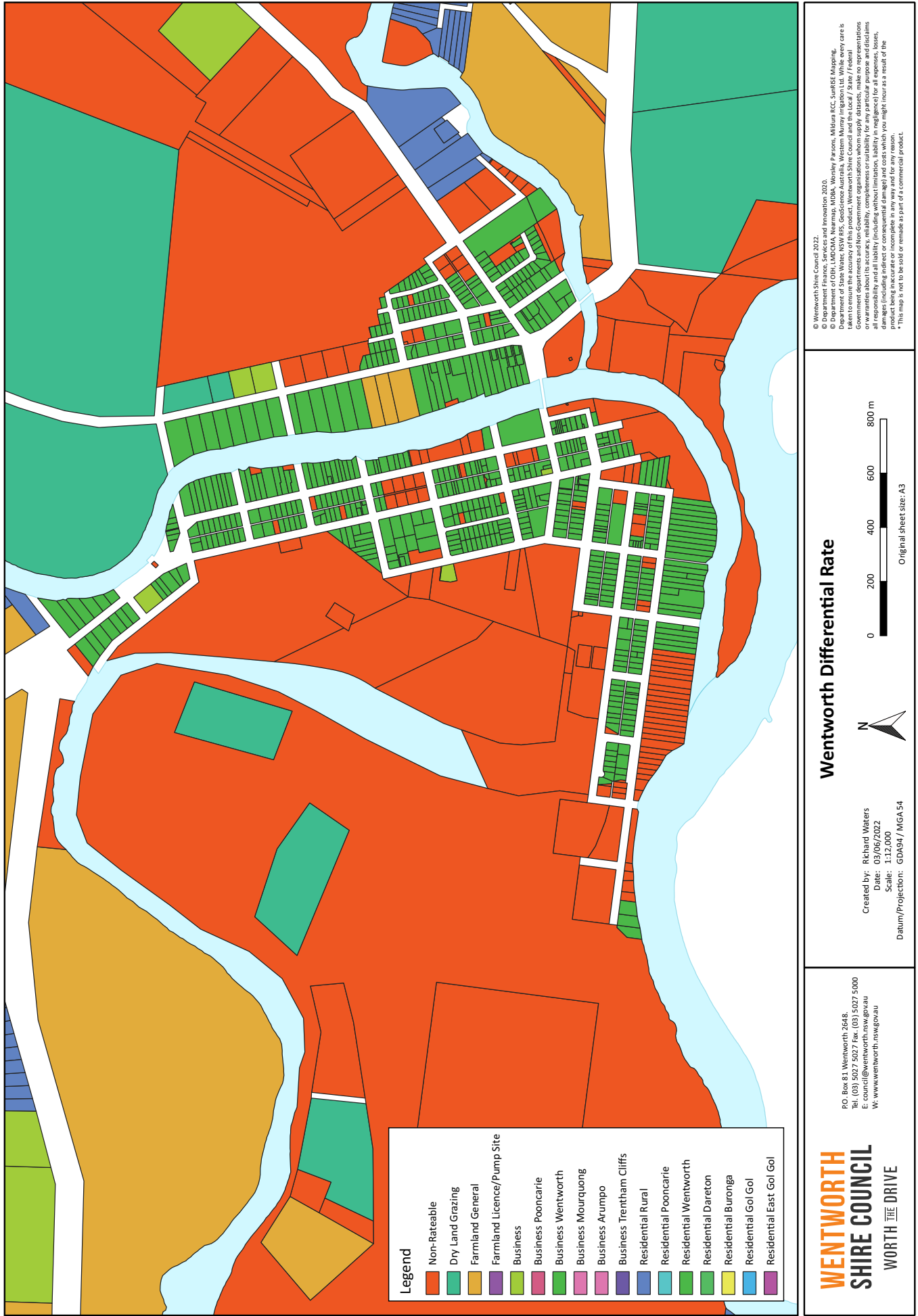
WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL

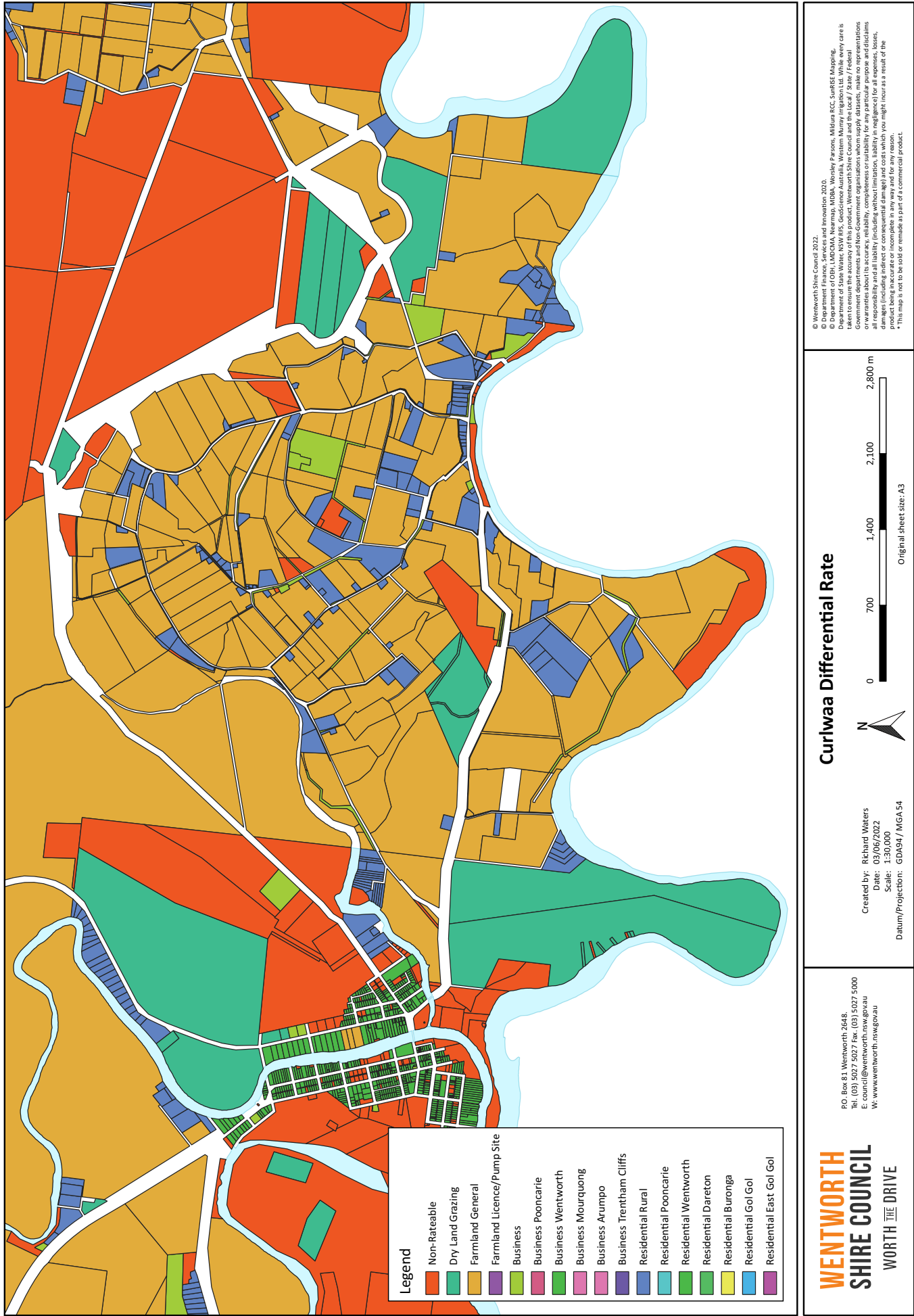


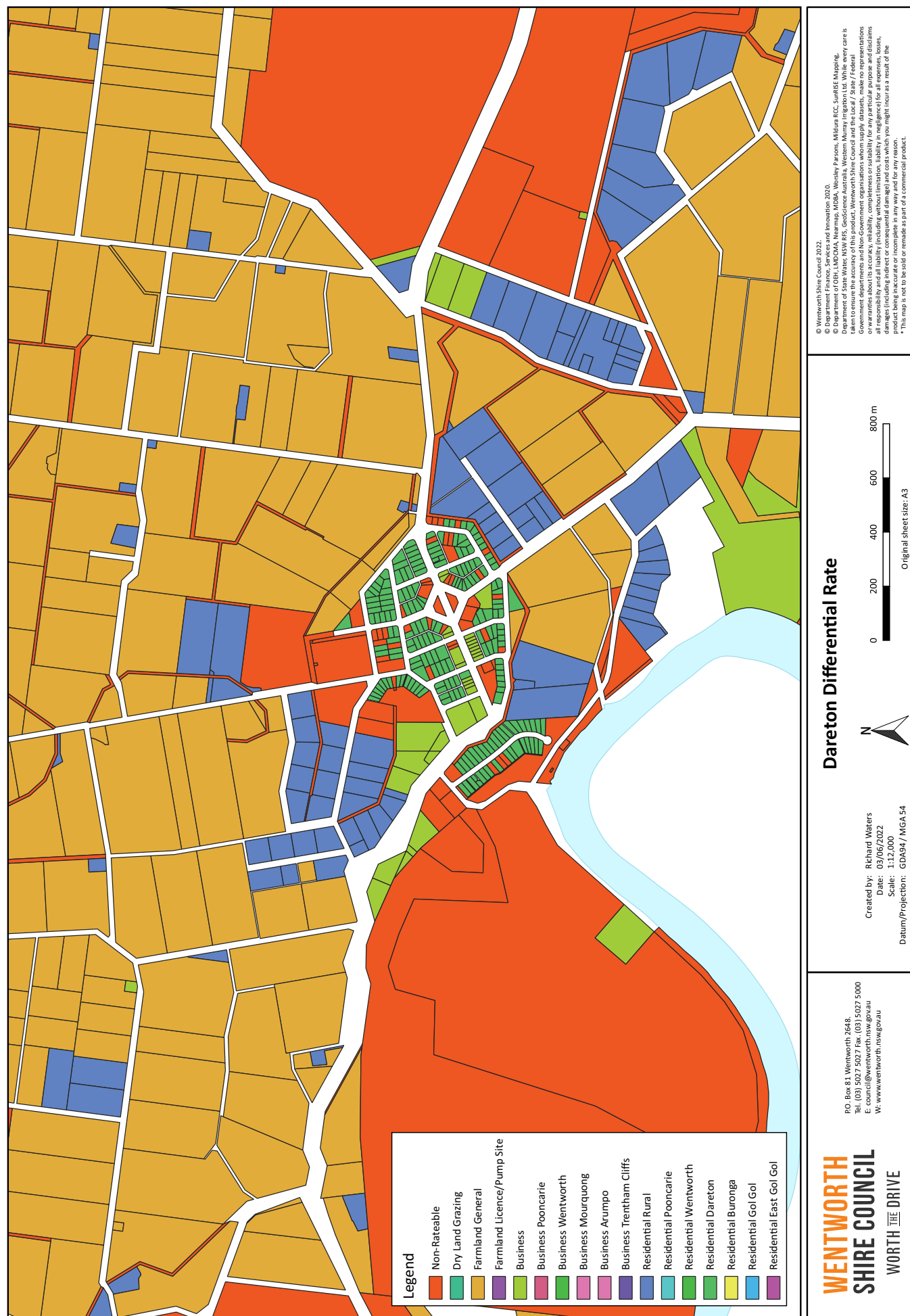


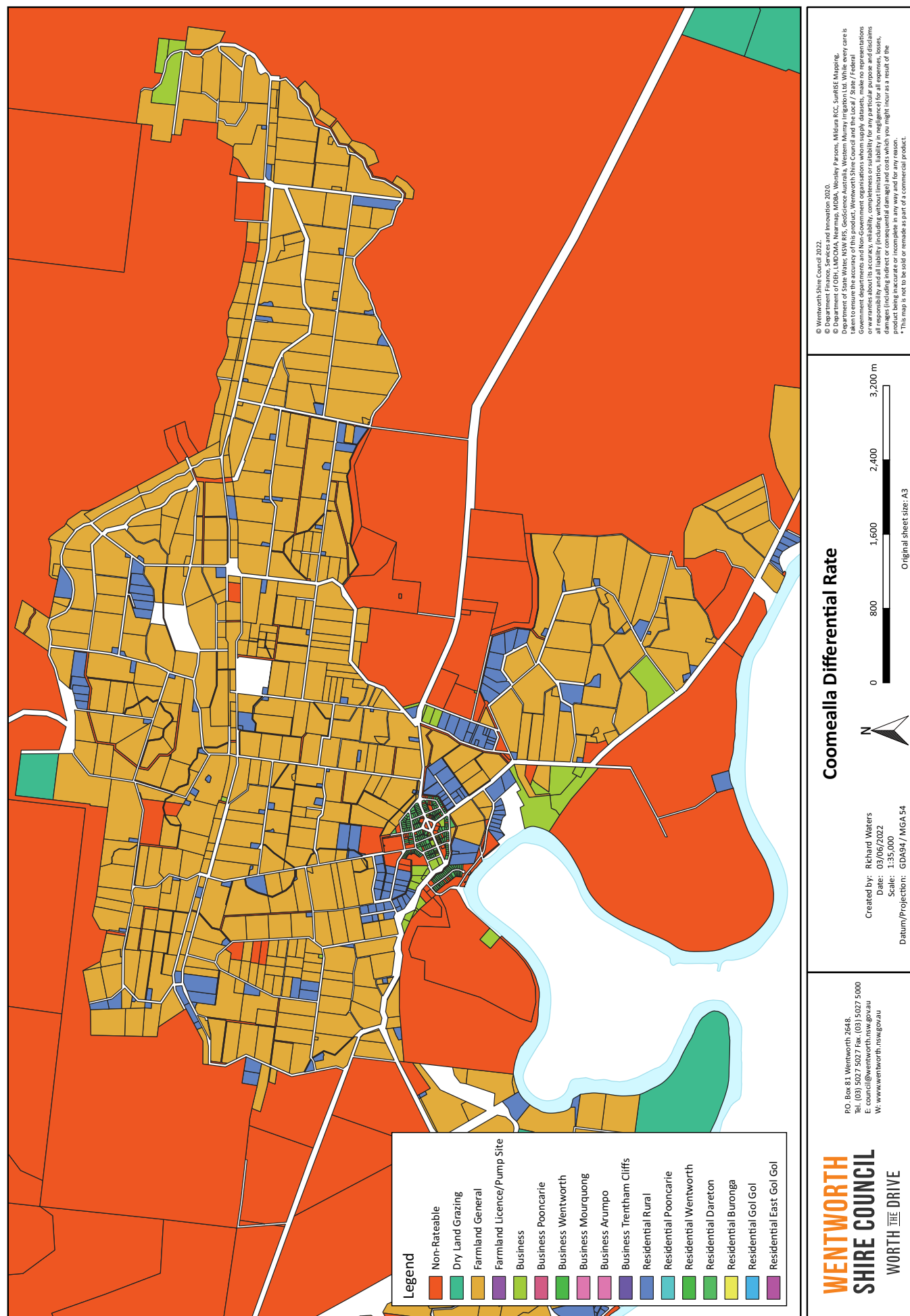


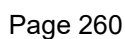


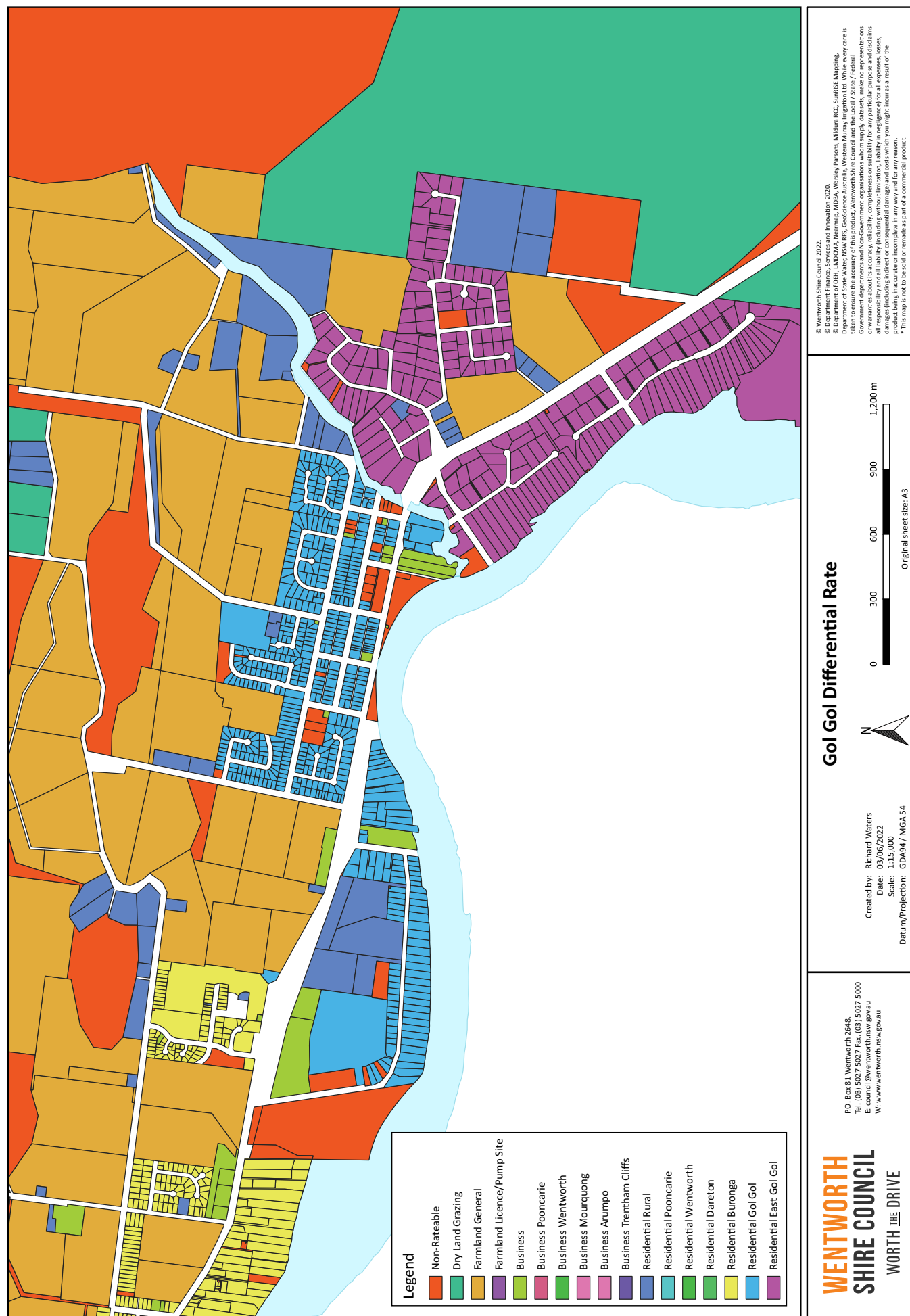














RESOURCING STRATEGY

2022-2032

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE



This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.

Images were sourced from Council's Image Library unless otherwise stated.
© Copyright Wentworth Shire Council 2022

**Wentworth Shire Council would like to
acknowledge the Traditional Custodians
of the Land and pay its respects to Elders
past, present and emerging.**

This Plan has been prepared in accordance with the legislative requirements established under Section 403(2)
of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This page has intentionally been left blank

INTRODUCTION

To achieve our long-term vision, Council must assess what resources we need in order to do what the community wants. Resources include people, money, and assets.

The reality is, Council can't afford to do everything that the community desires all at once. This Resourcing Strategy allows Council to map out the community's needs in an affordable way over the next 10 years.

The context and role of the Resourcing Strategy and each of its 3 component parts is explained in this introductory section.

Council operates within a limited financial framework. Council's revenue is generated by a combination of rates, annual charges, user charges and fees, interest on investments and grants and contributions. This gives Council a budget of approximately \$45 million in 2022/23. Although this is a large budget, the constraints on our income and our existing expenditure commitments limit what Council can achieve over any financial year.

Thus, the long-term plans contained in this document are very important to maximise the outcomes of the strategies contained in the Community Strategic Plan and address not only short-term issues but also long-term challenges.

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework (IP&R) is a strategic planning framework mandated by the NSW State government. The aim is to improve long-term financial sustainability, asset management, community consultation and business planning in local government.

IP&R recognises local government's unique position as the only agency with an interest in all aspects of a local area. It formalises the role of Council as the key advocate for the community for all issues.

The framework requires Council to take a comprehensive and rigorous approach to strategic organisational planning, resourcing, reporting and community engagement.

Council is required to prepare a set of planning documents:

- Community Strategic Plan (covering a minimum of 10 years)
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Resourcing Strategy consisting of:
 - o Long-term financial plan (minimum of 10 years)
 - o Asset management strategy (minimum of 10 years)
 - o Workforce management plan (minimum of 4 years)
- 4-year delivery program for each elected Council term
- Detailed operational plan that include the annual statement of revenue and annual budget.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Council's Community Strategic Plan identifies the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the Wentworth Shire. It is the roadmap of what is important to the community and will guide the Shire over the course of the next 10 years.

Council has a clear strategic and integrated framework that is led by the Community Strategic Plan. The other plans are developed to support and deliver on the Community Strategic Plan.

Future documents produced by Council and subsequent decisions made by Council will be tested against the Community Strategic Plan to ensure that Council is working towards the achievement of the vision for the Shire. In short, the Community Strategic Plan is Council's foundation planning document.

RESOURCING THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The Resourcing Strategy outlines Council's resourcing commitment over the next 10 years to implementing the objectives and strategies of our Community Strategic Plan. The Resourcing Strategy allocates Council's available resources to realise the aspirations of the Community Strategic Plan.

It seeks to support the most effective, efficient use of those resources to deliver the services the community needs and values and realise the vision of the Community Strategic Plan.

The Resourcing Plan is vital to ensure that Council and the community understand the major requirements in delivering all of Council's services and maintaining its assets.

We review the Resourcing Strategy annually to ensure it aligns with the diverse range of services identified in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The Resourcing Strategy consists of 3 key components:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Workforce Management Plan.

The **Long-Term Financial Plan** covers a 10-year period and outlines the financial implications of delivering on Council's responsibilities contained in the Community Strategic Plan. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that Council is a financially viable, adequately funded and sustainable organisation which can meet community expectations.

The **Asset Management Strategy** covers a 10-year period. It includes what Council needs to do to improve asset management and project resources. The strategy identifies the critical assets under Council's responsibility and outlines risk management strategies for these assets. It also contains long-term projections of asset maintenance, renewal and replacement costs.

The **Workforce Management Plan** covers a 4-year period. It helps ensure Council has the right staffing to handle the changes and challenges Council will face to meet the current and future service and operational needs of Wentworth Shire Council.

LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The first part of the Resourcing Strategy consists of Council's Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP). The LTFP is Council's 10-year financial planning document and the emphasis is on long term financial sustainability. Financial sustainability is one of the key issues facing local government, due to several contributing factors including cost shifting from other levels of government, ageing infrastructure and constraints on revenue growth (including the NSW rate pegging system for local government).

The LTFP tests the community aspirations and planned objectives against financial realities. Contained in the LTFP are:

- Assumptions used to develop the plan;
- Projected income and expenditure, balance sheet and cash flow statements;
- A range of scenarios based on different financial settings; and
- Methods of monitoring financial performance.

Balancing community expectations, uncertainty of future revenue and expenditure forecasts is one of the most challenging aspects of the financial planning process. As such, the longer the planning horizon, the more general the plan will be in the later years. Every effort has been taken to present the most current estimates and meaningful data in this plan.

As it is difficult to predict the future in details, the later years in the plan don't contain the same level of detail. This information is kept contemporary by an annual review and a more comprehensive strategic review each 4 years.

ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The second component of the Resourcing Strategy is Council's Asset Management Strategy. This plan deals with Council's Asset Management Policy, asset strategy, life cycle asset planning and links to specific asset category plans.

Local government is responsible for many billions of dollars' worth of community assets, which enable Council's to provide services to their local communities. These assets need to be managed sustainably and in the most appropriate manner on behalf of the community. Wentworth Shire Council is the custodian of around \$700 million of community infrastructure assets.

Council's Asset Management planning framework includes:

- Council's overall asset management principles and goals;
- Asset Management Policy;
- Life cycle management planning;
- Asset management systems and service delivery; and
- Action plan for asset improvement.

The Asset Management Strategy is the summary of the relevant strategies, plans and actions for the assets critical to Council's operations. It is a reflection of Council's intention that our community's infrastructure network is maintained in partnership with other levels of government and stakeholders to meet the needs of the local community. The plan is predicated on the need for assets to be maintained at a safe and functional standard.

Critical to the achievement of the Asset Management Strategy will be the provision of sufficient funding over its life to ensure that infrastructure provides services at the standard that the community expects and can reasonably afford.



WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The third component of the Resourcing Strategy is the Workforce Management Plan. This plan sets out future service and operational needs of Council and helps us make sure that our staff can handle the changes and challenges we will face over the next 10 years.

Workforce planning is the process of identifying current and future staffing needs on the basis of current internal and external information.

The Workforce Management Plan is a 4-year big picture view of workforce issues. It takes into account:

- How our current workforce is made up across the entire range of Council's services;
- What staff we need to keep our Council working well and serve our community; and
- How we can staff our Council in the most cost-effective way now and into the future.



LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

2022-2032

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE





LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

INDEX

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Overview | 6 |
| Current Financial Situation | 7 |
| Operating Results | |
| Balance Sheet Results | |
| Current Financial Year - Revenue Projections | |
| Current Financial Year - Expenditure Projections | |
| Planning Foundations | 11 |
| Planning Assumptions | |
| Revenue Forecasts | |
| Addressing Any Revenue Gaps | |
| Expenditure Forecasts | |
| Expenditure Challenges | |
| Capital Expenditure Program | |
| Asset Management | |
| Financial Modelling | 21 |
| Option 1 (Base Case) | |
| Revenue Assumptions | |
| Expenditure Assumptions | |
| Option 2 (Preferred Option) | |
| Revenue Assumptions | |
| Expenditure Assumptions | |
| Option 3 (Alternative Option) | |
| Revenue Assumptions | |
| Expenditure Assumptions | |
| Summary of Planning Assumptions | |
| Sensitivity Analysis | 25 |
| Performance Monitoring | 28 |
| Sustainability Measures | |
| Effective Infrastructure and Service Management | |
| Efficiency Measure | |
| Attachments - Financial Statement Summaries | 30 |

OVERVIEW

Background

A Long-Term Financial Plan is a key Resourcing Strategy document required under the New South Wales Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. Local government operations are vital to the community, and it is important for stakeholders to have the opportunity to understand the financial implications arising from its Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan and to be assured that these plans are financially achievable and sustainable.

Wentworth Shire Council's Long-Term Financial Plan recognises its current and future financial capacity to continue delivering high quality services and infrastructure to the community while undertaking the initiatives and projects that will contribute towards the aspirations set down in the Community Strategic Plan.

Council's ability to deliver community wants is dependent on the level of financial resources earned. Good financial management requires the understanding of the short and long term financial impacts of decisions taken now, in the past and in the future. It also requires consideration of the potential influences from outside of Council's control that may impact on the finances of Council.

Local government is reasonably unique in the breadth of the services it delivers and its reliance on assets, that have a high cost and long lives, which are used to provide a significant proportion of those services. Long lived assets are particularly difficult to manage from a financial perspective as the funding required to build, maintain and replace them can be extremely variable from one period to the next.

The Long-Term Financial Plan also aims to:

- Establish greater transparency and accountability of Council to the community;
- Provide an opportunity for early identification

of financial issues and any likely impacts in the longer term;

- Provide a mechanism to solve financial problems and understand the financial impact of Council's decisions; and
- Provide a means of measuring Council's success in implementing strategies.

Projecting over a ten-year timeframe necessitates the use of a variety of underlying assumptions. The Long-Term Financial Plan will therefore be closely monitored, and regularly revised to reflect changing circumstances.

Section 8B of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*, outlines the Principles of sound financial management that Council is required to adhere to. Therefore:

- Council spending should be responsible and sustainable, aligning general revenue and expenses.
- Council should invest in responsible and sustainable infrastructure for the benefit of the local community.
- Council should have effective financial and asset management, including sound policies and processes for the following:
 - o Performance management and reporting;
 - o Asset maintenance and enhancement;
 - o Funding decisions; and
 - o Risk management practices.
- Council should have regard to achieving intergenerational equity, including ensuring the following:
 - o Policy decisions are made after considering their financial effects on future generations; and
 - o The current generation funds the cost of its services.

These principles have informed and been incorporated into the development of Council's Long-Term Financial Plan.

CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

Operating Results

The following table details Council's operating results for each of the last five years.

| WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL INCOME STATEMENT | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Year Ending June 30th | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Operating Revenue | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 7,938 | 8,163 | 8,635 | 8,822 | 9,164 |
| User Charges & Fees | 5,570 | 6,759 | 5,422 | 7,798 | 7,582 |
| Interest | 808 | 765 | 886 | 586 | 245 |
| Grants & Contributions (Op) | 13,789 | 10,247 | 9,713 | 10,307 | 10,384 |
| Grants & Contributions (Cap) | 2,472 | 1,505 | 6,544 | 8,300 | 11,724 |
| Other Operating Revenue | 692 | 840 | 1,118 | 1,028 | 1,020 |
| Net gain/loss Disposal of Assets | 310 | 121 | 215 | 80 | 135 |
| | | | | | |
| Total Revenue | 31,579 | 28,400 | 33,994 | 36,921 | 40,306 |
| | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | 8,478 | 9,656 | 9,280 | 8,790 | 8,792 |
| Materials & Contracts | 5,296 | 5,708 | 5,464 | 7,859 | 9,553 |
| Interest Charges | 74 | 191 | 216 | 206 | 375 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | 7,713 | 7,533 | 8,956 | 8,941 | 8,077 |
| Other Operating Expenses | 3,391 | 3,331 | 3,618 | 3,490 | 982 |
| | | | | | |
| Total Expenses | 24,952 | 26,419 | 27,534 | 29,286 | 27,779 |
| | | | | | |
| OPERATING RESULT | 6,627 | 1,981 | 6,460 | 7,635 | 12,527 |



Balance Sheet Results

The following table details the balance sheet results for the past 5 years.

| WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL BALANCE SHEET | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Year Ending June 30th | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 7,523 | 4,968 | 6,327 | 10,413 | 12,393 |
| Investments | 21,000 | 22,313 | 24,000 | 18,005 | 26,000 |
| Receivables | 4,593 | 5,666 | 3,456 | 5,546 | 3,985 |
| Inventories | 507 | 184 | 207 | 202 | 166 |
| Other | 162 | 141 | 156 | 213 | 156 |
| Current Assets | 33,785 | 33,272 | 34,146 | 34,379 | 42,700 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | | | |
| Investments | - | 1,000 | 1,461 | 1,359 | 1,140 |
| Infrastructure | 399,223 | 415,975 | 422,775 | 442,194 | 453,683 |
| Intangible Assets | - | 184 | 184 | 184 | 184 |
| Non-Current Assets | 399,223 | 417,159 | 424,420 | 443,737 | 455,007 |
| Total Assets | 433,008 | 450,431 | 458,566 | 478,116 | 497,707 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Payables | 2,027 | 1,526 | 1,537 | 3,578 | 2,905 |
| Income Received in Advance | 395 | 434 | 487 | - | - |
| Provisions | 2,003 | 2,224 | 2,110 | 2,212 | 2,263 |
| Contract Liabilities | - | - | - | 1,056 | 6,318 |
| Borrowings | 311 | 187 | 247 | 262 | 499 |
| Current Liabilities | 4,736 | 4,391 | 4,381 | 7,108 | 11,985 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Provisions | 664 | 1,042 | 1,504 | 2,720 | 2,837 |
| Borrowings | 3,440 | 4,592 | 4,292 | 4,032 | 5,522 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | 4,104 | 5,634 | 6,752 | 5,796 | 8,359 |
| Total Liabilities | 8,840 | 10,025 | 10,177 | 13,860 | 20,344 |
| NET ASSETS | 424,168 | 440,406 | 448,389 | 464,256 | 477,363 |
| Restrictions | | | | | |
| External restrictions | 11,445 | 12,217 | 14,495 | 13,498 | 22,181 |
| Internal restrictions | 10,010 | 10,767 | 11,199 | 10,583 | 10,928 |
| Unrestricted cash | 7,068 | 5,297 | 4,633 | 4,337 | 5,284 |
| Capital expenditure | 14,128 | 10,338 | 14,459 | 19,766 | 19,162 |
| | | | | | |



Financial Sustainability

Council supports the definition of financial sustainability set out by NSW T-Corp that:

“A local government will be financially sustainable over the long term when it is able to generate sufficient funds to provide the levels of service and infrastructure agreed with its community.”

The key principles driving Council's long-term planning include:

- The Community Strategic Plan will continue to guide Council's actions, with annual reviews of progress and priorities as required by the IP&R framework;
- Long-term financial planning will manage operating costs to deliver operating surpluses to fund infrastructure and facilities;
- A workforce plan to be an employer of choice;
- Infrastructure and asset maintenance monitored on a regular basis to maximise renewal levels without over-servicing;
- Policies and procedures regularly reviewed to improve Council's approach and ability to respond to emerging needs and community expectations; and
- Regular assessment of funding projections to determine appropriateness of debt to meet the need for future infrastructure.

Council's short to medium term financial capacity is considered to be very sound.

Council has:

- A large portfolio of operational and community assets;
- An ability to balance cash flows over the next ten years;
- A positive financial asset position with manageable levels of debt; and
- Strong cash holdings that provide capacity to manage normal variations that occur in operational performance and to provide cash for investment opportunities that may arise.

In many cases external factors exert significant pressure on Council's long-term sustainability.

Some of these external factors include:

- The regulatory environment that defines the scope and boundaries by which Council must conduct its business;
- Continual lower than anticipated allowable rate peg increases;
- Cost shifting by government such as contributions to emergency services, inadequate funding for public libraries and the cost of regulation of companion animals; and
- Growth and urban development increasing the Shire's population and therefore increasing the demands on existing infrastructure, facilities and services provided.

Each of the above results in an income gap with costs increasing at a greater rate than revenue. Council continues to conduct comprehensive reviews of all budgets which demonstrates its commitment to remaining financially sustainable and reducing the income gap.

With each annual budget process Council aims at a minimum, to achieve a balanced budget which allows the organisation to maintain a positive unrestricted cash and investment balance. This position gives Council the flexibility to maintain liquidity and fund any unforeseen expenditures or discretionary funding deficits.





Economic Conditions

Fluctuations in inflation rates over time impact upon both income and expenditure. To reflect current economic conditions appropriately, and to safeguard against the risk of detrimental fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index in the medium to long term, Council applies an inflationary factor of 2% in the short term, escalating to 3% in the medium to long term of the Plan.

The rate of wages growth is a significant issue for Council in managing its underlying operating expenditure over a ten-year timeframe, as employee costs currently represent approximately 40% of Council's total operating expenditure.

Council adopts conservative assumptions in financial projections, to mitigate the risk of economic fluctuations adversely affecting financial sustainability. The assumed escalation rates for both income and expenditure are regularly reviewed and updated as appropriate.

PLANNING FOUNDATIONS

Wentworth Shire Council remains committed to operating within a financially sustainable framework, to ensure that its community and other stakeholders can rely upon the ongoing provision of a full and diverse range of high-quality community services, facilities and infrastructure.

Council plans to maintain its financial position and performance, to ensure resilience and maintain capacity to adapt and respond to emerging community needs in a measured and equitable manner.

Planning Assumptions

Key principles employed in the financial planning process include but are not limited to the following:

- Financial sustainability;
- Maintain diversity of income sources;
- Generate significant operating surpluses;
- Maintain tight control over expenditure and staff numbers;
- Deliver best value services, facilities and infrastructure;
- Effective and efficient utilisation of funding sources to fund capital works and asset acquisitions;
- Prudent financial investment;
- Consider appropriate use of debt;

These principles have informed and been incorporated into the development of Council's Long-Term Financial Plan.

Council has also considered the following assumptions:

- Council will maintain its existing service level to residents;
- Any changes to future services will be determined in consultation with the community; and
- Consideration of the financial effects of Council's decisions on future generations. Council shall strive to achieve equity between generations of ratepayers (intergenerational equity) whereby the mechanisms to fund specific capital expenditure and operations takes into account the ratepayers who benefit from the expenditure and therefore on a user pay basis who should pay for the costs associated with such expenditure.



The Long-Term Financial Plan continues Council's commitment to maintain tight control over its financial position and performance, an achievement that has been continually demonstrated through strong operating results.

Council is committed to the ongoing review of its service delivery as part of a continuous improvement process. Specifically, Council is seeking to identify if the services it delivers are relevant and necessary to the community as well as appropriate in the current environment. The continual improvement process includes determining if the service meets the needs and expectations of the community as set out in the Community Strategic Plan.

The continuous improvement process aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Assist in informing Councillors, the community and Council's staff on what, how and why it delivers the current list of services. It endeavours to answer questions surrounding the need to provide the service, service delivery alternatives such as contracting resources, outsourcing some activities, joint delivery with other councils/organisations, what can be provided at what cost and if any efficiencies can be found.
- Finding savings that are real, sustainable and are able to be entrenched into future budgets. This strategic approach to budget management is to identify lasting solutions for the provision of services in contrast to common short-term budget management strategies which include delaying the implementation of projects and unfunded activities or by making budget cuts that may not align with the Community Strategic Plan.
- Embedding the realisation of continuous improvement. In providing an environment where continuous improvement to service delivery is expected, staff are encouraged and supported to identify opportunities to make the services that Council provides the best value for its community.

Council will continue to prudently manage its cash reserves and investments, to ensure that appropriate financial reserves are available to meet Council's liabilities and commitments as

they fall due, and manage cash flow demands to ensure responsible financial management control. While externally restricted reserves will be maintained in accordance with legislative requirements, a number of internally restricted reserves are used to ensure that funds are set aside to directly support the Community Strategic Plan's priority initiatives and projects.

The Capital Program is forecast over the ten-year frame of the plan. In later years, where specific projects may not have been fully identified, provisional sums are included reflecting historical works patterns, and in line with renewal requirements identified as part of the Asset Management Strategy.

The Long-term capital works program identifies the various funding sources proposed for each capital project. Council will utilise grant funding where available, internal reserves where applicable and borrowing where it is deemed necessary and intergenerational equity is considered appropriate.

Revenue Forecasts

This section includes a review of the major sources of income received by Council, including explanatory information along with a discussion of any risks and assumptions. Council aims to maintain a diverse income base, with income sources outside Rates and Annual Charges vital to reducing the burden on rate payers of funding all of Council's ongoing operations, minimising the impact of rate-pegging.

The major sources of revenue for Council are:

- Rates and Annual Charges
- User Charges and Fees
- Interest
- Grants and Contributions
- Other Revenue



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 are based on a combination property valuations (ad valorem) and base rates. 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's general rates income can grow when new properties are developed that require additional local government services. Property growth impacts on Council's financial performance by increasing rate revenue as a result of the increased number of rateable assessments. It is important to note however, that the increase in rate revenue resulting from property growth is generally not in direct proportion to the increase in the number of rateable assessments.

Council has been experiencing a growth in rateable assessment in the Buronga/Gol Gol locality in recent years, this is expected to continue into the short to medium term. Council's financial modelling includes an anticipated increase in income and expenditure associated with the growth in population. Whilst it is anticipated that service priorities will change as the area's population grows, it is assumed that the range of services will be consistent to that currently being delivered.

The general allowable increase for 2022/2023 has been set at 0.70%. This is the lowest increase in more than 20 years and considerably less than the 2.50% that had been previously forecasted. Assuming everything else remains equal the impact of this lower than expected increase will result in a reduction in rate revenue of approximately \$1,000,000 over the next ten years.

Beyond 2022/2023, Council has estimated increases for years 2-5 at 2.5% pa and

increases in years 6-10 at 3.0% pa.

For rating purposes land in Wentworth Shire is categorised as residential, farmland or business. Each of these categories has a number of sub-categories. The current rates structure is as follows:

| Farmland | Business | Residential |
|--|---|---|
| Dry Land Grazing Licence/Pump Site/Pipeline Farmland | Wentworth Mourquong Trentham Cliffs Arumpo Pooncarie | Wentworth Buronga Gol Gol Gol Gol East Pooncarie Dareton Rural Residential |

Council will continue to closely monitor its rating path and the best way to equitably align its rating structure to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of the rates burden for all our rate payers.

Domestic Waste Management Charges

Domestic waste management charges are provided on a full cost recovery basis and are determined each year pursuant to Section 496 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*. The charge is based on a 120 litre capacity mobile garbage bin. Additional charges are made in the event that householders require additional capacity for general waste.

Tourism Levy

A special variation for Tourism was approved in 1998 for \$10 per assessment and is still in place.



Water and Sewer

The pricing of water and sewerage services is guided by the State Government Best Practice Pricing Guidelines. Council has adopted a two-part tariff for water supply, consisting of an access charge and a usage charge. Access charges are related to the size of the water meter installed on each property. Sewerage tariffs adopted by Council consist of a uniform sewerage charge for all relevant properties as outlined in the Operational Plan. Water and Sewer services are a full cost recovery user pays service provided to those who access the network.

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. Council continues to provide a 100% rebate for eligible pensioners, this provides an additional rebate on top of the mandatory 55% rebate that is funded by the State Government and in total costs Council approximately \$80,000 per year.

Whilst this cost has remained reasonably consistent, Council will continue to assess the long term impact to ensure the sustainability of this policy and consider the long term benefits and impacts on Council.

Interest charges on unpaid rates and charges will accrue on a daily basis at the rate advised in accordance with Section 566 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

User Charges & 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, published in the fees and charges schedule which is part of the Annual Statement of Revenue within the Operational Plan, and incorporated within the annual operational budget. Assessment of fees and charges is based on:

- the cost of providing the service
- whether the goods or service are provided

- on a commercial basis
- the importance of the service to the community
- the capacity of the user to pay
- the impact of the activity on public amenity
- competitive market prices
- prices dictated by legislation
- factors specified within relevant local government regulations as applicable.

Council needs to be mindful of using fees and charges as an avenue to increase revenue over the life of the Long-Term Financial Plan in 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.

There are a mixture of commercial, regulatory and statutory fees in addition to user based fees, which are subsidised to provide wider community outcomes. The Long-Term Financial Plan assumes that fees will rise, in general terms, in line with CPI over the course of the ten years. The level of fees and charges income will fluctuate moderately from year to year depending on patronage and demand for facilities and services.

The Transport for NSW Roads Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) for the Sturt and Silver City Highways is classed as a fee for service contract and accounts for approximately \$2 million of revenue annually.

Interest on Investments

Council invests funds that are surplus to its current needs in accordance with the approved "Ministerial Investment Order" and its own Investment Policy and Strategy, which is reviewed annually.

Council's Investment Policy and Strategy for the management of surplus funds was last endorsed by Council in January 2022. It reflects a prudent and conservative approach to achieving reasonable returns ensuring the safeguarding of Council's funds for their intended purpose.



The size of the investment portfolio and interest rate returns determines the revenue generated from Council's cash investment portfolio, this is expected to decline or stay very stagnant given the continuing ultra-low interest rate environment and the utilisation of cash reserves for which they have been set aside. With this in mind it has become apparent that Council can no longer continue to rely on additional investment income in the short to medium term.

Council will continue to carefully manage its cash reserves and investments to ensure that appropriate financial reserves are available to meet Council's liabilities and commitments, along with managing cash flow demands to ensure responsible financial management control.

Council will closely monitor its investment performance as part of its monthly reporting and quarterly budget reviews to demonstrate its financial health and sustainability.

GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Operational Grants

Council receives grant funding from other government bodies to supplement its other sources of income and provide additional funding for specific projects or programs where there may be shared outcomes.

Council is currently allocated \$6.5M annually from the Commonwealth Government in the form of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAG). These are general purpose grants paid to local councils under the provisions of the *Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. These funds are paid to Council as an unconditional grant.

Other specific grants are allocated to individual projects or programs, either as part of a National or State scheme, or as a result of a specific grant funding application.

The Long-Term Financial Plan allows for a notional annual increase in line with CPI. Other grant programs have been reviewed and modelled based on their individual project

timelines. It is assumed that in the future, new grants will be received but will be offset by commensurate expenditures, resulting in no net financial impact.

There is an ongoing risk that the funding methodology applied to the allocation of the Federal Assistance Grants could be altered and that Council receives a reduction in grant allocations. If this was the case, Council would need to assess its response to any proposed change.

CAPITAL GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Developer Contributions

Developer contributions provide significant funding towards the cost of essential public facilities, amenities and infrastructure provided by Council. Developer contributions are heavily reliant on the property development cycles influenced by demand, availability of land, interest rates and access to funding. As a result there are substantial risks of cash flow not aligning with planned expenditure to be funded by development contributions funding, leaving funding "gaps" that need to be supplemented by other sources until contributions are received.

Capital Grants

Capital grants are received by Council for specific projects to assist in the funding of community facilities or infrastructure. The grants provide additional levels of funding that can assist in accelerating the commencement of a project, demonstrate a shared commitment from the funding body or provide a greater benefit arising from the additional funding.

A number of proposed projects over the ten years will require significant additional sources of funding for the projects to progress. Each of these projects is assessed, and where the funding sources are known, included in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

The plan incorporates known committed grants and a conservative allowance for capital grants income in future years based on historical availability of grant funding assistance. As specific projects are identified as eligible for grants, the income and budgeted capital expenditure are matched within the plan.

OTHER REVENUE

Miscellaneous revenue is obtained from a variety of sources including insurance recoveries, property rentals, etc. It is anticipated that other revenue will be maintained at current levels with an increase for CPI factored in.

Council may carry out work on private land, either on request or arrangement with the land owner or under relevant legislation. The amount or rate to be charged will be the appropriate commercial rate, being the actual cost of the works and standard on-costs to provide full cost recovery plus a return to Council.

Expenditure Forecasts

The major sources of expenditure for Council are:

- Employee Expenses
- Borrowing Costs
- Materials & Contracts
- Depreciation
- Other Expenditure

This section includes a review of Council's major expenditure commitments over the next ten years, together with background information and a discussion of any key risks and assumptions. Operating expenditure is expected to increase in general terms over the next ten years and an average increase for annual growth of 0.5% less than expected CPI growth has been applied to all costs, unless specifically modified on the basis of other data or assumptions.

Employee Expenses

Council is a leading employer in the region both directly through its full-time equivalent workforce of 132.45 budgeted positions and indirectly through the services it contracts to ensure an efficient, affordable and sustainable service delivery model for the community.

Council aims to build its reputation as an "employer of choice" in order to attract and retain quality staff that it will continue to develop, support and assist. The challenge in a competitive market place is to achieve these goals and enhance Council's service delivery capability while maintaining salary and wages that are sustainable over the long term.

Direct employee costs represent approximately 40% of Council's total operational expenditure, therefore it warrants specific strategic planning, ongoing monitoring and tight management control to ensure financial sustainability.

Under the NSW Local Government State Award, on average staff receive a 2% pay increase each year. Combining the award increase with performance-based increases and other employee on costs such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance, the annual increase factored into the budget for employee costs is 2.5% in the short term and 3% in the medium to long term.

Council's Workforce Management Plan has been prepared in line with the development of this Long-Term Financial Plan and considers the current and future workforce challenges and the skill sets of employees required to meet our key objectives.

The Workforce Management Plan is intended to provide an understanding of the internal and external issues facing the organisation now and into the future in terms of the capability of our people, the quality of management and leadership and our workforce culture.



The delivery of major projects in line with the Community Strategic Plan will rely on the effectiveness of Council's workforce to plan, implement and manage the many projects, facilities and services.

Council will continue to develop strategies that enhance recruitment and attraction, customising learning and development needs, building leadership and management capability and supporting effective performance development and management. These programs are incorporated within the current provisions contained in this Long-Term Financial Plan.

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 Long-Term Financial Plan modelling 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% over the life of the Long-Term Financial Plan. However, if surplus funds were to decrease Council may have to revisit 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.

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, we appreciate 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 Council can borrow without impacting on its financial sustainability and Council is mindful of not wanting to impose an excessive debt burden 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.
- 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.

Materials and Contracts

Materials and contract expenditures are another significant proportion of total operating expenditure, with the amount expended fluctuating moderately from year to year, depending on the specific needs and priorities of the services and projects within this category.

Council has a significant infrastructure portfolio that needs to be maintained to a quality standard, whilst providing a broad and diverse range of quality services for its community. Expectations for increasing levels of service and new community assets will lead to future cost pressures. Asset management and service planning, together with on-going reviews of contract and services, will aim to defray some of these increasing cost demands.

Major financial risks within this category of expenditure include:

- increased costs of inputs to operations (waste costs, fuel, labour)
- increased levels of service expected by the community and other stakeholders
- new services expected to be delivered by local government and potential government cost-shifting
- additional asset maintenance costs (new parks, roads, cycle ways, trees, facilities etc)
- limited competitive supply for some specific service areas.

Council's Asset Management Strategy incorporates the over-arching framework, policies and strategies to manage the critical assets under Council's control, a key measure of long-term sustainability.

The Long-Term Financial Plan provides estimates of the planned maintenance levels for each of the major categories of infrastructure assets including forward estimates for asset maintenance activities including new assets developed, together with provisions for projects that refurbish, upgrade or create new community facilities and essential infrastructure.

The Long-Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Strategy together demonstrate Council's capacity to fund the required

maintenance and renewal of its critical operational and community assets, in a condition appropriate to meet the needs of the community and its expectations over the next ten years.

Depreciation

Depreciation of assets is a non-cash expense that systematically allocates the financial benefit of a fixed asset, and recognises degradation of its capacity to continue to provide functionality over time. Depreciation provides an approximate indicator of the reduction of the asset's estimated useful life, on the proviso that it is maintained in a standard condition.

Depreciation is based upon each asset's value and an annual rate of depreciation calculated on the estimated useful life for each asset class. Depreciation is not influenced by other factors such as CPI and will only change if asset values or depreciation rates vary, or assets are acquired or disposed of. NSW Office of Local Government guidelines require that all assets are revalued to "fair value" within a five-year cycle.

Valuation and depreciation methodologies are regularly reviewed, as part of cyclical asset revaluations and in the interim, as improved asset data is incorporated into depreciation calculations, with the aim of better aligning asset depreciation with consumption of economic benefit as closely as practical, using available information.

However, depreciation – a notional calculation of asset consumption over its useful life – is not a measure of the required renewal expenditure on an asset in any given year. It does not reflect the actual physical degradation of the asset condition. Depreciation is therefore merely a guide towards the funds that should be allocated towards the renewal of assets on an annual basis.



Council's investment in new community facilities and other assets, and periodic revaluation of our existing assets will see the depreciable asset base rise over time. The Long-Term Financial Plan assumes a continuation of present-day depreciation methodology.

Other Expenses

This incorporates costs relating to ordinary goods and services which are recurrent in nature and relatively stable as a proportion of total expenditure, such as postage, printing and insurance. It also includes payments to utilities, donations to other organisations, tourism activities and contributions to other levels of government that can significantly change over time.

Total costs for this category fluctuate over time, reflecting specific payments for individual projects and periodic events, payments to other government bodies and local government elections.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM

Council's existing infrastructure assets are generally in good condition, and Council is in a position whereby it can maintain the current levels of service and budget allocation towards asset maintenance and renewal expenditure.

Consistent with previous iterations of the Long-Term Financial Plan, Council continues to plan for an extensive capital expenditure program with approximately \$100 million in expenditure forecast over the next ten years.

Council, through its capital works program, delivers vital improvements to the Shire's public areas, roads, water, sewer, footways, stormwater, parks and open spaces, pools and other community facilities. New or replacement facilities are designed and constructed to meet growing community needs, while the existing essential infrastructure and community facilities require upgrades and renewal in addition to their annual maintenance programs.

Capital works funding is the largest program of expenditure in Council's Long-Term Financial Plan and is therefore the subject of rigorous planning to ensure a sustainable level of funding for the timely delivery of projects. The capital works schedule incorporates estimates of the scope, value and timing of the works and projects based upon Council's priorities, current level of knowledge and best estimates.

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 service that require regular refurbishment to enable the overall safety and quality of the facility to be maintained.

The ten-year capital works schedule comprises a mixture of specifically identified and budgeted projects over a shorter term and contains provisional sums over the longer term for programs of work where individual project opportunities have not been determined as yet.

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.

This significant capital program requires careful planning and financial management, in order to ensure that delivery is achievable whilst maintaining operational service standards.

| | Asset Class Total |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Plant & Equipment | \$20,825,000.00 |
| Office Equipment | \$2,000,000.00 |
| Furniture & Fittings | \$202,000.00 |
| Land | \$750,000.00 |
| Land Improvements | \$1,349,700.00 |
| Buildings | \$13,938,109.00 |
| Other Structures | \$725,000.00 |
| Roads | \$39,925,030.00 |
| Bridges | \$200,000.00 |
| Footpaths | \$794,000.00 |
| Stormwater | \$6,560,000.00 |
| Water | \$10,225,936.00 |
| Sewerage | \$18,722,849.00 |
| Swimming Pools | \$446,522.00 |
| Open Space/Recreation | \$5,582,500.00 |
| Other Infrastructure | \$1,297,000.00 |
| Library Books | \$865,000.00 |
| Tip Assets | \$17,275,000.00 |
| | \$141,383,946.00 |

Asset Management

Wentworth Shire Council is responsible for a large and diverse asset base. These assets include roads, bridges, footpaths, drains, halls, parks, sporting facilities, water and sewerage infrastructure. The infrastructure assets owned or controlled by Council are required for service delivery, not for profit making. The key objective therefore in assessing infrastructure assets is that a specific level of service can be provided now and into the future.

Service provision, in particular service levels, ultimately determine the infrastructure asset requirements of a Council. In turn all assets that are utilised for service provision require proper maintenance and replacement, over a period of time, to guarantee that the specific service levels are actually achieved now and into the future.

In order to manage this asset base, strategies and plans have been developed which are designed to address issues regarding asset life cycles and risk. The Asset Management Plans that have been developed include information on existing asset condition, deemed acceptable base condition and any associated funding shortfalls together with revised financial models providing affordability data.

The data from these plans have been used to populate the Long-Term Financial Plan and act as a guide to assist Council in its decision making processes and is based on best available financial data and assumptions regarding projected movements in future years. It is expected that, as these plans evolve, projected indicators may look decidedly different as further knowledge and expertise is developed.

The program for asset renewal, enhancement and for the creation of new assets will be informed by Council's Asset Management Strategy. Over the long term, proposed capital expenditure for replacement and refurbishment of key asset classes is expected to meet or exceed the required level, as identified in the Asset Management Strategy.

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 service that require regular refurbishment to enable the overall safety and quality of the facility to be maintained.

FINANCIAL MODELLING

The Long-Term Financial Plan modelling has been devised with three scenarios, as per the Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements.

OPTION 1 (BASE CASE) – (refer financial summary pages Option 1)

This is based on Council's 2021/2022 budget and includes only a major review of expenditure. This is Council's base case scenario and focuses on what it costs to provide basic services to the community at current levels. No new major capital works have been included other than capital renewals and projects already included for future years. This scenario assumes that all projects were completed as planned in their respective years.

This scenario also includes the following:

- Council continues to run the caravan park in its current format following completion of the redevelopment. No further capital expenditure has been planned for the immediate future.
- Council's application to expand the Buronga Landfill is unsuccessful resulting in:
 - o The landfill closing at the end of the 2023/2024 financial year
 - o Kerbside collection has to be transported interstate to be disposed
 - o Transfer stations and smaller sites continue to operate.



Revenue Assumptions

- Ordinary Rates will continue to increase annually in line with State Government rate pegging policy.
- General User Fees and Charges will rise annually by forecasted CPI.
- Regulatory Fees and Charges will stay the same with any increase attributable to extra service provision.
- There are no new capital grants forecasted and income will rise by forecasted CPI.
- Recurrent Operating Grants will increase by forecasted CPI.
- Investment income is to remain at current levels to reflect current historic low interest rates.
- Growth Rate is based on the historical trends of 1.0%

Expenditure Assumptions

- Employee costs will increase by forecasted 3.00% per annum for four years then 3.50% for every year thereafter. There is no increase in staff numbers forecasted.
- Other operating expenditure all increased in line with CPI (3%).
- Asset renewal rate is projected to be above 100% for the remaining period of the plan.
- Service levels to remain at current provisions.
- This scenario includes only capital expenditure requirements required to keep maintaining current service standards.

OPTION 2 (Preferred Option) – (refer financial summary pages Option 2)

This is based on Council's 2022/2023 budget and includes a major review of revenue, operating expenditure and capital expenditure. This option includes the following considerations:

- Council no longer operates the Willowbend Caravan Park having sold the long term lease to a 3rd party to operate the park.
 - o Council has completed the redevelopment of the park during the 2022/2023 financial year. Any future improvements at the park becomes the responsibility of the operator.

- Council continues to operate the Buronga Landfill
 - o Application to expand the site and increase the EPA licence was approved
 - o \$9M of capital works to expand the site had been programmed to commence in the 2024/2025 financial year
 - o Tonnage to increase to 50,000 tonnes per annum from 2025/2026 financial year
 - o \$2M in remediation expenditure has been programmed for the 2026/2027 financial year.
 - o Capital expansion and remediation expenditure to be funded via long term loans.
 - o \$200K has been allowed in the 2022/2023 financial year to continue progressing the expansion.
- Ongoing significant grant programs in the early years of the plan including:
 - o Resources for Regions
 - o Local Roads and Community Infrastructure
 - o Fixing Local Roads
 - o Stronger Country Communities Fund

Revenue Assumptions

- Ordinary Rates, User Fees and Charges, Operating Grants will be increased by the following amounts:
 - o Years 2 – 5 increase by 2.0%
 - o Years 6 –10 increase by 2.5%
- Investment income to remain relatively static to reflect expected low interest rates that is offset by increases in cash on hand and held for investment.
- Growth rate in rateable properties is anticipated to total 25%. This assumption assumes a conservative increase over the first 5 years of the plan.
- Developer Contributions have been factored in line with growth in rateable assessments, however there is expected to be a lag between the need for Council to spend funds and when developer contributions are received.



Expenditure Assumptions

Expenditure is critically reviewed on an annual basis. Where there is no justification for an increase in operational expenditure then it is held at current year's levels or even reduced.

- Materials and Contracts and Other Expenses have been forecast to increase by the following amounts:
 - o Years 2 – 5 1.5% increase in operational expenditure
 - o Years 6 – 10 2.0% increase in operational expenditure
- Borrowing costs will change annually in line with approved loan repayment requirements
- Employee Expenses have been forecasted to increase by 2.80% per year based on the current structure of 132.45
- Assumes no new services and factors in a growth in existing service levels in line with conservative increase in rateable assessments.

OPTION 3 (Alternative Option) – (refer financial summary pages Option 3)

This is based on Council's 2022/2023 budget and includes a major review of revenue, operating expenditure and capital expenditure.

This option includes the following considerations:

- Council no longer operates the Willowbend Caravan Park having sold the long-term lease to a 3rd party to operate the park.
 - o Council has completed the redevelopment of the park during the 2022/2023 financial year. Any future improvements at the park become the responsibility of the operator.
- Council outsources the operations of the Buronga Landfill
 - o Application to expand the site and increase the EPA licence was approved
 - o \$9M of capital works to expand the site had been programmed to commence in the 2024/2025 financial year
 - o Council operates the landfill until the end of the 2024/2025 financial year, then contractors out the operation of the site, receiving an annual rebate in return

based on total tonnage received.

- o Revenue and Expenditure is reduced to reflect change in operations
- o Tonnage to increase to 50,000 tonnes per annum from 2025/2026 financial year
- o \$2M in remediation expenditure has been programmed for the 2026/2027 financial year.
- o Capital expansion and remediation expenditure to be funded via long term loans.
- o Contractor will be reasonable for funding any further upgrades and remediation costs.
- o \$200K has been allowed in the 2022/2023 financial year to continue progressing the expansion.
- Ongoing significant grant programs in the early years of the plan including:
 - o Resources for Regions
 - o Local Roads and Community Infrastructure
 - o Fixing Local Roads
 - o Stronger Country Communities Fund

Revenue Assumptions

- Ordinary Rates, User Fees and Charges, Operating Grants will be increase by the following amounts:
 - o Years 2 – 5 increase by 2.0%
 - o Years 6 -10 increase by 2.5%
- Investment income to remain relatively static to reflect expected low interest rates that is offset by increases in cash on hand and held for investment.
- Growth rate in rateable properties is anticipated to total 25%. This assumption assumes a more rapid increase over the first 3 years of the plan.
- Developer Contributions have factored in line with growth in rateable assessments, however there is expected to be a lag between the need for Council to spend funds and when developer contributions are received.

Expenditure Assumptions

Expenditure is critically reviewed on an annual basis. Where there is no justification for an increase in operational expenditure then it is held at current year's levels or even reduced.

- Materials and Contracts and Other
Expenses have been forecast to increase by the following amounts:
 - Years 2 – 5 2.0% increase in operational expenditure
 - Years 6 – 10 2.5% increase in operational expenditure
- Borrowing costs will change annually in line with approved loan repayment requirements
- Employee Expenses have been forecasted to increase by 2.80% per year based on the current structure of 132.45.
- Assumes no new services and factors in a growth in existing service levels in line with increase in rateable assessments.

Summary of Planning Assumptions

| 2022/23 Planning Assumptions | | CPI & Inflation | Rates | Employee Costs | Grants | Interest on investments | Interest on borrowings | Growth |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|--------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| Option 1 | 2022/23 | 2.00% | 2.50% | 3.00% | 2.50% | 0.50% | 2.50% | 1.00% |
| | Future | 3.00% | 2.80% | 3.33% | 2.50% | 1.50% | 2.50% | 1.00% |
| Option 2 | 2022/23 | 2.00% | 0.70% | 2.80% | 2.50% | 0.50% | 2.50% | 20.00% |
| | Years 2-5 | 2.00% | 2.50% | 2.80% | 2.50% | 0.75% | 3.50% | 20.00% |
| | Years 6-10 | 2.50% | 3.00% | 2.80% | 3.00% | 2.00% | 4.00% | 1.00% |
| Option 3 | 2022/23 | 2.00% | 0.70% | 2.80% | 2.50% | 0.50% | 2.50% | 33.00% |
| | Years 2-5 | 2.00% | 2.50% | 2.80% | 2.50% | 0.75% | 3.50% | 17.00% |
| | Years 6-10 | 2.50% | 3.00% | 2.80% | 3.00% | 2.00% | 4.00% | 1.00% |

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Although the assumptions used in the Long-Term Financial Plan are informed estimates based on reliable information at that point in time, long term financial plans are inherently uncertain. They contain a wide range of assumptions, including assumptions about interest rate movements and the potential effect of inflation on revenue and expenditure which are largely outside of Council's control.

Any major changes in these assumptions will have an impact on the financial projections contained therein. The level of impact depends not only on the level of change but also on the nature of the assumption.

A minor variance in some of the assumptions will have a relatively small impact on the projections contained in the Long-Term Financial Plan. Sensitivity analysis has been undertaken to assess the impact of changes in the factors which have been used to project future revenue and expenditure.

Sensitivity analysis involves developing different scenarios by varying critical assumptions, such as the projected level of rates revenue and employee costs. The different scenarios demonstrate the impact of these changes on Council's financial projections.

Council has applied a relatively conservative approach in developing this Long-Term Financial Plan, so as to ensure that the forecast financial modelling is more likely to succeed and reduces the financial exposure risk for Council.

The official cash rate set by the Reserve Bank are currently at historical low levels. Whilst it is anticipated that the official rate will increase over time, it will still remain relatively low throughout the term of the Long-Term Financial Plan.

Inflation assumptions are heavily used throughout the Long-Term Financial Plan and is an assumption used on both income and expenditure projections and as such mitigates

any substantial impact on the results of the financial modelling should there be any significant variance.

The following may affect the outcome of the above scenarios in the following way:

Rates

Rates comprise 25% of Council's total operating income. As stated earlier, rates are capped by the State Government. The Plan has assumed an increase of 2%-2.5% in the short to medium term and 2.5%-3.0% in the medium to longer term.

Risk

There is a **High Risk** that the rate pegging increase is less than anticipated. Variances between the forecast and the actual rate peg of 10% would result in an average shortfall per annum of \$23,500 over the length of plan.

Employee Costs

Salary growth is largely subject to the NSW Local Government Award. Council has factored in a 2.5-3.0% annual increase in employee expenses and that the current staffing and organisational structure remains constant.

Risk

There is a **Moderate Risk** should there be changes to levels of service resulting in an increase in employee costs.

As Council is a service provider, employee costs are a large portion of operating expenses. Forecasting assumptions used are based on expected Local Government Award variations and performance-based increases. An increase of 10% above forecast would increase employee costs by \$326,000 over the life of the plan.

Interest Revenue

Interest on investments is calculated at 1% for the medium to longer term of the Plan.

Risk

There is a Moderate Risk that interest rates will vary from those projected.

Rates used are based on detailed analysis. If actual interest rates are lower than the assumed rate, expenditure priorities would be re-evaluated or alternative funding mechanisms utilised. It should be noted that any increases in revenue due to increased rates may be partially offset by increased interest borrowing costs on any new loan borrowings or offset by larger funds on investments.

Cost Shifting

Cost shifting describes the situation where the responsibility for, or the cost of, providing a certain service, concession, facility or regulatory function is shifted from a higher level of government without the provision of corresponding funding or an ability to raise revenue to adequately fund the shifted responsibility. Cost shifting to local government from both federal and state governments is an area of significant concern to Council.

Risk

There is a Moderate Risk that new or increased services and functions will be transferred to Council's responsibility.

Should the federal or state governments continue to transfer responsibility and associated costs for service provision to Council, this will have a negative impact on Council's financial performance and place additional pressure on its financial sustainability.

Population Increase/Growth

Council needs to ensure that there are sufficient resources available in the right place at the right time, with the right skills to deliver on the community's vision and aspirations.

A growing population brings many challenges

and opportunities for Council. Known challenges include urban transformation as new residential developments change the urban environment. More people in the same place will put pressure on open spaces and service provision and there is a greater expectation from the community that services and facilities will be accessible for all.

Some growth in demand for services can be accommodated by efficiency gains, however, there will be a point where the population growth will require Council to fund additional services or increase the level of resources required to deliver existing services.

Risk

There is a High Risk that should growth in the number of properties vary considerably from forecasts, this will result in revenue collected from rates being too low to fund Council's services and capital program.

There is also a High Risk that if the timing of growth differs significantly from forecast, that this will impact on Council's cash flows and may necessitate changes to planned borrowings for capital purposes.

Growth projections are based on the expected lot yield based on known planned development. These projections are not expected to change in the immediate future, however the timing of that growth and its impacts on Council's revenue will affect the funds available for service provision.

Legislative Change

Council will continue to operate within the same general legislative environment and with the same authority as it currently does through the life of this plan.

Risk

There is a Moderate Risk that should the Local Government legislative environment change, the services and functions Council plans to provide over the 10-year life of the Plan could change.

At the time of writing this Plan, Council is unable to determine how potential legislative change might impact its operations or quantify the potential impact.

Fees & Charges

Based on historical trends, fees and charges are assumed to increase by an average of 5% per year.

Risk

There is a Low Risk that fees and charges increase by less than the assumed rate. There is a High Risk should Council's current sources of fees and charges revenue change significantly.

Fees and charges make up approximately 15% of Council's revenue base and as such changes in this amount is not likely to materially impact on Council's financial viability.

Council has limited ability to raise additional revenue, fees and charges are one area that gives Council that additional capacity. In particular Council receives significant revenue from the Transport for NSW RMCC contract and the Buronga Landfill. The loss or significant reduction in one of these sources of revenue will significantly impact on Council's ability to generate additional discretionary revenue.

Service Levels

Service levels largely remain the same throughout the life of the plan.

Risk

There is a Moderate Risk that there will be a demand for service levels to increase. The provision of current service level requires 100% of current income streams. Any increase in service levels will require sourcing of new/increased income streams or the reduction of another service to offset the increase cost.

Inflation

In developing the Plan, Council has based inflation at an average of 2.0%-2.5% in the short to medium term and 2.5%-3.0% in the medium to longer term.

Risk

There is a Low Risk should inflation be higher or lower than anticipated. However, there is a Moderate Risk should inflation on expenditure not be offset by inflation on revenue.

Inflation is affected by external economic factors outside Council's control. However, any inflationary increase in Council's costs that is not offset by efficiency gains or revenue increases is likely to impact service levels and programmed works.

Borrowing Costs

Council's proposed a long-term borrowing plan is based on a conservative interest rate of 3% which is subject to market lending conditions and Council's financial position.

Risk

There is a Low Risk should interest rates vary from those projected.

The Reserve Bank continues to hold its stance that it will not raise interest rates until 2024. However, this may change should inflation increase at a rate higher than anticipated.

If the actual interest rates are higher than assumed, it should be noted it will be hedged by increased interest on investments therefore the impact of any interest rate fluctuations are expected to be minimal.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Council is committed to ensuring that Council and its community are sustainable and able to continue to grow in the long term. Accordingly, it will measure its financial performance on a continuing basis. We will ensure that its financial management policies and procedures are reviewed and updated as circumstances change, to ensure our long-term financial sustainability and growth are not compromised. A set of key performance indicators have included in each scenario to measure Council's performance.

These include:

SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

Operating Performance Ratio (Benchmark: greater than 0%)

Widely acknowledged within the sector as a core measure of financial sustainability, this ratio essentially measures Council's operating result excluding Capital Grants and Contributions (which are typically variable in nature and shouldn't be relied on as ongoing income). Performance at or above benchmark indicates that Council has the ability to generate sufficient recurrent income to fund its ongoing operations.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Operating Performance ratio | Greater than 0% | 3 | 4.78% | 8.68% | 10.67% | 8.28% | 9.04% | 10.34% | 10.99% | 12.65% | 13.76% | 14.85% |
| | | 2 | 4.25% | 7.81% | 9.39% | 20.26% | 22.02% | 23.14% | 23.72% | 25.12% | 26.08% | 26.99% |
| | | 1 | 4.43% | 5.42% | 0.14% | 1.62% | 2.46% | 3.62% | 3.82% | 5.38% | 6.36% | 7.22% |

Own-Source Operating Revenue Ratio (Benchmark: greater than 60%)

A measure of fiscal flexibility, Own Source Revenue refers to Council's ability to raise revenue through its own internal means, thereby reducing reliance on external sources of income and insulating against negative fluctuations in external funding.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2031 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Own Source Operating Revenue ratio | Greater than 60% | 3 | 34.53% | 58.13% | 62.26% | 60.44% | 60.57% | 60.73% | 60.85% | 60.97% | 61.05% | 61.16% |
| | | 2 | 34.24% | 57.26% | 61.05% | 66.62% | 67.17% | 67.32% | 67.43% | 67.54% | 67.61% | 67.72% |
| | | 1 | 49.15% | 56.46% | 53.02% | 53.08% | 53.20% | 53.35% | 53.46% | 53.56% | 53.63% | 53.72% |

Building and Infrastructure Asset Renewal Ratio (Benchmark: greater than 100%)

This measure is intended to indicate the extent to which Council is replenishing the deterioration of its building and infrastructure assets. The implication of the benchmark is that Council's annual depreciation expense is the indicative level of required annual renewal of its assets.

However, the use of depreciation in calculating the required level of asset renewal is flawed, as depreciation patterns do not necessarily match the decline in asset service potential and should therefore should be viewed with caution as a benchmark level for asset renewals.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|---|-------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building and Infrastructure Asset Renewal ratio | Greater than 100% | 3 | 392.25% | 113.62% | 207.58% | 77.32% | 105.74% | 79.75% | 81.41% | 82.81% | 83.98% | 88.69% |
| | | 2 | 397.08% | 93.79% | 209.52% | 77.72% | 110.02% | 83.42% | 85.69% | 87.74% | 174.30% | 88.51% |
| | | 1 | 173.33% | 71.62% | 72.88% | 69.92% | 71.39% | 72.61% | 74.41% | 75.97% | 77.29% | 79.15% |

EFFECTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE MANAGEMENT

Infrastructure Backlog Ratio (Benchmark: less than 2%)

Infrastructure Backlog, in the context of this ratio, refers to an estimated cost to restore Council's assets to a "satisfactory standard", typically through renewal works. With renewal cycles that typically take place over the longer term, it is not unusual that some backlog will occur. Maintaining this ratio at lower levels over the long term will indicate that the service capacity of assets is being effectively maintained.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Infrastructure Backlog ratio | Less than 2% | 3 | 2.50% | 2.50% | 2.00% | 2.50% | 2.00% | 2.00% | 2.25% | 2.50% | 2.50% | 2.50% |
| | | 2 | 2.50% | 2.50% | 2.00% | 2.50% | 2.00% | 2.00% | 2.25% | 2.50% | 2.00% | 2.00% |
| | | 1 | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.25% | 3.50% | 3.75% | 4.00% | 4.25% | 4.50% | 4.75% | 5.00% |

Asset Maintenance Ratio (Benchmark: greater than 100%)

The extent to which Council is adequately maintaining its building and infrastructure asset base is measured by expressing actual maintenance as a proportion of the "required" maintenance expenditure. A ratio result of greater than 100% will indicate that council is exceeding its identified requirements in terms of maintenance, which in turn should impact positively upon infrastructure backlog and required renewal levels.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asset Maintenance ratio | Greater than 100% | 3 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | 2 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | 1 | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Debt Service Ratio (Benchmark: greater than 0, less than 20%)

The effective use of debt may assist in the management of "intergenerational equity" and help to ensure that an excessive burden is not placed on a single generation of Council's ratepayers to fund the delivery of long-term infrastructure and assets.

| Year Ending June 30th | | | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ratio | Bench mark | Scenario | | | | | | | | | | |
| Debt Service ratio | Greater than 0, less than 20% | 3 | 7.84% | 6.23% | 5.07% | 5.05% | 4.94% | 5.16% | 5.66% | 5.92% | 6.16% | 6.86% |
| | | 2 | 7.70% | 6.06% | 4.87% | 7.13% | 7.19% | 7.50% | 8.25% | 8.59% | 8.92% | 9.92% |
| | | 1 | 6.36% | 6.33% | 5.44% | 6.07% | 6.38% | 6.75% | 7.67% | 8.11% | 8.49% | 9.69% |



ATTACHMENT - FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARIES

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
INCOME STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED

Scenario: Base Case Scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Income from Continuing Operations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 9,608,338 | 9,852,924 | 10,103,645 | 10,380,624 | 10,676,707 | 11,002,274 | 11,337,607 | 11,683,000 | 12,036,296 | 12,398,345 |
| User Charges & Fees | 5,631,731 | 5,768,164 | 3,779,227 | 3,869,347 | 3,980,196 | 4,094,370 | 4,211,969 | 4,333,096 | 4,457,867 | 4,586,361 |
| Other Revenues | 1,238,484 | 1,251,059 | 1,263,948 | 1,297,159 | 1,313,409 | 1,310,146 | 1,327,385 | 1,345,142 | 1,383,431 | 1,402,344 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes | 9,676,457 | 9,801,495 | 10,111,906 | 10,337,820 | 10,615,714 | 10,901,936 | 11,196,744 | 11,500,397 | 11,813,156 | 12,135,832 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 4,511,256 | 553,426 | 563,249 | 573,318 | 585,703 | 598,469 | 611,587 | 625,130 | 639,069 | 653,428 |
| Interest & Investment Revenue | 342,532 | 351,095 | 359,873 | 368,870 | 379,936 | 391,334 | 403,074 | 415,166 | 427,621 | 440,450 |
| Other Income: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Gains from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value increment on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of revaluation decrements on IPPE previously expensed | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of impairment losses on receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Income | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities - Gain | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Income from Continuing Operations | 31,008,799 | 27,668,173 | 26,181,848 | 26,807,145 | 27,551,665 | 28,298,518 | 29,088,376 | 29,901,931 | 30,757,433 | 31,616,757 |
| Expenses from Continuing Operations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Benefits & On-Costs | 10,530,350 | 10,834,312 | 11,147,016 | 11,488,708 | 11,792,042 | 12,124,543 | 12,466,472 | 12,818,094 | 13,179,686 | 13,561,526 |
| Borrowing Costs | 408,012 | 385,006 | 353,017 | 323,541 | 293,588 | 264,866 | 238,901 | 211,326 | 187,947 | 162,837 |
| Materials & Contracts | 3,875,800 | 3,828,281 | 3,208,956 | 3,222,864 | 3,293,330 | 3,314,780 | 3,362,165 | 3,435,562 | 3,480,072 | 3,484,210 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | 7,154,848 | 7,169,583 | 7,224,242 | 7,261,899 | 7,301,657 | 7,343,605 | 7,386,019 | 7,429,705 | 7,474,702 | 7,522,897 |
| Impairment of Investments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Impairment of receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Expenses | 3,356,353 | 3,410,838 | 3,650,288 | 3,531,788 | 3,622,883 | 3,650,755 | 3,935,448 | 3,807,010 | 3,900,510 | 4,006,011 |
| Interest & Investment Losses | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Revaluation decrement/impairment of IPPE | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value decrement on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Expenses from Continuing Operations | 25,323,363 | 25,645,121 | 25,583,519 | 25,808,799 | 26,303,460 | 26,698,529 | 27,388,007 | 27,701,697 | 28,202,916 | 28,727,480 |
| Operating Result from Continuing Operations | 5,685,435 | 2,023,052 | 598,329 | 998,346 | 1,248,185 | 1,599,989 | 1,699,370 | 2,200,234 | 2,554,517 | 2,889,277 |
| Discontinued Operations - Profit/(Loss) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Profit/(Loss) from Discontinued Operations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Operating Result for the Year | 5,685,435 | 2,023,052 | 598,329 | 998,346 | 1,248,185 | 1,599,989 | 1,699,370 | 2,200,234 | 2,554,517 | 2,889,277 |
| Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 1,174,180 | 1,466,628 | 35,080 | 425,028 | 662,483 | 1,001,530 | 1,087,772 | 1,575,104 | 1,916,448 | 2,236,551 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
BALANCE SHEET - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Base Case Scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 13,910,533 | 15,818,696 | 17,267,832 | 17,921,143 | 19,644,429 | 20,897,178 | 22,465,211 | 24,089,088 | 26,158,007 | 28,595,495 |
| Investments | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 | 20,000,000 |
| Receivables | 4,051,709 | 3,937,322 | 3,404,206 | 3,489,417 | 3,594,977 | 3,700,306 | 3,810,707 | 3,924,468 | 4,044,085 | 4,168,735 |
| Inventories | 50,310 | 48,261 | 31,676 | 31,214 | 31,972 | 31,451 | 31,567 | 32,320 | 31,796 | 31,233 |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 106,728 | 108,199 | 100,783 | 97,948 | 100,437 | 100,591 | 106,552 | 104,512 | 106,016 | 107,737 |
| Non-current assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Assets | 38,122,280 | 39,973,478 | 40,804,477 | 41,539,722 | 43,371,815 | 44,729,525 | 46,414,037 | 48,150,389 | 50,339,503 | 52,803,200 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Investments | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 | 6,000,001 |
| Receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inventories | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 478,843,017 | 477,544,450 | 476,288,214 | 475,538,504 | 474,901,159 | 474,269,310 | 473,769,922 | 473,309,254 | 472,941,640 | 472,629,540 |
| Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Intangible Assets | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 |
| Right of use assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investments Accounted for using the equity method | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 |
| Non-current assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Assets | 486,167,017 | 484,868,450 | 483,612,214 | 482,862,505 | 482,225,160 | 481,593,311 | 481,093,922 | 480,633,255 | 480,285,641 | 479,953,540 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 524,289,297 | 524,841,928 | 524,416,691 | 524,402,227 | 525,596,974 | 526,322,836 | 527,507,959 | 528,783,644 | 530,625,144 | 532,756,740 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bank Overdraft | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payables | 5,235,356 | 5,328,786 | 5,546,784 | 5,486,211 | 5,631,456 | 5,712,865 | 6,039,718 | 5,982,299 | 6,130,574 | 6,291,892 |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | 2,624,794 | 2,044,550 | 1,909,815 | 1,952,831 | 2,005,711 | 2,050,176 | 2,116,273 | 2,174,051 | 2,233,560 | 2,294,817 |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 1,043,608 | 1,046,829 | 995,253 | 967,469 | 1,010,000 | 897,196 | 924,908 | 940,401 | 860,556 | 308,156 |
| Provisions | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Liabilities | 11,215,275 | 10,731,683 | 10,763,370 | 10,718,028 | 10,956,665 | 10,961,754 | 11,392,416 | 11,408,269 | 11,536,307 | 11,206,383 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Payables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 11,169,593 | 10,122,764 | 9,127,511 | 8,160,042 | 7,965,948 | 6,988,752 | 6,043,613 | 5,103,442 | 4,242,786 | 3,934,630 |
| Provisions | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 |
| Investments Accounted for using the equity method | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | 13,958,076 | 12,911,247 | 11,915,994 | 10,948,525 | 10,654,431 | 9,757,235 | 8,832,126 | 7,891,925 | 7,031,269 | 6,723,113 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 25,173,351 | 23,642,929 | 22,679,364 | 21,666,553 | 21,611,116 | 20,738,989 | 20,224,742 | 19,300,193 | 18,567,576 | 17,929,495 |
| Net Assets | 499,115,946 | 501,138,999 | 501,737,328 | 502,735,674 | 503,985,859 | 505,583,848 | 507,283,218 | 509,483,451 | 512,057,568 | 514,827,245 |
| EQUITY | | | | | | | | | | |
| Retained Earnings | 104,351,946 | 106,374,999 | 106,973,328 | 107,971,674 | 108,219,859 | 110,819,848 | 112,519,218 | 114,719,451 | 117,273,968 | 120,163,245 |
| Residuals | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 |
| Other Reserves | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Council Equity Interest | 499,115,946 | 501,138,999 | 501,737,328 | 502,735,674 | 503,985,859 | 505,583,848 | 507,283,218 | 509,483,451 | 512,057,568 | 514,827,245 |
| Non-controlling equity interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Equity | 499,115,946 | 501,138,999 | 501,737,328 | 502,735,674 | 503,985,859 | 505,583,848 | 507,283,218 | 509,483,451 | 512,057,568 | 514,827,245 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
CASH FLOW STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Base Case Scenario

| Cash Flows from Operating Activities | Projected Years | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 9,599,837 | 9,638,071 | 10,089,410 | 10,345,008 | 10,657,500 | 10,982,490 | 11,317,229 | 11,662,011 | 12,014,809 | 12,375,965 |
| User Charges & Fees | 5,552,598 | 5,732,562 | 4,167,944 | 3,942,273 | 3,847,263 | 4,050,440 | 4,177,031 | 4,297,110 | 4,420,792 | 4,548,183 |
| Investment & Interest Revenue Received | 336,418 | 331,726 | 347,591 | 354,997 | 361,837 | 375,886 | 385,459 | 396,975 | 406,602 | 417,066 |
| Grants & Contributions | 12,939,427 | 10,017,239 | 10,701,571 | 10,939,222 | 11,224,698 | 11,534,674 | 11,843,647 | 12,161,090 | 12,486,691 | 12,827,808 |
| Bonds & Deposits Received | 1,357,062 | 1,291,512 | 1,283,729 | 1,293,391 | 1,306,052 | 1,306,882 | 1,322,793 | 1,340,301 | 1,378,304 | 1,397,295 |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Benefits & On-Costs | (10,517,405) | (10,618,379) | (11,130,647) | (11,451,822) | (11,774,409) | (12,106,421) | (12,447,949) | (12,798,555) | (13,160,016) | (13,531,312) |
| Materials & Contracts | (3,784,112) | (3,823,487) | (3,163,613) | (3,219,258) | (3,296,185) | (3,313,671) | (3,340,540) | (3,433,531) | (3,460,596) | (3,494,900) |
| Borrowing Costs | (405,797) | (387,080) | (385,025) | (325,506) | (293,946) | (266,856) | (240,640) | (213,129) | (186,780) | (164,497) |
| Bonds & Deposits Refunded | (905,194) | (3,340,370) | (3,465,918) | (3,616,181) | (3,506,671) | (3,567,608) | (3,637,963) | (3,694,628) | (3,783,189) | (3,878,650) |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities | 14,107,864 | 6,541,767 | 6,403,971 | 6,100,754 | 6,030,161 | 6,274,505 | 6,351,266 | 6,517,824 | 10,116,406 | 10,500,640 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sale of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 |
| Sale of non-current assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Disposal Groups | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Disposal Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Disposals Received from Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purchases of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchases of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchases of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | (13,366,082) | (8,340,016) | (9,418,086) | (9,962,190) | (17,114,312) | (17,161,758) | (17,398,630) | (17,410,038) | (17,557,088) | (17,660,796) |
| Purchases of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchases of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchases of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Disposal & Advances Made | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contributions Paid to Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities | (12,916,082) | (5,990,016) | (5,868,095) | (6,512,100) | (6,864,512) | (6,711,759) | (6,860,630) | (6,969,038) | (7,107,089) | (7,210,798) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from Borrowings & Advances | 1,000,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Proceeds from Financial Leases | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repayment of Borrowings & Advances | (968,251) | (1,043,604) | (1,046,629) | (965,255) | (1,001,583) | (1,010,000) | (967,196) | (924,509) | (940,401) | (880,650) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities (principal repayments) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities | 31,749 | (1,043,604) | (1,046,629) | (965,255) | (251,583) | (1,010,000) | (967,196) | (924,509) | (940,401) | (880,650) |
| Net Increase/Decrease in Cash & Cash Equivalents | 1,291,782 | (5,448,253) | (5,490,753) | (5,376,601) | (5,085,934) | (5,447,254) | (5,476,560) | (5,375,724) | (4,931,084) | (5,690,808) |
| plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year | 12,627,002 | 13,910,533 | 15,818,666 | 17,267,832 | 17,921,143 | 19,644,429 | 20,897,178 | 22,465,211 | 24,089,089 | 26,158,007 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 13,910,533 | 15,818,666 | 17,267,832 | 17,921,143 | 19,644,429 | 20,897,178 | 22,465,211 | 24,089,089 | 26,158,007 | 28,595,495 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 13,910,533 | 15,818,666 | 17,267,832 | 17,921,143 | 19,644,429 | 20,897,178 | 22,465,211 | 24,089,089 | 26,158,007 | 28,595,495 |
| Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments - end of the year | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 | 29,000,000 |
| Representing: | | | | | | | | | | |
| - External Residencies | 22,621,925 | 22,596,704 | 22,560,765 | 22,541,164 | 22,503,886 | 22,464,430 | 22,422,742 | 22,378,765 | 22,332,441 | 22,286,565 |
| - Internal Residencies | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 | 10,928,000 |
| - Livestock | 8,360,098 | 8,360,992 | 9,770,037 | 10,465,979 | 12,212,543 | 13,504,747 | 15,114,469 | 16,782,335 | 18,897,565 | 21,380,930 |
| - Livestock | 39,910,533 | 41,818,696 | 43,267,832 | 43,921,143 | 45,644,429 | 46,897,178 | 48,465,211 | 50,089,089 | 52,158,007 | 54,595,495 |

Wentworth Shire Council

10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032

INCOME STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED

Scenario: Scenario 1 - preferred scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | Projected Years | | | | | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Income from Continuing Operations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 10,098,339 | 10,845,165 | 11,610,702 | 12,395,357 | 13,262,463 | 13,665,622 | 14,080,856 | 14,508,547 | 14,949,066 | 15,401,845 |
| User Charges & Fees | 6,330,822 | 6,705,398 | 7,298,952 | 12,211,434 | 12,572,581 | 12,944,562 | 13,327,703 | 13,722,339 | 14,128,812 | 14,547,461 |
| Other Revenues | 1,228,245 | 1,241,414 | 1,254,296 | 1,287,501 | 1,303,743 | 1,300,473 | 1,317,704 | 1,335,452 | 1,373,733 | 1,392,562 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes | 9,900,860 | 9,812,247 | 10,030,677 | 10,254,559 | 10,529,957 | 10,813,606 | 11,105,764 | 11,406,687 | 11,716,638 | 12,036,416 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 20,180,509 | 1,803,846 | 527,267 | 528,936 | 530,899 | 533,104 | 535,282 | 537,526 | 539,837 | 542,217 |
| Interest & Investment Revenue | 238,500 | 244,463 | 250,575 | 256,839 | 264,545 | 272,482 | 280,656 | 288,076 | 297,748 | 306,681 |
| Other Income: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Gains from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value increment on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of revaluation decrements on IPPE previously expensed | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of impairment losses on receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Income | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities - Gain | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Income from Continuing Operations | 47,977,265 | 30,652,553 | 30,973,488 | 36,934,636 | 38,464,298 | 39,529,849 | 40,647,965 | 41,799,626 | 43,005,835 | 44,227,201 |
| Expenses from Continuing Operations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Benefits & On-Costs | 10,744,520 | 11,054,476 | 11,373,340 | 11,701,368 | 12,031,198 | 12,370,378 | 12,719,172 | 13,077,853 | 13,446,700 | 13,826,000 |
| Borrowing Costs | 391,209 | 515,005 | 826,871 | 778,320 | 806,501 | 754,631 | 703,026 | 655,188 | 604,872 | 553,837 |
| Materials & Contracts | 4,175,082 | 3,628,531 | 3,782,620 | 4,601,447 | 4,690,517 | 4,766,382 | 4,843,829 | 4,922,895 | 5,003,653 | 5,071,000 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | 8,024,848 | 8,024,848 | 8,024,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 | 8,424,848 |
| Impairment of Investments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Impairment of receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Expenses | 3,290,709 | 3,374,563 | 3,599,089 | 3,524,928 | 3,625,841 | 3,655,777 | 3,907,587 | 3,816,317 | 3,912,439 | 4,020,188 |
| Interest & Investment Losses | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Revaluation decrement/impairment of IPPE | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value decrement on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Expenses from Continuing Operations | 26,616,368 | 26,595,422 | 27,586,769 | 29,030,911 | 29,575,905 | 29,972,017 | 30,598,462 | 30,897,070 | 31,392,722 | 31,895,673 |
| Operating Result from Continuing Operations | 21,360,897 | 4,057,130 | 3,386,699 | 7,903,725 | 8,885,393 | 9,557,832 | 10,049,503 | 10,902,556 | 11,613,114 | 12,331,328 |
| Discontinued Operations - Profit/(Loss) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Profit/(Loss) from Discontinued Operations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Operating Result for the Year | 21,360,897 | 4,057,130 | 3,386,699 | 7,903,725 | 8,885,393 | 9,557,832 | 10,049,503 | 10,902,556 | 11,613,114 | 12,331,328 |
| Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 1,180,388 | 2,253,284 | 2,859,433 | 7,374,790 | 8,354,404 | 9,024,728 | 9,514,221 | 10,365,030 | 11,073,277 | 11,789,111 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
BALANCE SHEET - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 1 - preferred scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 8,601,143 | 17,217,065 | 11,306,741 | 19,324,109 | 24,958,081 | 34,185,489 | 42,672,468 | 51,879,142 | 56,559,458 | 67,088,954 |
| Investments | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 |
| Receivables | 5,202,162 | 4,461,661 | 4,666,623 | 6,308,060 | 6,586,837 | 6,827,933 | 7,070,352 | 7,322,858 | 7,554,584 | 7,827,028 |
| Inventories | 54,966 | 39,766 | 42,042 | 82,259 | 63,056 | 63,811 | 64,576 | 65,352 | 66,146 | 66,555 |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 111,923 | 101,602 | 108,065 | 122,835 | 125,557 | 126,783 | 132,589 | 131,334 | 133,955 | 136,505 |
| Non-current assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Assets | 32,184,151 | 40,034,052 | 34,337,429 | 44,031,221 | 49,947,489 | 59,417,973 | 68,153,943 | 77,612,644 | 82,538,102 | 93,333,000 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Investments | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 | 7,475,972 |
| Receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inventories | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 501,843,588 | 503,008,687 | 510,666,222 | 508,840,299 | 511,336,532 | 510,976,193 | 511,107,578 | 510,989,120 | 517,107,383 | 517,354,426 |
| Intangible Assets | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 | 184,000 |
| Right of use assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investments accounted for using the equity method | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 | 1,140,000 |
| Non-current assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Assets | 510,643,560 | 511,806,659 | 519,466,194 | 518,640,271 | 520,196,504 | 519,776,165 | 519,907,561 | 519,799,092 | 525,907,355 | 526,154,398 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 542,827,712 | 551,842,711 | 553,803,623 | 562,671,492 | 570,143,993 | 579,194,138 | 588,061,494 | 597,411,735 | 608,445,457 | 619,487,397 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bank Overdraft | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payables | 5,214,203 | 5,320,697 | 5,592,984 | 5,652,875 | 5,808,407 | 5,888,593 | 6,197,134 | 6,175,046 | 6,332,811 | 6,499,941 |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | 5,181,107 | 2,299,789 | 2,181,487 | 2,632,833 | 2,704,697 | 2,778,715 | 2,854,952 | 2,933,475 | 3,014,351 | 3,097,616 |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 1,267,488 | 1,579,593 | 1,547,092 | 1,640,289 | 1,671,892 | 1,556,924 | 1,608,749 | 1,217,909 | 1,539,983 | 1,126,330 |
| Provisions | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Liabilities | 13,974,314 | 11,511,777 | 11,633,081 | 12,237,514 | 12,496,513 | 12,545,750 | 12,972,352 | 12,637,947 | 13,198,462 | 13,035,406 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Payables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 11,182,337 | 16,602,744 | 17,055,652 | 17,415,363 | 15,743,471 | 15,186,547 | 13,577,798 | 12,359,890 | 11,219,982 | 10,093,652 |
| Provisions | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 |
| Investments accounted for using the equity method | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale" | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | 13,970,820 | 21,391,227 | 19,844,135 | 20,203,846 | 18,531,954 | 17,975,030 | 16,366,281 | 15,148,373 | 14,008,465 | 12,882,135 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 27,945,134 | 32,903,004 | 31,477,215 | 32,441,359 | 31,028,466 | 30,520,780 | 29,338,633 | 27,786,319 | 27,206,927 | 25,917,540 |
| Net Assets | 514,882,578 | 518,939,708 | 522,326,408 | 530,230,133 | 539,115,526 | 548,673,358 | 558,722,861 | 569,625,416 | 581,238,530 | 593,569,858 |
| EQUITY | | | | | | | | | | |
| Retained Earnings | 120,118,676 | 124,175,708 | 127,562,408 | 135,466,133 | 144,251,526 | 153,909,358 | 163,958,881 | 174,861,416 | 186,474,530 | 198,805,858 |
| Reserves | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 | 384,764,000 |
| Other Reserves | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Council Equity Interest | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Non-controlling equity interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Equity | 514,882,578 | 518,939,708 | 522,326,408 | 530,230,133 | 539,115,526 | 548,673,358 | 558,722,861 | 569,625,416 | 581,238,530 | 593,569,858 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
CASH FLOW STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 1 - preferred scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 10,030,293 | 10,775,438 | 11,530,211 | 12,332,079 | 13,183,060 | 13,637,361 | 14,051,747 | 14,478,565 | 14,916,166 | 15,370,010 |
| User Charges & Fees | 6,074,600 | 6,627,247 | 7,171,629 | 7,720,566 | 8,281,386 | 8,857,041 | 9,338,380 | 9,834,335 | 10,344,049 | 10,869,075 |
| Investment & Interest Revenue Received | 212,416 | 188,689 | 284,731 | 185,186 | 221,747 | 208,252 | 220,658 | 224,444 | 259,755 | 233,515 |
| Grants & Contributions | 20,046,634 | 9,505,709 | 10,437,104 | 10,000,389 | 11,092,761 | 11,379,476 | 11,674,785 | 11,978,974 | 12,292,277 | 12,615,482 |
| Bonds & Deposits Received | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 1,162,481 | 1,443,961 | 1,359,618 | 1,229,833 | 1,266,767 | 1,293,512 | 1,310,304 | 1,327,828 | 1,365,658 | 1,394,478 |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employment & On-Costs | (10,724,530) | (11,041,652) | (11,360,447) | (11,688,026) | (12,017,244) | (12,352,401) | (12,700,655) | (13,059,863) | (13,427,143) | (13,805,941) |
| Materials & Contracts | (4,599,876) | (3,599,896) | (3,770,134) | (4,633,164) | (4,682,671) | (4,767,650) | (4,848,677) | (4,927,366) | (5,006,727) | (5,072,355) |
| Bond & Loans | (376,653) | (498,530) | (650,031) | (777,146) | (606,782) | (735,946) | (706,123) | (658,371) | (606,386) | (557,003) |
| Bonds & Deposits Refunded | (670,100) | (3,319,789) | (3,360,027) | (3,503,322) | (3,507,682) | (3,596,539) | (3,639,034) | (3,680,256) | (3,768,309) | (3,885,654) |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided for use in Operating Activities | 32,066,715 | 10,073,358 | 11,361,651 | 15,163,386 | 17,255,341 | 17,803,809 | 18,600,137 | 19,131,811 | 20,041,261 | 20,731,360 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sale of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 |
| Sale of non-current assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Disposal Groups | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Debtors Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributions Received from Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purchase of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | (37,239,864) | (6,030,647) | (16,132,383) | (6,048,025) | (10,431,001) | (6,464,509) | (9,006,234) | (8,769,349) | (14,943,112) | (9,121,850) |
| Purchase of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Debtors & Advances Made | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contributions Paid to Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided for use in Investing Activities | (36,786,064) | (9,160,547) | (15,682,383) | (7,588,025) | (9,981,001) | (6,004,509) | (8,556,234) | (8,316,349) | (14,523,112) | (9,671,850) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from Borrowings & Advances | 7,500,000 | 9,000,000 | - | 2,000,000 | - | 1,000,000 | - | - | 831,409 | - |
| Proceeds from Finance Leases | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repayment of Borrowings & Advances | (654,438) | (1,267,488) | (1,570,563) | (1,547,092) | (1,640,288) | (1,671,862) | (1,556,024) | (1,608,749) | (1,649,243) | (1,538,893) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities (principal repayments) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities | 6,845,562 | 7,732,512 | (1,570,563) | 452,908 | (1,640,288) | (671,862) | (1,556,024) | (1,608,749) | (817,834) | (1,538,893) |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents | 1,025,604 | 8,615,073 | (9,910,325) | 8,017,308 | 5,633,972 | 9,227,408 | 8,486,979 | 9,206,674 | 4,696,316 | 10,519,486 |
| plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year | 6,675,539 | 8,601,143 | 17,217,065 | 11,306,741 | 19,324,108 | 24,959,081 | 34,185,489 | 42,672,468 | 51,879,142 | 55,569,456 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 8,601,143 | 17,217,065 | 11,306,741 | 19,324,108 | 24,959,081 | 34,185,489 | 42,672,468 | 51,879,142 | 55,569,456 | 67,088,942 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 8,601,143 | 17,217,065 | 11,306,741 | 19,324,108 | 24,959,081 | 34,185,489 | 42,672,468 | 51,879,142 | 55,569,456 | 67,088,942 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 8,601,143 | 17,217,065 | 11,306,741 | 19,324,108 | 24,959,081 | 34,185,489 | 42,672,468 | 51,879,142 | 55,569,456 | 67,088,942 |
| Representing: | | | | | | | | | | |
| - External Reserves | 21,841,562 | 21,733,945 | 21,663,068 | 21,568,828 | 21,462,664 | 21,411,253 | 21,357,214 | 21,300,418 | 21,240,795 | 21,181,123 |
| - Internal Reserves | 10,028,000 | 10,028,000 | 10,028,000 | 12,728,000 | 14,520,000 | 16,328,000 | 18,128,000 | 19,928,000 | 15,728,000 | 17,528,000 |
| - Internal Reserves | 1,521,570 | 10,225,030 | 4,405,572 | 10,717,211 | 14,651,406 | 22,136,166 | 28,877,184 | 36,340,654 | 45,290,553 | 54,699,760 |
| - Unrestricted | 34,231,072 | 42,306,595 | 34,396,670 | 45,014,038 | 50,648,011 | 59,075,418 | 68,362,398 | 77,569,072 | 82,259,386 | 92,778,604 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
INCOME STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 2 - alternative scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Revenue: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 10,413,338 | 11,483,059 | 12,603,523 | 12,822,998 | 13,315,953 | 13,720,697 | 14,137,563 | 14,586,975 | 15,006,790 | 15,457,953 |
| User Charges & Fees | 6,330,822 | 6,705,398 | 7,289,892 | 5,911,434 | 6,083,581 | 6,280,892 | 6,443,523 | 6,631,633 | 6,825,386 | 7,024,951 |
| Other Revenues | 1,228,245 | 1,241,414 | 1,254,296 | 1,287,501 | 1,303,743 | 1,300,473 | 1,317,704 | 1,335,452 | 1,373,733 | 1,392,637 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes | 9,900,850 | 9,812,247 | 10,030,877 | 10,254,569 | 10,529,957 | 10,813,606 | 11,105,764 | 11,406,687 | 11,716,638 | 12,036,416 |
| Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 20,373,074 | 1,883,846 | 527,267 | 528,936 | 530,989 | 533,104 | 535,282 | 537,526 | 539,837 | 542,217 |
| Interest & Investment Revenue | 238,500 | 244,462 | 250,574 | 256,836 | 264,543 | 272,480 | 280,654 | 289,074 | 297,746 | 306,678 |
| Other Income: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Gains from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value increment on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of revaluation decrements on IPPE previously expensed | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reversal of impairment losses on receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Income | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities - Gain | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Income from Continuing Operations | 48,484,829 | 31,290,426 | 31,966,289 | 31,162,276 | 32,028,766 | 32,901,252 | 33,820,510 | 34,767,347 | 35,760,129 | 36,760,851 |
| Expenses from Continuing Operations | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Benefits & On-Costs | 10,744,520 | 11,064,476 | 11,373,340 | 11,701,388 | 12,031,188 | 12,370,378 | 12,719,172 | 13,077,853 | 13,446,700 | 13,826,000 |
| Borrowing Costs | 391,209 | 515,005 | 826,871 | 778,320 | 806,501 | 754,631 | 703,026 | 655,168 | 604,872 | 553,837 |
| Materials & Contracts | 4,312,982 | 3,912,738 | 4,206,515 | 3,633,544 | 3,736,293 | 3,790,122 | 3,846,050 | 3,901,096 | 3,958,562 | 3,980,776 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | 8,024,848 | 8,024,946 | 8,024,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 | 8,424,846 |
| Impairment of Investments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Impairment of Receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Expenses | 3,293,409 | 3,419,712 | 3,651,621 | 3,558,848 | 3,651,959 | 3,681,897 | 3,933,711 | 3,842,444 | 3,938,569 | 4,046,321 |
| Interest & Investment Losses | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Revaluation decrement/impairment of IPPE | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fair value decrement on investment properties | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Joint Ventures & Associated Entities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Expenses from Continuing Operations | 28,766,968 | 28,926,778 | 28,083,196 | 28,096,828 | 28,650,799 | 29,021,876 | 29,625,806 | 29,901,409 | 30,373,551 | 30,840,722 |
| Operating Result from Continuing Operations | 21,717,862 | 4,363,649 | 3,883,093 | 3,065,347 | 3,377,967 | 3,879,375 | 4,194,704 | 4,865,938 | 5,386,578 | 5,920,130 |
| Discontinued Operations - Profit/(Loss) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Profit/(Loss) from Discontinued Operations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Operating Result for the Year | 21,717,862 | 4,363,649 | 3,883,093 | 3,065,347 | 3,377,967 | 3,879,375 | 4,194,704 | 4,865,938 | 5,386,578 | 5,920,130 |
| Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes | 1,344,788 | 2,559,803 | 3,355,826 | 2,536,411 | 2,846,978 | 3,246,272 | 3,659,422 | 4,328,412 | 4,846,741 | 5,377,913 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
BALANCE SHEET - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 2 - alternative scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ASSETS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 8,847,883 | 17,531,849 | 11,752,367 | 16,103,615 | 16,327,659 | 19,927,932 | 22,612,973 | 25,486,565 | 30,142,635 | 34,308,279 |
| Investments | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 | 18,213,958 |
| Receivables | 5,262,507 | 4,561,231 | 4,821,443 | 4,484,433 | 4,624,262 | 4,775,238 | 4,924,778 | 5,085,447 | 5,248,986 | 5,419,458 |
| Inventories | 58,287 | 46,669 | 52,738 | 37,165 | 38,655 | 39,846 | 39,036 | 39,224 | 39,417 | 38,905 |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 114,862 | 108,098 | 117,771 | 103,320 | 106,424 | 107,195 | 112,537 | 110,808 | 112,945 | 114,753 |
| Non-current assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Assets | 32,497,496 | 40,461,605 | 34,938,296 | 38,952,394 | 39,310,959 | 43,063,170 | 46,903,282 | 49,936,001 | 53,757,940 | 58,095,353 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | | | | | | | | |
| Investments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Receivables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inventories | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract cost assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Infrastructure Property, Plant & Equipment | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Right of use assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investments Accounted for using the equity method | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Non-current assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Assets | 510,742,362 | 512,113,567 | 520,096,510 | 519,445,117 | 521,021,645 | 520,622,280 | 520,775,339 | 520,689,276 | 520,820,680 | 521,091,635 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 543,239,859 | 552,575,173 | 555,054,806 | 558,397,511 | 560,332,603 | 563,685,450 | 566,678,621 | 570,625,277 | 574,578,620 | 579,186,988 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bank Overdraft | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payables | 5,239,025 | 5,390,076 | 5,684,291 | 5,693,409 | 5,735,038 | 5,822,946 | 6,119,159 | 6,096,079 | 6,249,310 | 6,412,907 |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | 5,211,466 | 2,298,789 | 2,181,487 | 2,096,819 | 2,152,603 | 2,210,059 | 2,289,236 | 2,330,187 | 2,382,965 | 2,457,586 |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 1,267,468 | 1,579,593 | 1,547,092 | 1,640,289 | 1,671,882 | 1,566,924 | 1,698,392 | 1,649,243 | 1,539,983 | 1,126,275 |
| Provisions | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 | 2,311,517 |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Current Liabilities | 14,029,497 | 11,580,955 | 11,724,388 | 11,642,034 | 11,871,051 | 11,901,446 | 12,298,245 | 12,387,027 | 12,493,775 | 12,308,287 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Payables | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Income received in advance | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contract liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lease liabilities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Borrowings | 11,182,336 | 18,602,744 | 17,055,651 | 17,415,363 | 15,743,471 | 15,186,547 | 13,568,215 | 12,580,151 | 11,040,168 | 9,913,894 |
| Provisions | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 | 2,788,483 |
| Investments Accounted for using the equity method | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Liabilities associated with assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | 13,970,819 | 21,391,227 | 19,844,134 | 20,203,846 | 18,531,954 | 17,975,030 | 16,376,698 | 15,368,634 | 13,828,651 | 12,702,377 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 28,000,316 | 32,972,182 | 31,568,522 | 31,845,879 | 30,403,004 | 29,876,475 | 28,674,943 | 27,755,660 | 26,322,426 | 25,010,664 |
| Net Assets | 515,239,543 | 519,603,191 | 523,486,284 | 526,551,632 | 529,929,599 | 533,808,974 | 538,003,679 | 542,869,616 | 548,256,194 | 554,176,324 |
| EQUITY | | | | | | | | | | |
| Retained Earnings | 120,475,543 | 124,839,191 | 128,722,284 | 131,787,632 | 135,165,599 | 139,044,974 | 143,239,679 | 148,105,616 | 153,482,194 | 159,412,324 |
| Revaluation Reserves | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 | 394,764,000 |
| Other Reserves | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Council Equity Interest | 519,239,543 | 519,603,191 | 523,486,284 | 526,551,632 | 529,929,599 | 533,808,974 | 538,003,679 | 542,869,616 | 548,256,194 | 554,176,324 |
| Non-controlling equity interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Equity | 515,239,543 | 519,603,191 | 523,486,284 | 526,551,632 | 529,929,599 | 533,808,974 | 538,003,679 | 542,869,616 | 548,256,194 | 554,176,324 |

Wentworth Shire Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2032
CASH FLOW STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 2 - alternative scenario

| | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 | 2030/31 | 2031/32 |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 10,310,373 | 11,377,550 | 12,482,707 | 12,900,514 | 13,288,297 | 13,682,212 | 14,108,243 | 14,536,755 | 14,975,564 | 15,425,770 |
| User Charges & Fees | 6,074,800 | 6,027,247 | 7,171,629 | 6,176,877 | 6,037,137 | 6,213,055 | 6,394,251 | 6,580,863 | 6,773,113 | 6,971,110 |
| Investment & Interest Revenue Received | 205,372 | 181,024 | 257,715 | 226,246 | 250,633 | 241,000 | 254,420 | 255,415 | 265,169 | 270,830 |
| Grants & Contributions | 30,883,208 | 9,483,700 | 10,437,704 | 10,899,388 | 11,092,761 | 11,579,473 | 11,674,794 | 11,978,974 | 12,282,277 | 12,615,482 |
| Bonds & Deposits Received | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 1,160,328 | 1,448,116 | 1,259,616 | 1,300,428 | 1,298,882 | 1,285,690 | 1,312,547 | 1,330,140 | 1,388,038 | 1,397,004 |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Benefits & On-Costs | (10,720,887) | (11,004,306) | (11,382,954) | (11,686,625) | (12,015,980) | (12,352,519) | (12,700,617) | (13,058,988) | (13,427,311) | (13,808,072) |
| Materials & Contract | (4,233,950) | (3,892,567) | (4,220,410) | (3,692,581) | (3,740,203) | (3,790,583) | (3,850,047) | (3,880,008) | (3,960,530) | (3,990,457) |
| Borrowing Costs | (376,853) | (488,330) | (600,031) | (777,148) | (968,762) | (1,195,846) | (1,706,122) | (656,853) | (666,197) | (587,002) |
| Bonds & Deposits Repaid | (684,123) | (3,328,836) | (3,387,455) | (3,670,622) | (3,538,238) | (3,624,850) | (3,687,405) | (3,887,601) | (3,810,840) | (3,915,254) |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities | 32,412,258 | 10,347,508 | 11,887,921 | 11,671,774 | 11,865,709 | 12,287,648 | 12,819,872 | 13,169,529 | 13,881,568 | 14,401,430 |
| Cash Flows from Investing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sale of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 |
| Sale of non-current assets classified as 'held for sale' | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sale of Disposal Groups | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Debtors Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributions Received from Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purchase of Investment Securities | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Investment Property | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | (37,335,466) | (9,640,023) | (16,457,701) | (8,323,455) | (10,451,376) | (9,475,483) | (9,027,907) | (8,786,705) | (9,008,253) | (9,140,802) |
| Purchase of Real Estate Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Intangible Assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Purchase of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deferred Debtors & Advances Made | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Contributions Paid to Joint Ventures & Associates | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Investing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities | (36,885,466) | (9,590,023) | (16,007,791) | (7,773,455) | (10,001,376) | (9,025,483) | (9,677,907) | (8,338,705) | (9,556,253) | (9,686,802) |
| Cash Flows from Financing Activities | | | | | | | | | | |
| Receipts: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Proceeds from Borrowings & Advances | 7,500,000 | 9,000,000 | - | 2,000,000 | - | 1,000,000 | - | 651,587 | - | - |
| Proceeds from Finance Leases | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Receipts | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Payments: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Repayment of Borrowings & Advances | (854,459) | (1,207,488) | (1,579,593) | (1,547,082) | (1,840,288) | (1,871,892) | (1,566,924) | (1,808,749) | (1,640,243) | (1,539,983) |
| Repayment of lease liabilities (principal repayments) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Financing Activity Payments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities | 6,645,541 | 7,792,512 | (1,579,593) | 452,918 | (1,640,288) | (871,892) | (1,566,924) | (957,152) | (1,640,243) | (1,539,983) |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents | 2,172,344 | 8,683,986 | (5,779,462) | 4,351,227 | 224,045 | 3,800,273 | 2,885,041 | 3,873,582 | 3,695,070 | 4,185,645 |
| plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year | 6,675,539 | 8,847,083 | 17,531,849 | 11,752,387 | 16,103,615 | 16,327,859 | 19,927,932 | 22,812,973 | 26,488,565 | 30,142,835 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 8,847,083 | 17,531,069 | 11,752,387 | 16,103,615 | 16,327,659 | 19,927,932 | 22,812,973 | 26,488,565 | 30,142,835 | 34,398,279 |
| Representing: | | | | | | | | | | |
| - Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year | 8,847,083 | 17,531,069 | 11,752,387 | 16,103,615 | 16,327,659 | 19,927,932 | 22,812,973 | 26,488,565 | 30,142,835 | 34,398,279 |
| - Investments - end of the year | 29,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 | 25,689,930 |
| Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments - end of the year | 34,537,013 | 43,221,779 | 37,442,317 | 41,793,544 | 42,017,589 | 45,617,862 | 48,502,903 | 52,178,495 | 55,832,764 | 59,998,209 |
| Representing: | | | | | | | | | | |
| - External Restrictions | 21,809,694 | 21,687,469 | 21,560,151 | 21,479,288 | 21,336,487 | 21,188,550 | 21,035,570 | 20,877,236 | 20,713,598 | 20,544,369 |
| - Internal Restrictions | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 | 10,628,000 |
| - Unrestricted | 1,001,118 | 10,600,230 | 4,954,166 | 9,590,256 | 9,753,103 | 13,601,312 | 16,839,303 | 20,571,258 | 24,180,966 | 28,625,900 |
| | 34,537,013 | 43,221,779 | 37,442,317 | 41,793,544 | 42,017,589 | 45,617,862 | 48,502,903 | 52,178,495 | 55,832,764 | 59,998,209 |



Our values: Honesty and Integrity | Accountability and Transparency | Respect | Quality | Commitment



2022-2026

WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE





WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2026

INDEX

| | |
|---|----|
| General Manager's foreword | 6 |
| Introduction | 7 |
| Organisation structure and what we do | 9 |
| Wentworth Shire's Workforce at a Glance | 10 |
| Workforce analytics | 12 |
| Workforce strategy | 14 |

GENERAL MANAGER'S FOREWORD



The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for the Wentworth Shire concentrates on four (4) key strategies to move the Wentworth Shire forward, and form the structure for our community's priorities. The 4 CSP strategies are:



Council has worked hard over the last four years to increase our focus on creating a sustainable workforce, becoming an employer of choice, respect and accountability, personal development for staff and work health and safety.

This Workforce Management Plan builds upon our previous plan.

This Plan supports Council's corporate values and assists Council in achieving its community vision for Wentworth Shire to be a great place to live.

These strategies enable Council to present a workforce that can respond to emerging community needs now and into the future. Specifically, these strategies are aimed at creating sustainability for Council to be able to effectively attract, engage, develop, recognise and retain talented people.

Like all businesses and industries across Australia, Council faces continuing and increasing people challenges ahead of us, including an ageing workforce, skill gaps and retaining quality people.

This Plan acknowledges that our major asset – our people, are fundamental for Council to successfully deliver on the communities emerging and changing needs and challenges.

This Plan is built on four principles:

1. Workforce engagement
2. Growing our capabilities
3. Having a safe and healthy workforce
4. Planning for the future

By putting our people at the heart of everything we do, we will deliver well-managed and sustainable services and programs to assure community confidence.

We have great people, and we continue to aspire to be a great workplace. This Plan will enable us to become a great workplace.

Ken Ross
General Manager



INTRODUCTION

The Workforce Management Plan is part of the planning and reporting framework for local government. It forms part of the Resourcing Strategy.

The aim of the Resourcing Strategy is to ensure that the goals and aspirations of the community as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan can be met in the delivery of actions and services to the community.

This plan aims to ensure that Council can best deliver the needs of the community, whilst ensuring a workforce plan is in place that has the skills, background and experience taking into account the challenges of the future.

The priorities in the Wentworth Shire Council Community Strategic Plan are:

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

Workforce planning is a continuous process of shaping the workforce to ensure it is capable of delivering organisational objectives now and into the future.

Effective workforce planning ensures that we have the ability to provide an appropriately skilled workforce to meet future challenges and provide expanded services.

We must ensure the effective integration and alignment of Human Resources strategies to ensure we have the right people in the right position. Other benefits of effective workforce planning include:

- recruiting, developing and deploying a diverse workforce with the required skill sets to meet future workforce needs;
- positioning Council as innovative, creative and outcomes-focused;
- improving productivity through better job design and resourcing decisions
- reducing staff turnover and retaining top talent;
- ensuring corporate knowledge is built, retained and accessible;
- building workforce capacity and capability;



- ensuring Council is responsive to changing business requirements, challenges, and possibilities;
- making evidence-based workforce decisions; and
- fostering an agile, high performance culture through common understanding and goals.

Council is a major employer in the Wentworth Shire and we recognise our role in delivering high quality services to the community, and our role as an employer and trainer in the development of our community.

We recognise that motivated and engaged staff will reinforce Council's vision and values to our community.

We also recognise the human resource challenges ahead, including an ageing workforce, retaining quality staff and talent management for future skills.

Implementation of the workforce management plan, along with an integrated approach to organisational development, will build upon the existing workforce and reinforce what we do and how we deliver services.

Our people are our greatest asset and a committed and engaged workforce results in improved organisational outcomes, and better service delivery and facilities for our community.

In particular this Workforce Management Plan will help Council to:

- Make staffing decisions to provide services based on strategic priorities;
- Identify potential resource or skill shortfalls and take steps to address these;
- Improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity
- Identify and plan for new and emerging roles;
- Recruit appropriate staff to meet future needs;
- Develop workforce skills that take time to grow;
- Provide improved career development opportunities;
- Increase employee motivation and contribution through better job design; and
- Contain human resource costs including the

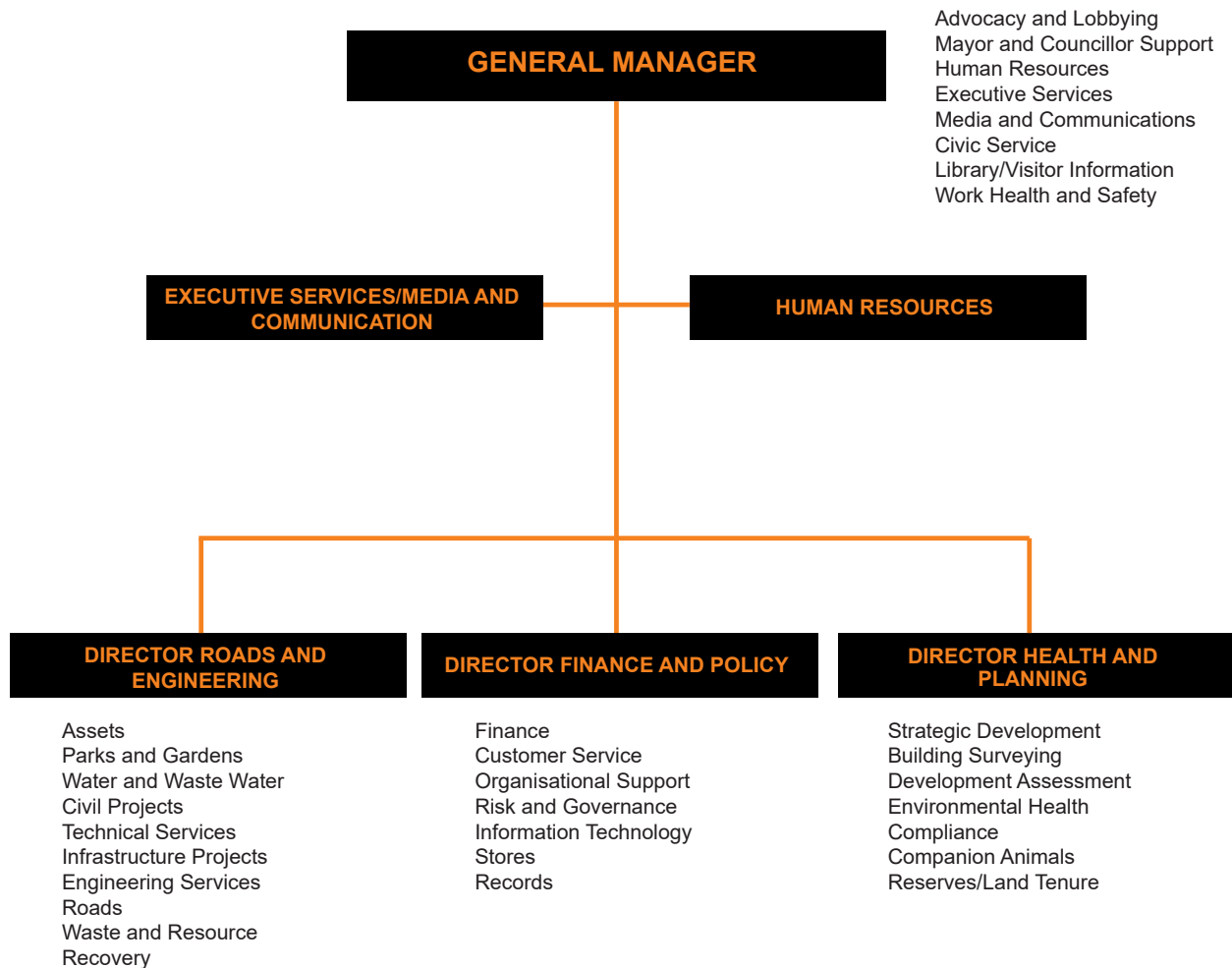
cost of turnover, absenteeism and injury.

Council aims to have the right people in the right place at the right time with the right skills to meet the community's desired needs and Council's operational objectives.

To ensure Council is best servicing the needs of the community, we will regularly monitor our workforce profile.



ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND WHAT WE DO



WENTWORTH SHIRE'S WORKFORCE

at a glance

As at February 2022


116 Full Time Equivalents
11 Permanent Part Time
6 Casuals
2 Term Contracts

71 Staff living within the LGA

57 Staff living outside the LGA

8 Years

**AVERAGE LENGTH
OF EMPLOYMENT**
4 Years


WORKPLACE GENDER


PERMANENT FULL TIME
CASUAL

26

5

83

1
PERMANENT PART TIME
TERM CONTRACT

11

1

0

1
12%

STAFF TURNOVER RATE 2021
**9% OF EMPLOYEES
IDENTIFY AS INDIGENOUS**

staff age ranges

15 - 24 years 6
25-34 years 34
35-44 years 17
45-54 years 25
55-64 years 33
65+ years 13




WORKFORCE ANALYTICS - ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

To meet the challenging internal and external workforce pressures of the future, Council must focus on understanding what has to be done so that our workforce capabilities are enhanced to deliver the services the community desires.

The key workforce and employment challenges which must be continually reviewed include:

- Providing competitive pay and conditions.
- Maintaining and improving work/life balance, thus enabling greater flexibility.
- Delivering learning and development opportunities which provide skills and career focused progression for leaders.
- Ensuring workforce planning remains responsive and transparent in consideration of community changes/pressures.
- Continuing to look for innovative ways to balance available staff resources with the

need to deliver the Operational Plan and Delivery Program.

- Continuing to develop skills to support technology focused approaches to community engagement and service delivery so that use of social media, on-line engagement and mobile technology will be part of day-to-day work.
- A commitment to focus on developing a diverse and inclusive workforce that includes people of different genders, cultural and linguistic backgrounds, Aboriginal people and people with a disability.

Challenges facing Wentworth Shire Council

Skill retention and attraction

Wentworth Shire Council operates in a competitive environment in relation to skills retention and attraction of skilled employees.

In particular, it is difficult to attract and retain trades, engineers, planners and technical specialists.

This is a problem faced by other Councils and is compounded by our remote location.

Average age of the workforce

An ageing workforce is an important consideration for Council.

36% of our staff are over 55 years of age.

An ageing workforce brings with it a number of concerns including increase in injury, increase in workers' compensation costs, loss of corporate knowledge; and challenges with technological changes.

A cohesive organisation

Council operates in four towns, over approximately 26,000 square kilometres.

We have a diverse workforce including corporate staff, outdoor staff, Library/Visitor Information and transfer station staff.

This can result in challenges in creating a cohesive organisation. This has been compounded in the last two years with COVID-19 with some staff working from home for extended periods.

Loss of corporate knowledge

We have an ageing workforce and as a result, the possible loss of corporate knowledge is a real and imminent risk.

Council has already, and will continue to lose long term employees in the next four years.

The corporate knowledge of these employees needs to be captured.

Gender equality and diversity

Currently, Wentworth Shire Council has 85 males and 43 females.

Low levels of employees with a disability, from non-English speaking backgrounds, women and young people.

There is a significant gender disparity at Director/Manager level.

Very few women work in typically male dominated roles such as outdoor staff and engineering services.

Technological change

Technology is evolving and changing at a rapid rate.

Council needs to be looking towards the future and equipping our workforce with the skills and abilities to embrace and utilise all technological change.

Council aims to drive innovation and efficiencies by considering new technologies and providing training to our staff in their use.





WORKFORCE STRATEGY

This workforce strategy is built on 4 principles:

1. Workforce engagement
2. Growing our capabilities
3. Having a safe and healthy workforce
4. Planning for the future

Workforce engagement

To ensure a culture of engagement that is fostered throughout the organisation where the views of our staff are considered and valued.

What challenges are we meeting?

Average age of the workforce | Skill retention and attraction | A cohesive organisation | Gender equality | Skilled, agile and diverse workforce

| | | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Objectives | Actions | | | | |
| Corporate Values | Embed the values outlined in the community strategic plan throughout all workplace strategies and documents when documents are reviewed | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Onboarding Problems | Develop and implement a new onboarding procedure to help new employees settle into the organisation | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Employer Branding | Develop new employment brand and remarket Wentworth Shire Council as a great place to work using information gained during the workforce planning sessions | | ● | | |
| Employee Survey | Determine best product for employee surveys and conduct on an annual basis | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Annual Action Plan | Create an annual action plan based on employee survey | | ● | ● | ● |
| Flexible Workplace | Review flexible workplace practises ensuring we meet the needs of our people and the services we provide | ● | | | |
| Recruitment | Review recruitment process to ensure the best possible candidates are being sourced and processes support the employment brand | | ● | | |
| Leadership Presence | Increase executive presence on outdoor work sites by scheduling site visits throughout the year | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Gender Equality & Diversity Action Plan | Develop Gender Equality & Diversity Action Plan | | | ● | |

Progress/success measure

- Onboarding Procedure developed and implemented
- Annual Employee Survey Conducted
- % of Annual Action Plan items completed
- Gender Equity Plan Developed
- % change in workforce profile



Growing our capabilities

We strive to provide a supportive and productive environment that ensures our workforce can grow knowledge and capability to meet the needs of our community.

What challenges are we meeting?

Average age of the workforce | Technological change | Skill retention and attraction | A cohesive organisation | Gender equality | Loss of corporate knowledge | Skilled, agile and diverse workforce

| | | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Objectives | Actions | | | | |
| Learning and development framework | Establish a new learning and development framework to grow our people and support our strategic direction | ● | | | |
| Corporate training calendar | Develop and implement an annual training calendar for our people | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Professional development | Develop and implement further education programmes that focus on the professional development of our people | | | ● | ● |
| Induction program | Implement new induction program with a management, corporate and safety focus | ● | | | |
| Leadership development programmes | Leadership programmes are established to build capability across the organisation | | ● | ● | ● |
| Position descriptions | Review position descriptions and amend accordingly | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Succession / transition planning / career planning | A succession / transition plan and programme <u>is</u> developed and clear pathways identified for our people | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Other programmes – graduate / trainee / apprenticeships | Review opportunities for graduate apprenticeship and training programmes as vacancies arise | ● | ● | ● | ● |

Progress/success measure

- Learning and Development Framework Established
- % of Corporate Training completed
- New Induction program developed and implemented
- Number of trainees/apprentices employed



Having a safe and healthy workplace

We foster a culture of safety and well-being for our workforce.

What challenges are we meeting?

Average age of the workforce

| | | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Objectives | Actions | | | | |
| Health and well-being | Develop a Health and Well-Being Strategy | ● | | | |
| Safety Management | Review current safety management system and determine whether it meets Council's needs | | ● | | |
| Well-being initiatives | Implement Health and Well-being strategy with a strong focus on our people | | ● | ● | ● |
| Operator verification of competency | Define a verification process for determining operator competencies | | ● | | |
| Volunteer management | Review and standardise volunteer management practises | | | ● | |
| Injury management initiatives | Implement injury management initiatives to assist in managing workers' compensation premiums | | ● | | ● |

Progress/success measure

- Health and Well-Being Strategy Developed
- Safety Management System review completed
- % of Wellbeing Initiatives implemented annually
- % of injury management initiatives implement annually



Planning for the future

We are an employer of choice for the region.

What challenges are we meeting?

Average age of the workforce | Technological change | Skill retention and attraction | A cohesive organisation | Gender equality | Loss of corporate knowledge | Skilled, agile and diverse workforce

| | | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Objectives | Actions | | | | |
| Policies, procedures, and processes | Streamline our systems to increase efficiencies (ongoing) | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Centralised payroll and online leave system | Create efficiencies in the payroll area by centralising the function and introducing a new online leave function | | ● | | |
| Overtime and leave liability | Review overtime and leave liability in order to reduce levels | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Ageing workforce | Build multi-generational teams and bridge the knowledge gap | | ● | ● | ● |
| Technology | Review how technology impacts our organisation into the future | | | ● | ● |

Progress/success measure

- Number of policies/procedures/processes reviewed annually
- % reduction in leave liability total each year

Monitoring and evaluation

The workforce priorities identified will be consistently reviewed to determine their success and relevance to our changing community needs and expectations, as well as our changing environment and labour market.

Progress against the effective implementation of the Plan will be measured and reported annually in our Annual Report.



Our values: Honesty and Integrity | Accountability and Transparency | Respect | Quality | Commitment



2022-2026

WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL

WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Document status

| Job # | Version | Approving Director | Date |
|-------|---------|--------------------|----------|
| | Draft | Mark Wood | 09/05/22 |
| | | | |
| | | | |

© Morrison Low

Except for all client data and factual information contained herein, this document is the copyright of Morrison Low. All or any part of it may only be used, copied or reproduced for the purpose for which it was originally intended, except where the prior permission to do otherwise has been sought from and granted by Morrison Low. Prospective users are invited to make enquiries of Morrison Low concerning using all or part of this copyright document for purposes other than that for which it was intended.

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Executive summary | 1 |
| 1.1 | Asset values | 1 |
| 1.2 | Asset backlog | 2 |
| 1.3 | Asset condition | 2 |
| 1.4 | Expenditure and reporting | 3 |
| 1.5 | Levels of service | 4 |
| 1.6 | High level strategic actions | 4 |
| 2 | Introduction | 5 |
| 2.1 | Asset planning | 5 |
| 2.2 | Scope of this Strategic Asset Management Plan | 8 |
| 2.3 | Council's assets | 9 |
| 2.4 | About Wentworth Shire Council | 9 |
| 2.5 | Links to Council plans and strategies | 10 |
| 3 | Asset Management Policy | 12 |
| 3.1 | Statement of Policy Intent | 12 |
| 3.2 | Policy SCOPE | 12 |
| 3.3 | Definitions and Abbreviations | 12 |
| 3.4 | Background Information | 12 |
| 3.5 | Policy | 12 |
| 4 | Asset management practices | 14 |
| 4.1 | Asset management information systems | 14 |
| 4.2 | Data collection and validation | 14 |
| 4.3 | Monitoring and review procedures | 14 |
| 4.4 | Confidence in data | 15 |
| 4.5 | Funding strategy | 15 |
| 5 | Levels of service | 16 |
| 5.1 | Defining levels of service | 16 |
| 5.2 | Key Issues from Community Consultation | 16 |
| 5.3 | Performance measures | 19 |
| 5.4 | Service level outcomes | 20 |
| 5.5 | Financial based service levels | 23 |
| 6 | Future demand | 25 |
| 6.1 | Demand forecast | 25 |
| 6.2 | Demand management strategies | 27 |
| 7 | Risk management | 27 |
| 7.1 | Infrastructure risk management framework | 29 |
| 7.2 | Strategic infrastructure risks | 30 |
| 7.3 | Critical assets | 32 |
| 8 | Expenditure projections | 32 |
| 8.1 | Asset values | 32 |

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| 8.2 | Asset backlog | 33 |
| 8.3 | Asset condition | 33 |
| 8.4 | Expenditure and reporting | 33 |
| 8.5 | Financial performance | 37 |
| 9 | Overarching improvement Plan | 43 |

TABLES

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| Table 1 | Asset classes and values | 1 |
| Table 2 | Asset backlog summary | 2 |
| Table 3 | Asset condition | 2 |
| Table 4 | Combined asset expenditure projections | 3 |
| Table 5 | High level strategic actions | 4 |
| Table 6 | Asset management plan structure | 9 |
| Table 7 | Range of infrastructure assets and services | 9 |
| Table 8 | Linkages to the Community Strategic Plan | 11 |
| Table 9 | Asset data confidence scale | 15 |
| Table 10 | Asset data confidence rating | 15 |
| Table 11 | Asset condition rating matrix | 20 |
| Table 12 | Service levels | 24 |
| Table 13 | Future demand impacts | 25 |
| Table 14 | Demand management strategies | 27 |
| Table 15 | Risk identification table | 30 |
| Table 16 | Asset Classes and Values | 32 |
| Table 17 | Asset backlog summary | 33 |
| Table 18 | Asset Condition Data | 33 |
| Table 19 | Combined asset expenditure projections | 34 |
| Table 20 | General Fund Expenditure Projection | 35 |
| Table 21 | Water and Sewer Fund Expenditure Projection | 36 |
| Table 22 | Asset management strategic actions | 43 |

FIGURES

| | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| Figure 1 | Wentworth Shire Council asset management planning framework | 5 |
| Figure 2 | Relationship between Council's plans and resourcing strategies | 7 |
| Figure 3 | Wentworth Shire Council LGA | 10 |
| Figure 4 | Key emerging issues | 17 |
| Figure 5 | Service level framework | 22 |
| Figure 6 | NARClm Modelling and Expectations | 26 |
| Figure 7 | ISO 31000 Framework | 28 |
| Figure 8 | Consolidated Portfolio overview 1 | 37 |
| Figure 9 | Consolidated Portfolio overview 2 | 37 |
| Figure 10 | Consolidated OLG asset expenditure ratios | 38 |
| Figure 11 | Consolidated OLG backlog ratio | 38 |
| Figure 15 | General Fund OLG backlog ratio | 40 |
| Figure 16 | Water and Sewer Fund Portfolio overview 1 | 41 |
| Figure 18 | Water and Sewer Fund OLG asset expenditure ratios | 42 |

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) states the approach to implementing the principles and the objectives set out in the Asset Management Policy. It includes specific requirements to outline the processes, resources, structures, roles and responsibilities necessary to establish and maintain the asset management system. The asset groups covered by this SAMP are Buildings, Transport Infrastructure, Stormwater Assets, Open Space Assets as well as Water and Sewer Network assets.

The SAMP highlights major issues which need to be addressed for each of the asset classes over the next ten years. The strategy also highlights the necessary actions for Wentworth Shire Council ('Council') to help close the gap between current asset management practice and move towards a 'good practice' position in the future.

Both the SAMP and the asset management plans (AMPs) have been prepared in accordance with the International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM) and the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) National Asset Management Strategy (NAMS) guidelines. Development of an asset management strategy and plans for council infrastructure assets is a mandatory requirement for NSW local government. The key findings for each asset class are included in the asset management plans section of this strategy and are covered in a concise but detailed manner.

This strategy includes Council's Asset Management Policy. The policy provides a framework for managing infrastructure assets to support the delivery needs of the community.

1.1 ASSET VALUES

In preparing this SAMP, it has been identified that Wentworth Shire Council has an infrastructure and asset portfolio with a current replacement cost of approximately \$629 million. The asset values are estimates of the value of assets, as at 30 June 2021, based on our best estimate of asset values, taking into account recent asset revaluations. These values should be updated on an annual basis, in line with the annual financial statements, once completed.

Table 1 Asset classes and values

| Asset | GRC \$ 000's | WDV \$ 000's | DEP \$ 000's |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Buildings | \$72,601 | \$34,416 | \$907 |
| Other Structures | \$5,533 | \$3,481 | \$216 |
| Roads - Sealed Roads | \$187,048 | \$88,852 | \$3,440 |
| Roads - Unsealed Roads | \$6,077 | \$2,661 | |
| Bridges | \$12,632 | \$6,864 | \$84 |
| Footpaths | \$6,488 | \$3,188 | \$57 |
| Bulk Earthworks | \$190,626 | \$190,626 | \$0 |
| Stormwater | \$25,198 | \$15,221 | \$216 |
| Water | \$58,394 | \$30,672 | \$681 |
| Sewer | \$47,306 | \$18,353 | \$751 |
| Swimming Pools | \$3,137 | \$1,724 | \$65 |
| Open Space | \$662 | \$189 | \$59 |
| Other Infrastructure (wharves) | \$13,386 | \$10,486 | \$154 |
| Grand Total | \$629,088 | \$406,733 | \$6,630 |

1.2 ASSET BACKLOG

As per the 2020/21 Special Schedule 7, Council has a combined asset backlog of \$21.45 million, with this being the estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard. The satisfactory standard is currently taken as condition 3. The breakdown of backlog per asset class as of 30 June 2021 is shown in the following table.

Table 2 Asset backlog summary

| Asset Class | Backlog (\$ 000's) (Cost to Satisfactory) | Backlog Ratio (Cost to Satisfactory / WDV) |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Buildings | \$1,871 | 4.94% |
| Roads & Transport | \$5,158 | 1.77% |
| Stormwater | \$318 | 2.09% |
| Water and Sewer | \$13,017 | 26.55% |
| Open Space | \$1,086 | 8.76% |
| Combined Assets | \$21,450 | 5.27% |

1.3 ASSET CONDITION

Reviewing asset condition data shows that most of Council's assets are in a satisfactory or better condition. The reliability of Council's condition data varies between the asset classes with most data being reliable, or highly reliable. Details of Council's current asset condition are shown in the table below. The condition is represented as a percentage of the replacement cost of Council's assets.

Table 3 Asset condition

| Asset Class | Asset Condition (% of CRC) | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Buildings | 39.29% | 36.06% | 19.65% | 5.00% | 0.00% |
| Roads & Transport | 65.85% | 25.81% | 5.23% | 2.81% | 0.30% |
| Stormwater | 25.00% | 55.00% | 18.00% | 2.00% | 0.00% |
| Water and Sewer | 15.00% | 31.05% | 28.43% | 13.29% | 12.24% |
| Open Space | 28.42% | 44.19% | 17.64% | 9.64% | 0.12% |
| Combined | 51.35% | 29.63% | 11.77% | 5.00% | 2.25% |

1.4 EXPENDITURE AND REPORTING

Table 4 Combined asset expenditure projections

The average capital and maintenance expenditure on Council assets over the ten-year forecast period is approximately \$12.5 million per year. This compares to the expenditure which is required to maintain, operate, and renew the asset network as required being \$14.5 million per year.

A summary of the projected expenditure requirements can be found in the following table.

| Expenditure projections (\$,000s) – combined assets | | 2021/ 2022 | 2022/ 2023 | 2023/ 2024 | 2024/ 2025 | 2025/ 2026 | 2026/ 2027 | 2027/ 2028 | 2028/ 2029 | 2029/ 2030 | 2030/ 2031 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Actual | Renewal | 13,019 | 5,258 | 5,397 | 5,611 | 5,841 | 5,926 | 6,035 | 6,166 | 6,262 | 6,418 |
| | New and expanded assets | 14,526 | 2,131 | 676 | 999 | 1,078 | 1,112 | 1,148 | 1,184 | 1,221 | 1,276 |
| | Maintenance and operational | 3,020 | 3,086 | 3,154 | 3,224 | 3,295 | 3,367 | 3,441 | 3,517 | 3,594 | 3,673 |
| | Total expenditure | 30,565 | 10,475 | 9,228 | 9,834 | 10,214 | 10,406 | 10,624 | 10,867 | 11,077 | 11,368 |
| Required | Required renewal (depreciation) | 6,577 | 6,890 | 7,084 | 7,267 | 7,459 | 7,657 | 7,860 | 8,068 | 8,281 | 8,501 |
| | New and expanded assets | 14,526 | 2,131 | 676 | 999 | 1,078 | 1,112 | 1,148 | 1,184 | 1,221 | 1,276 |
| | Required O&M | 3,862 | 3,971 | 4,074 | 4,182 | 4,293 | 4,407 | 4,524 | 4,644 | 4,767 | 4,894 |
| Total | | 24,965 | 12,992 | 11,834 | 12,449 | 12,831 | 13,176 | 13,531 | 13,895 | 14,270 | 14,671 |
| Maintenance Gap | | -842 | -885 | -920 | -958 | -998 | -1,040 | -1,083 | -1,127 | -1,173 | -1,220 |
| Renewals Gap | | 6,442 | -1,632 | -1,687 | -1,657 | -1,618 | -1,730 | -1,825 | -1,901 | -2,020 | -2,083 |
| Overall (GAP) | | 5,599 | -2,517 | -2,607 | -2,615 | -2,616 | -2,770 | -2,907 | -3,028 | -3,193 | -3,303 |

1.5 LEVELS OF SERVICE

The objective of asset management is to enable assets to be managed in the most cost-effective way, based on an understanding of customer needs, expectations, preferences and their willingness to pay for any increase in the level of service.

A level of service is a measurable description of what Council delivers (or intends to deliver) in an activity which relates to something that can be controlled. Council has prepared specific community and technical levels of service which cover the accessibility, quality, responsiveness, affordability, customer satisfaction, sustainability, health and safety and financial performance regarding the delivery of their infrastructure assets.

These have been developed for all asset classes and are detailed in the respective AMPs and address the adopted lifecycle management of assets. The overarching SAMP establishes a basic framework to measure service level outcomes. It is important to note that while service levels have been developed and are informed by Council's Community Strategic Plan, Council is yet to undertake community and stakeholder consultation to 'accept' the service levels.

1.6 HIGH LEVEL STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Table 5 High level strategic actions

| No | Strategy | Desired outcome |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Continue the move from annual budgeting to long term financial planning for all asset classes | The long-term implications of Council services are considered in annual budget deliberations. |
| 2 | Further develop and review the Long-Term Financial Plan covering ten years incorporating asset management plan expenditure projections with a sustainable funding position outcome. | Sustainable funding model to provide Council services. |
| 3 | Review and update asset management plan financial projections and long-term financial plans after adoption of annual budgets. Communicate any consequence of funding decisions on service levels and service risks. | Council and the community are aware of changes to service levels and costs arising from budget decisions. |
| 4 | Continue to report Council's financial position at fair value in accordance with Australian accounting standards, financial sustainability and performance against strategic objectives in annual reports, ensuring that asset remaining lives are assessed on an annual basis. | Financial sustainability information is available for Council and the community. |
| 5 | Ensure Council's decisions are made from accurate and current information in asset registers, on service level performance and costs and 'whole of life' costs. | Improved decision making and greater value for money. |
| 6 | Report on Council's resources and operational capability to deliver the services needed by the community in the Annual Report. | Services delivery is matched to available resources and operational capabilities. |
| 7 | Ensure responsibilities for asset management are identified and incorporated into staff position descriptions. Assess whether current resourcing is sufficient to cover all asset management functions for all asset classes. | Responsibility for asset management is defined. |
| 8 | Implement an improvement plan to initially realise 'core/good' maturity for the financial and asset management competencies, then progress to 'advanced/better' maturity. | Improved financial and asset management capacity within Council. |
| 9 | Develop and implement an asset condition inspection strategy which ensures that council has a complete data set for an asset class the year prior to a revaluation | Asset condition inspection strategy. |
| 10 | Report annually to Council on development and implementation of the Asset Management Strategy, plans and long-term financial plans. | Oversight of resource allocation and performance. |

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 ASSET PLANNING

Development of AMPs for Council's infrastructure is a mandatory requirement for NSW councils, as per the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and its subsequent amendments. As such, Wentworth Shire Council has developed the following SAMP to cover the period 2021/22 – 20/3031. The key findings for each asset class are included in the asset management plans section of this strategy and are covered in a concise but detailed manner.

The provision of infrastructure is one of the most important roles of Council, as assets support the delivery of services that deliver on Council's long-term objectives. A formal approach to asset management is essential to ensure that services are provided in the most cost-effective and value-driven manner. To ensure this, it is essential that asset management is fully aligned and integrated with Council's Community Strategy, Long-Term Financial Plan and Workforce Plan. This ensures that community needs, and expectations are well understood, and that funding requirements and consequences are understood and available.

Council's current planning framework is based on the 'Local Government Financial Asset Sustainability Framework'.

Figure 1 Wentworth Shire Council asset management planning framework



Council has adopted a 'whole of council' approach, beyond just a 'lifecycle' approach, and is committed to delivering value for money to the current and future generations of the community. The Strategic Asset Management Plan is underpinned by Council's Community Strategic Plan which was developed using the guiding principles of:

A Vibrant Thriving and Growing Region

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

- Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination
- High quality connectivity across the region
- Encourage lifelong learning opportunities
- Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities

A Great Place to Live

- Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life
- Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing vulnerable people
- To have a safe community
- A well informed, supported and engaged community
- We have a strong sense of place

A Community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

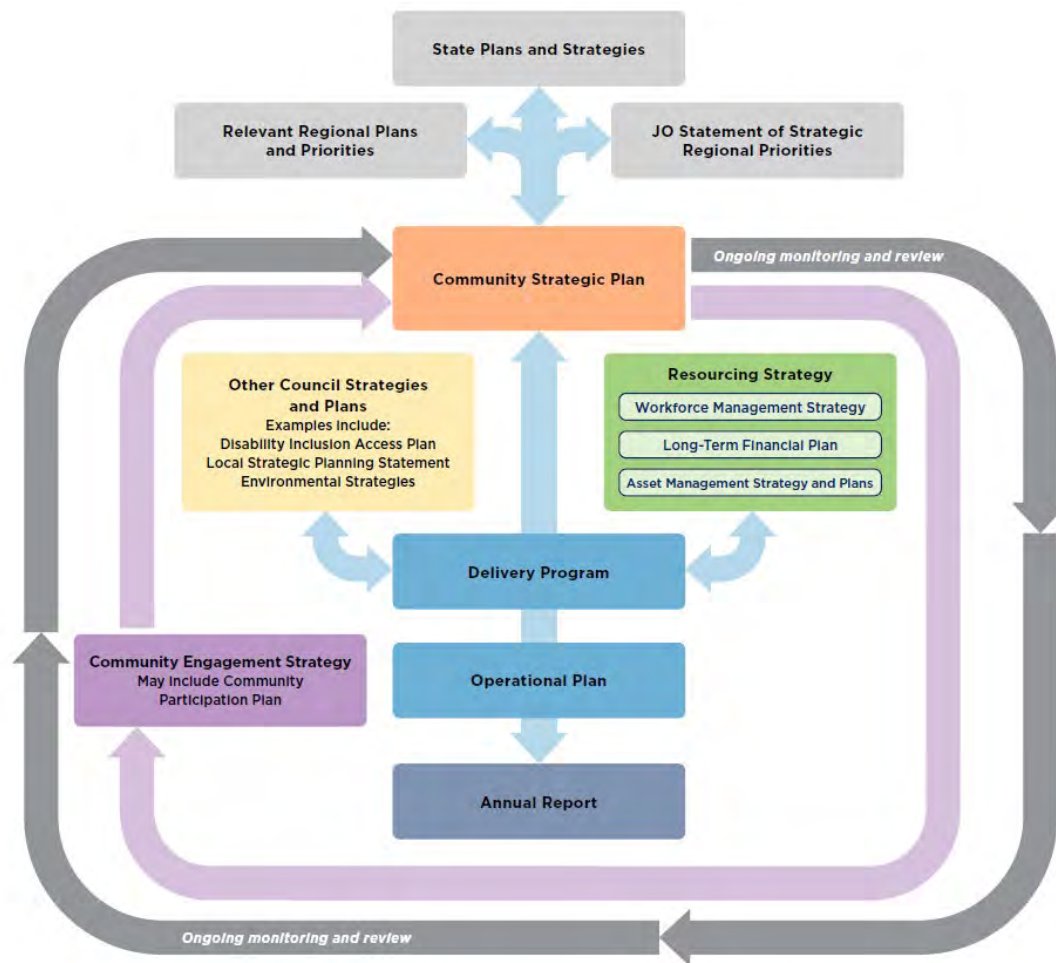
- Our planning decisions and controls ensure the community benefits from development
- Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained
- Minimise the impact on the natural environment
- Use and manage our resources wisely
- Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing shire

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

- Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making advocating purposes
- A strong responsible and representative government
- An effective and efficient organisation
- Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future
- Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long term sustainability and efficiency

This framework aligns with the updated 2021 Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines.

Figure 2 Relationship between Council's plans and resourcing strategies



- **Community Strategic Plan** - outlines what the community wants; the objectives of the community and strategies to achieve those objectives.
- **Resourcing Strategy** - details the resources available to Council to deliver the Community Strategic Plan.
- **Delivery Program/Operational Plan** - details how Council will use the resources that it has, to meet the objectives in the Community Strategic Plan, specifically where Council has been identified as responsible or as a supporting partner in the identified strategies.
- **Annual Report** - is the reporting mechanism used by Council to report on those activities and actions that Council proposed in its Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

This SAMP establishes a framework to enable the prioritisation of asset groups through planning, construction, maintenance and operation of infrastructure necessary to achieve the goals and objectives as set out in:

- Wentworth Shire Council Resource Strategy
- Sustainable Wentworth Strategy
- NSW State Plan and Premier Priorities
- Western Murray Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Far West Regional Action Plan

2.2 SCOPE OF THIS STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

This SAMP has been developed to provide the framework to ensure that Council's new and existing infrastructure assets are operated, maintained, renewed and upgraded to ensure that the levels of service are achieved in the most cost effective and sustainable way. It meets Council's commitments under the IP&R Framework in that all Council's infrastructure assets are fully accounted for. Details on each asset class, including the inventory, condition, predicted and required expenditure are included in the appendices.

The audience for this SAMP is Council staff, the Council executive management team, elected representatives (Councillors), interest groups, stakeholders and other interested members of the general community.

The specific objectives of this strategy are:

- to ensure a sustainable service offering to the community by evolving and embedding a culture of asset management
- to ensure decision-making reflects community value for this generation and the next
- to develop clearly defined and agreed service levels, to inform asset investment, to support the community's quality of life
- to drive quality service outcomes by taking a risk-based approach to the way assets are managed
- to ensure availability of resources to maintain assets over the longer term.

The strategy identifies the future funding requirements and service delivery in the context of:

- current asset condition and performance
- levels of service
- forecasted demand for infrastructure and services
- funding constraints.

This strategy supports Council's aim to have 'best value' asset management strategies and practices. This is achieved by continually developing and improving the whole of Council's knowledge, systems, processes and strategies. This will ensure that Council is providing the level of asset management necessary to competently, responsibly and sustainably manage the community assets for current and future generations.

This SAMP has been prepared using a 'top down' approach whereby analysis is applied at the 'system' or 'network' level. The focus is on current levels of service and current practices. It includes expenditure forecasts for asset maintenance, renewal and replacement based on local knowledge of assets and options for meeting current levels of service.

Future revisions of this SAMP will use a 'bottom up' approach for gathering information for individual assets to support the optimisation of activities and programs to meet the levels of service. The focus of future plans developed in this manner will include risk and performance optimisation, risk-based strategies, use of predictive methods and optimised decision-making techniques.

The format of this SAMP is outlined in the table on the following page.

Table 6 Asset management plan structure

| Sections | Guidelines |
|--|--|
| 1. Executive summary | Provides a high-level summary of the combined asset management plans and highlights the main issues for consideration. |
| 2. Introduction | Outline of the purpose and scope of the plan and how the plan relates to other key policies and strategies. |
| 3. Asset Management Policy | Excerpt from Council's adopted Asset Management Policy outlining the principles guiding Council's asset management practices. |
| 4. Asset management practices | Provision of a comprehensive strategic asset management gap analysis process for asset management. |
| 5. Levels of service | Outline of levels of service and asset performance standards and customer/community expectations and feedback regarding levels of service. |
| 6. Future demand | Identification of demand trends, factors which may influence demand, forecast changes in demand, impacts and implications of future demand and effects on future planning. |
| 7. Risk management plan | Provision of an asset-based risk management plan. |
| 8. Overarching Strategic Asset Management Plan | Provision of a summary of Council's overall Asset Strategy including Asset Management Policy and identification of critical assets. |

2.3 COUNCIL'S ASSETS

Council uses infrastructure assets to provide services to the community. An outline of the range of infrastructure assets and the services provided from the assets is shown below:

Table 7 Range of infrastructure assets and services

| Asset class | Description |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Buildings and Other Structures | This includes office/administration centres, libraries, community centres, halls, sheds, public toilets and other miscellaneous structures. |
| Transport infrastructure | This includes roads, kerb and guttering, bridges, footpaths and cycleways. |
| Drainage | This includes drainage pipelines, pits, inlets and outlets; gross pollutant traps; drainage basins and headwalls |
| Water and Sewer | This includes the water and sewerage pipelines, pumping stations, storage and treatment plants |
| Open Space and Other Assets | This includes Council's recreational assets, such as playgrounds, ovals, swimming pools, etc. |

Full details of Council's assets are covered in the individual asset management plans found in the appendices.

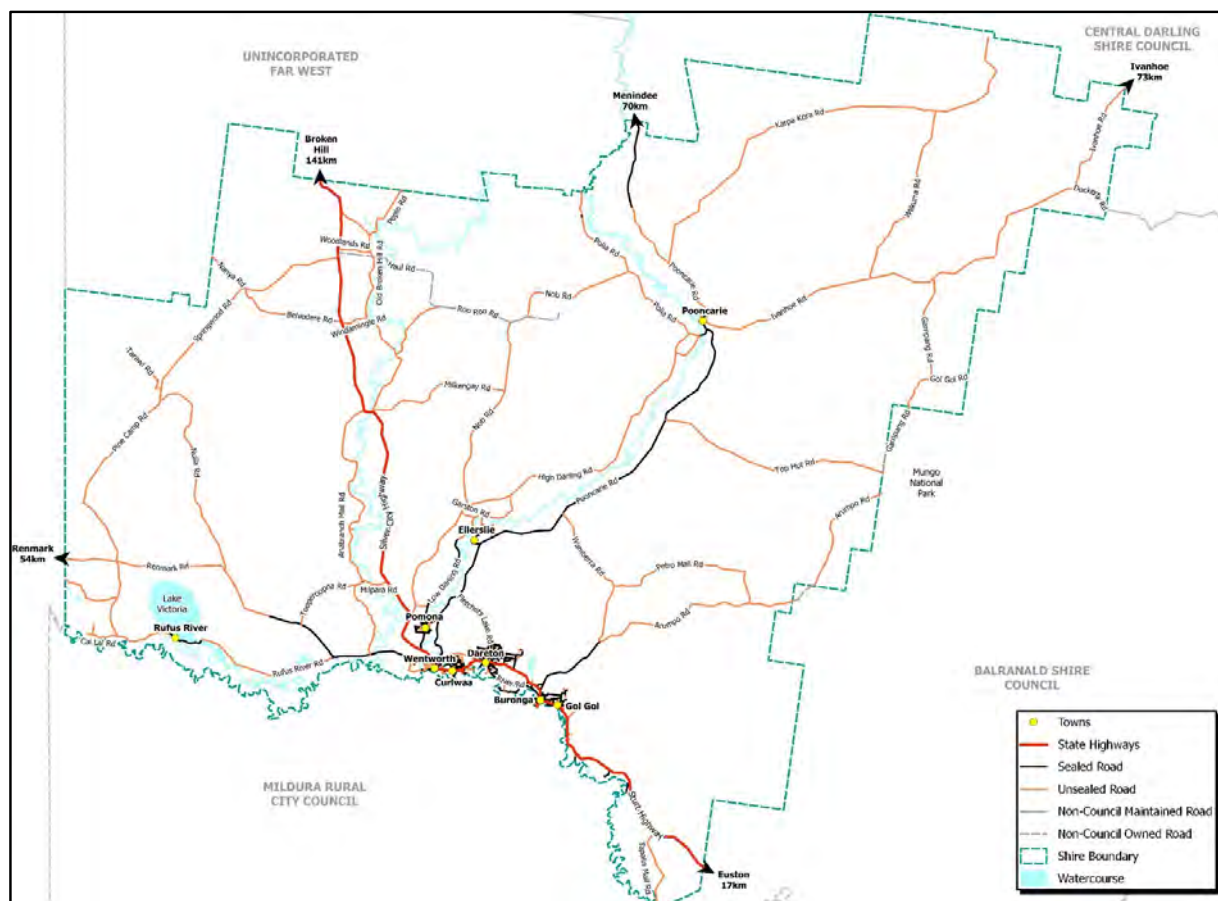
2.4 ABOUT WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

Wentworth Shire is located in the far south west Riverina region and is considered the gateway to Outback NSW and is situated on the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers in South-Western New South Wales. The area has a rich history with Wentworth once being the busiest inland port in NSW. Wentworth is situated 1,075 km from Sydney, 585 km from Melbourne and 420 km from Adelaide and sprawls across more than 26,000 square kilometres of predominantly semi-arid grazing lands and reserves in the south west.

The key towns and areas (20 Estimated ABS Population - REMPLAN) within the LGA include:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| - Gol Gol (1,525) | - Dareton (505) |
| - Wentworth (1,437) | - Curlwaa (390) |
| - Buronga (1,215) | - Pooncarie (163) |
| - Coomealla (826) | |

Figure 3 Wentworth Shire Council LGA



2.5 LINKS TO COUNCIL PLANS AND STRATEGIES

The Strategic Asset Management Plan and asset management plans have been prepared in line with the vision and strategy outlined in the 'Wentworth Shire Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032' (CSP).

Infrastructure assets will play both a direct and indirect role in achieving the strategic objectives of the CSP. The following table indicates how Council's assets play a role in the delivery of the key strategies outlined in the CSP.

Table 8 Linkages to the Community Strategic Plan

| Strategy | Buildings | Transport | Stormwater | Water and Sewer | Open Space and Other Assets |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| A Vibrant Thriving and Growing Region | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination | x | x | | | x |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High quality connectivity across the region | | x | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage lifelong learning opportunities | x | | | | x |
| A Great Place to Live | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life | | x | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To have a safe community | x | x | | | x |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We have a strong sense of place | x | | | | x |
| A Community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained | x | x | x | x | x |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minimise the impact on the natural environment | | x | x | x | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use and manage our resources wisely | x | x | x | x | x |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing shire | x | x | x | x | x |
| Is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision-making advocating purposes | x | x | x | x | x |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long term sustainability and efficiency | x | x | x | x | x |

3 ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

3.1 STATEMENT OF POLICY INTENT

The intent of this policy is to set guidelines for implementing systematic practices and coordinated activities to optimally manage Council assets as per the direction provided from the Community Strategic Plan.

3.2 POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council owned and controlled assets. The policy will provide direction regarding the measurable service levels, management, maintenance and operation of assets.

This policy together with the Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plans will provide the framework for asset management practices and processes for all assets. Foundation Principles

3.3 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

All definitions and abbreviations used in this policy are contained in the International Infrastructure Management Manual, 2011

3.4 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Council is committed to implementing a systematic asset management methodology in order to apply appropriate asset management best practices across all areas of the organisation. This includes ensuring that assets are planned, created, operated, maintained, renewed and disposed of in accordance with Council's priorities for service delivery.

Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of the organisation and appropriate asset management is required to achieve our strategic service delivery objectives.

Adopting asset management principles will assist Council in achieving its strategic longer-term planning and its long-term financial objectives.

A strategic approach to asset management will ensure that the Council delivers the highest appropriate level of service through its assets. This will provide positive impact on;

- Members of the public and staff;
- Councils Financial Position
- The ability of Council to deliver the expected level of service and infrastructure;
- The political environment in which Council operates; and
- The legal liabilities of Council.

3.5 POLICY

It is the policy of this Council that:

Adequate Provision is Made for the Long-Term Replacement of Major Assets by:

- ensuring that Council's services and infrastructure are provided in a sustainable manner, with the appropriate levels of service to residents, visitors and the environment; and
- safeguarding Council assets including physical assets and employees by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and appropriate financial resources for those assets; and

- creating an environment where all Council employees take an integral part in overall management of Council assets by creating and sustaining an asset management awareness throughout the organisation by training and development; and
- meeting legislative requirements for asset management; and
- ensuring resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management is allocated; and
- demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with demonstrated best practice.

Asset Management Principles

The following key principles for Asset Management are established within this policy:

- the establishment of a consistent Asset Management Strategy to implement systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best practice standards for Asset Management throughout all Departments of Council. The Asset Management Strategy is to also outline the risk management strategies for Council assets.
- the adherence to relevant legislative requirements together with consideration of the quadruple bottom line (political, social, economic and environment) are to be taken into account in asset management.
- the integration of Asset Management planning with the Resourcing Strategy, the Delivery Program and the Operational Plan
- the development of Asset Management Plans for major service/asset categories. The plans will be informed by community consultation, financial planning and the development of current and agreed service levels.
- the development of an inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
- the renewal of assets required to meet agreed service levels as identified in the adopted asset management plans, and long term financial plans will form the basis of annual budget estimates with the service and risk consequences of variations in defined asset renewals and budget resources documented in budget documentation.
- the development of asset renewal plans, which are to be prioritised and implemented progressively based on agreed service levels and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.
- the systematic and cyclic reviews for all asset classes to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice and applicable Australian Standards.
- the development of lifecycle costing, whereby the future life cycle costs will be reported and considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading of existing services and assets.
- the development of future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community. the delivery of training in asset and financial management for councillors and relevant staff.

4 ASSET MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

4.1 ASSET MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Wentworth Shire Council Council's asset knowledge, information and data are corporate assets and are managed as part of the asset management framework. The current applications used by Council include:

- Financial System – Practical (With current migration to Open Office)
- Asset Management System – Asset Master (Open Office)
- Road Capital Works Programming – Moloney Asset Management Systems
- Road Maintenance Management System – Reflect
- End-User Geographic Information System - IntraMaps
- Power-User GIS – QGIS (Data editing, map production, design and further spatial analysis)

4.2 DATA COLLECTION AND VALIDATION

In the preparation of this Strategic Asset Management Plan, Council has used the most current and up to date information available to Council.

As part of Council's asset management improvement plan, Council aims to foster a culture of continuous improvement in service delivery to ensure best value in service provision for the community. This will be supported by the asset management plans including ongoing monitoring, audit and improvement practices which are to be used to optimise Council's operational and renewal expenditure.

4.3 MONITORING AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

Council utilises a performance management framework to track the achievement of the CSP, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and asset management improvement plan outcomes. This will be reviewed and reported on annually by the executive team.

4.4 CONFIDENCE IN DATA

The confidence in the asset data used as a basis for the financial forecasts has been assessed using the following grading system, as outlined in the table below.

Table 9 Asset data confidence scale

| Confidence grade | General meaning |
|------------------------|---|
| Highly reliable | Data based on sound records, procedure, investigations and analysis that is properly documented and recognised as the best method of assessment. |
| Reliable | Data based on sound records, procedures, investigations and analysis which is properly documented but has minor shortcomings; for example, the data is old, some documentation is missing, and reliance is placed on unconfirmed reports or some extrapolation. |
| Acceptable | Data based on sound records, procedures, investigations and analysis with some shortcomings and inconsistencies. |
| Uncertain | Data based on sound records, procedures, investigations and analysis which is incomplete or unsupported or extrapolation from a limited sample. |
| Very uncertain | Data based on unconfirmed verbal reports and/or cursory inspection and analysis. |

Summary of confidence in asset data for all asset classes is detailed in the table below.

Table 10 Asset data confidence rating

| Asset class | Inventory | Condition | Age | Overall |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Buildings | Acceptable | Acceptable | Acceptable | Acceptable |
| Transport | Highly Reliable | Reliable | Reliable | Reliable |
| Stormwater | Reliable | Reliable | Acceptable | Reliable |
| Water and Sewer | Reliable | Acceptable | Acceptable | Acceptable |
| Open Space and Other Assets | Uncertain | Uncertain | Acceptable | Uncertain |

4.5 FUNDING STRATEGY

Council's funding strategy aims to align Council's Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plans and annual budget to accommodate the lifecycle requirements of its assets. By having a unified process, all decision-making numbers can be traced back to the AMPs, thereby informing the annual budgets and forward programs providing a degree of certainty for delivery timeframes and resourcing requirements.

In order to ensure value, Council will plan capital upgrade and new projects to meet level of service objectives by:

- planning and scheduling capital upgrade and new projects to deliver the defined level of service in the most efficient manner
- undertaking project scoping for all capital upgrade/new projects to identify:
 - the service delivery 'deficiency', present risk and required timeline for delivery of the upgrade/new asset
 - the project objectives to rectify the deficiency including value management for major projects
 - the range of options, estimated capital and lifecycle costs for each option that could address the service deficiency

- management of risks associated with alternative options
- evaluate the options against evaluation criteria adopted by Council
- select the best option to be included in capital upgrade/new programs
- reviewing current and required skills base and implement training and development to meet required construction and project management needs
- reviewing the current resources and capacity of the organisation to deliver the Capital Works Program on an annual basis
- reviewing management of capital project management activities to ensure Council is obtaining best value for resources used.

Standards and specifications for new assets and for upgrade/expansion of existing assets are the same as those for renewal, as shown in the appendices.

5 LEVELS OF SERVICE

5.1 DEFINING LEVELS OF SERVICE

There are a variety of ways to describe levels of service (also known as service level). The concept adopted in this plan is that 'levels of service are output descriptions supported by quantifiable performance measures.'

A level of service is a measurable description of what Council delivers (or intends to deliver) in an activity which relates to something that can be controlled. Service levels may relate to:

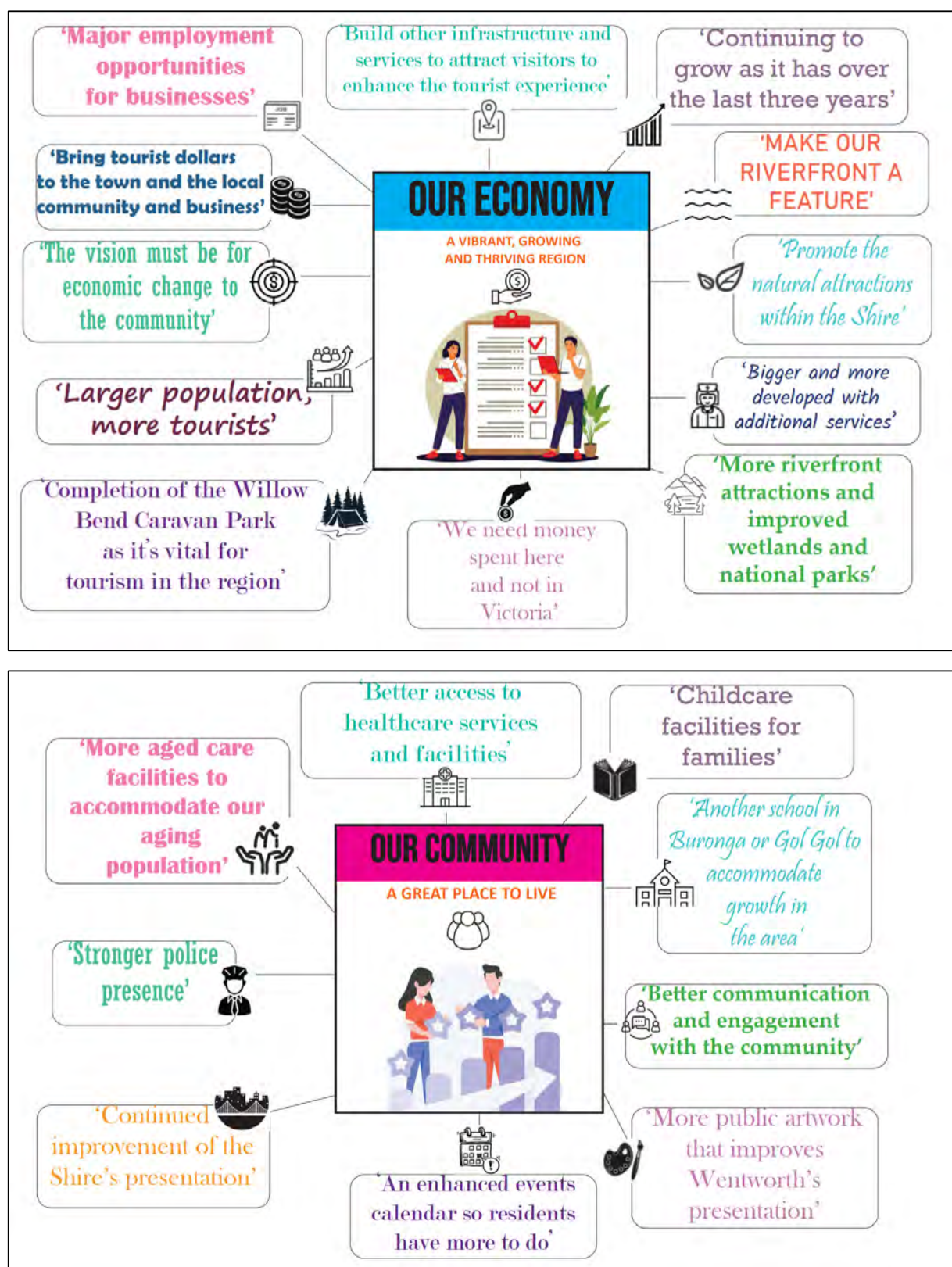
- the reliability of an asset
- the quality of an asset
- having the right quantity of assets
- the safety/risk/security of the assets.

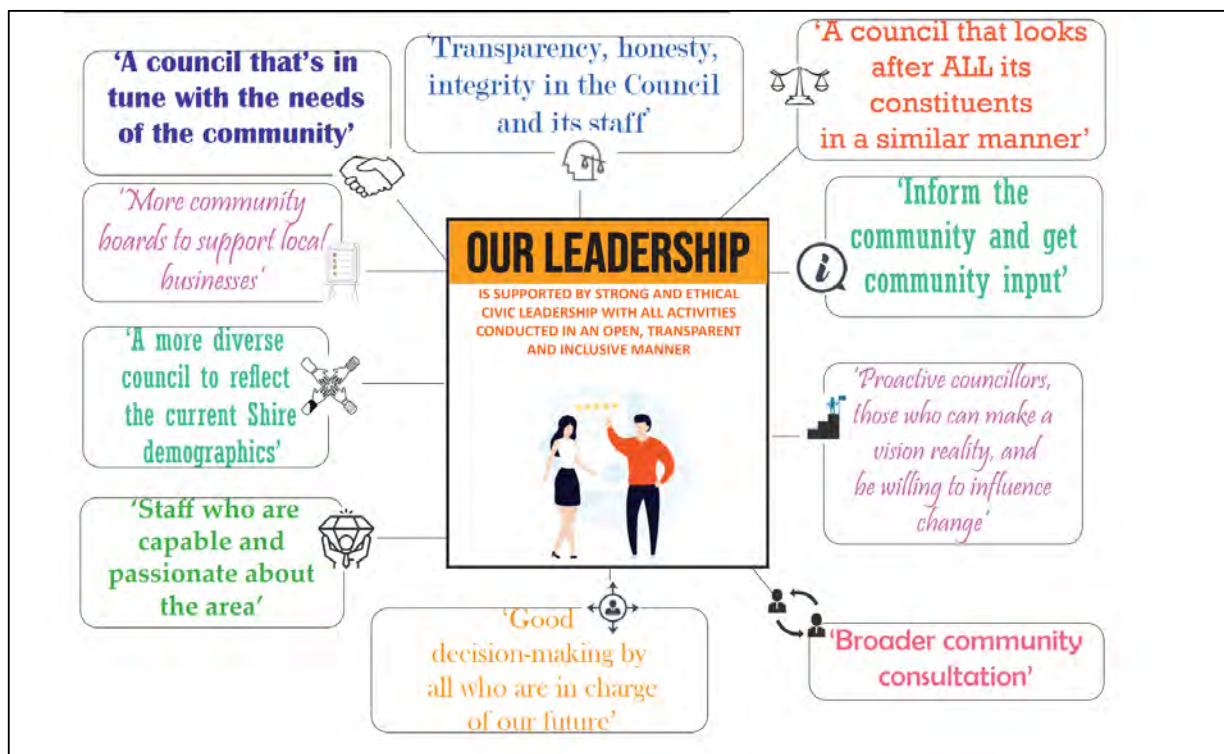
The objective of asset management is to enable assets to be managed in the most cost-effective way based on an understanding of customer needs, expectations, preferences and their willingness to pay for any increase in the levels of service.

5.2 KEY ISSUES FROM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

As part of Council's community consultation for the Community Strategic Plan, Council conducted extensive surveys to determine what areas were priorities for the community. The following series of graphics highlights the key findings of the consultation for each of council's strategic pillars:

Figure 4 Key emerging issues





5.3 PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The level of service statement is supported by performance measure(s), also referred to as performance indicator(s), that indicate how the organisation is performing in relation to that level of service. The performance measure includes targets that are made up of community and technical measures. The customer measure relates to how the community receives the service, whereas technical measures support customer measures to ensure all aspects of organisational performance are being monitored, even those that may not be understood by customers.

In this plan, the level of services is prepared so that they are clearly and directly linked with the performance measures. For some performance measures in this plan, Council will have full control over the outcome, for example 'respond to service requests within seven days'. However, it is important to recognise that some performance measures may be influenced by external factors. For example, the number of fatalities can be influenced by road management, but driver behaviours, police enforcement and a number of other factors also strongly contribute to the overall outcome.

5.4 SERVICE LEVEL OUTCOMES

The levels of service in this plan have been developed with a customer focus and are grouped into core customer value areas that are referred to as 'service level outcomes'. These service level outcomes (sometimes referred to as service criteria) encompass:

- condition
 - accessibility and/or availability
 - quality/condition
- functionality
 - reliability/responsiveness
 - sustainability
 - customer satisfaction
- capacity
 - affordability
 - health and safety.

5.4.1 CONDITION

Accessibility

To ensure the asset base performs as required, it is essential that the asset, no matter which type of asset, is generally available to the community as required. As a service outcome, the Council's customers will require assets that are accessible and can be relied upon to deliver the services that are not only expected, but the services that are required.

Quality/condition

Asset quality is also very important. In this regard, Council should determine the quality of the assets required. Quality will have more to do with manner and type of the asset rather than its condition. An asset may be poor in quality yet have a condition which is described as good.

Condition is a measure of an asset's physical condition relative to its condition when first constructed. When rating asset condition, Council uses a scale of 0 - 5, where 0 = new and 5 = totally failed. A copy of a typical condition rating matrix is detailed below.

Table 11 Asset condition rating matrix

| Condition rating | Condition | Descriptor | Guide | Residual life as a % of total life | Mean percentage residual life |
|------------------|-----------|---|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Excellent | An asset in excellent overall condition, however, is not new and providing its intended level of service. | Normal maintenance required | >86 | 95 |
| 2 | Good | An asset in good overall condition with some possible early stages of slight deterioration evident, minor in nature and causing no serviceability issues. No indicators of any future obsolescence and providing a good level of service. | Normal maintenance plus minor repairs required (to 5% or less of the asset) | 65 to 85 | 80 |

| Condition rating | Condition | Descriptor | Guide | Residual life as a % of total life | Mean percentage residual life |
|------------------|--------------|---|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 | Satisfactory | An asset in fair overall condition with some deterioration evident, which may be slight or minor in nature and causing some serviceability issues. Providing an adequate level of service with no signs of immediate or short-term obsolescence. | Significant maintenance and/or repairs required (to 10 - 20% of the asset) | 41 to 64 | 55 |
| 4 | Poor | An asset in poor overall condition, moderate to high deterioration evident. Substantial maintenance required to keep the asset serviceable. Will need to be renewed, upgraded or disposed of in near future. Is reflected via inclusion in the ten-year Capital Works Plan. | Significant renewal required (to 20 - 40% of the asset) | 10 to 40 | 35 |
| 5 | Very poor | An asset in extremely poor condition or obsolete. The asset no longer provides an adequate level of service and/or immediate remedial action required to keep the asset in service in the near future. | Over 50% of the asset requires renewal | <10 | 5 |

5.4.2 FUNCTION

Responsiveness

Council will maintain assets in a diligent manner and be responsive to the needs of the community now and into the future. Whilst this may be difficult in some instances, Council places a high emphasis on customer service and its responsiveness to customer enquiries. Strategies will be implemented to ensure that Council maintains a high level of customer support.

Customer satisfaction

Council will continue to provide services to the community in a manner that is efficient and effective. Council will continue to monitor community satisfaction with its current services and strive to improve community satisfaction where possible.

Sustainability

Council will ensure that its assets are maintained in a manner that will ensure the long-term financial sustainability for current and future generations. This will be achieved by ensuring efficient and effective service delivery and ensuring appropriate funds are allocated to maintain and renew infrastructure assets.

5.4.3 CAPACITY

Affordability

Council will maintain its infrastructure assets in a cost-effective, affordable manner in accordance with responsible economic and financial management. In order for Council's assets to assist in meeting the strategic goals and in attaining optimum asset expenditure, Council will need to continually review its current operational strategies and adopt new and proven techniques to ensure that assets are maintained in their current condition.

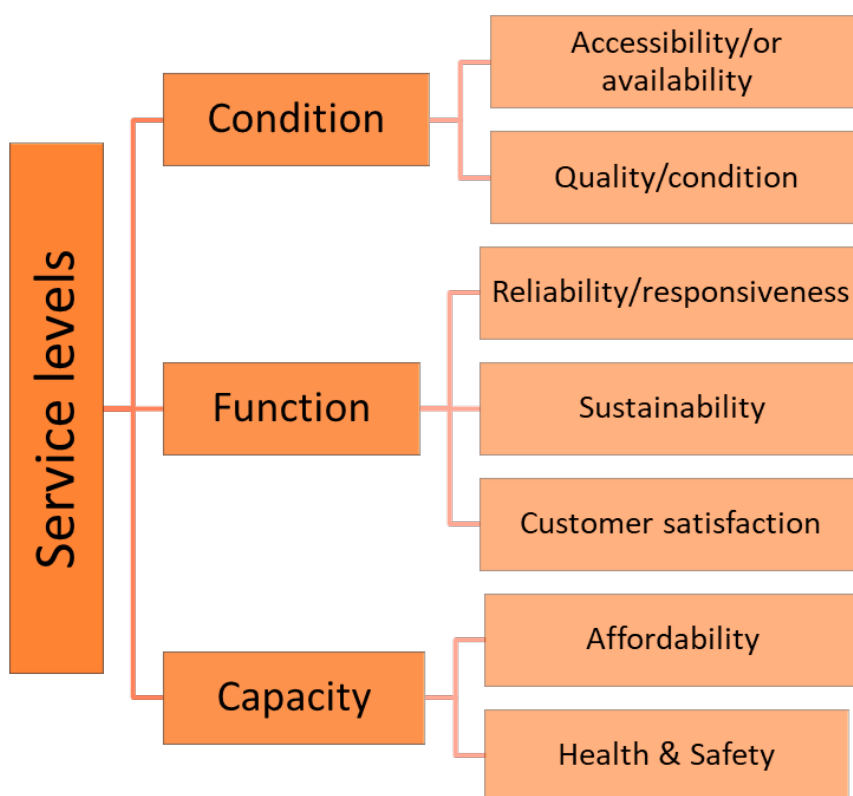
Health and safety

Council will endeavour to identify and mitigate all key health and safety risks created by the provision of services. Examples of level of service based on safety might include the following:

- services do not cause a hazard to people
- water is safe for swimming.

Each of the service level outcomes is related directly to the Council's Community Strategic Plan by the way each asset class helps deliver the services required by the community. These service level outcomes are essential to ensure the asset portfolio is not only maintained to a satisfactory level but also caters for the future demands of the community whilst balancing the potential risks to the community and the Council.

Figure 5 Service level framework



5.5 FINANCIAL BASED SERVICE LEVELS

The premise of asset management is that asset requirements and asset management strategies should be driven by defined and acceptable service levels and performance standards. This section defines the various factors that are considered relevant in determining the levels of service for Council's assets that have been used to provide the basis for the lifecycle management strategies and works program identified within this Strategic Asset Management Plan.

5.5.1 ASSET BACKLOG RATIO

This ratio shows what proportion the infrastructure backlog is against the total value of a Council's infrastructure. The benchmark is less than 2%. The ratio is determined by dividing the estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory condition by the carrying value of infrastructure, building, other structures and depreciable land improvement assets (averaged over 3 years).

5.5.2 ASSET CONSUMPTION RATIO

The average proportion of 'as new' condition remaining for assets. This ratio shows the written down current value of the local government's depreciable assets relative to their 'as new' value. It highlights the aged condition of a local government's stock of physical assets and the potential magnitude of capital outlays required in the future to preserve their service potential. It is also a measure of Council's past commitment to renewal of the asset class. A consumption ratio of less than 50% would suggest that past renewal funding has been inadequate or that the asset could expect to decay more rapidly.

5.5.3 ASSET SUSTAINABILITY RATIO

Are assets being replaced at the rate they are wearing out? This ratio indicates whether a local government is renewing or replacing existing non-financial assets at the same rate that its overall stock of assets is wearing out. It is calculated by measuring capital expenditure on renewal or replacement of assets relative to the rate of depreciation of assets for the same period. A local government would need to understand and be measuring its renewal expenditure to be able to determine this ratio.

5.5.4 ASSET RENEWAL AND RENEWALS FUNDING RATIO

Is there sufficient future funding for renewal and replacement of assets? This ratio indicates whether Council is allocating sufficient funds in its Long Term Financial Plan to adequately fund asset renewals. The benchmark is 100% (averaged over 3 years).

5.5.5 ASSET MAINTENANCE RATIO

This ratio compares actual versus required annual asset maintenance for each asset class. A ratio of above 100% indicates that Council is investing enough funds that year to halt the infrastructure backlog from growing. The benchmark is greater than 100% (averaged over 3 years).

Table 12 Service levels

| Key performance indicator | Level of service | Performance measurement process | Target performance | Current performance |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------|
| Accessibility | Provision of quality of assets to meet community needs | Condition of assets are measured and reported annually | No net decrease in condition across all asset classes | |
| | Community has confidence in Council to manage assets | Community satisfaction survey and Community engagement strategy | Increased level of confidence from previous survey | |
| | Assets are maintained in a satisfactory condition | Backlog ratio (estimated cost to bring asset to a satisfactory condition / written down value of the assets) | OLG benchmark <2% | |
| Reliability/ responsiveness | Provision of sufficient assets to meet community needs | Number of requests for additional/ increased level of service | Number of requests for additional/ increased level of service less than rolling previous three-year average | |
| Customer satisfaction | Be responsive to the needs of customers using asset | No customer requests received | 85% of requests are completed within Council's service charter | |
| | Opportunity for community involvement in decision making are provided | Asset management plan | All asset management plans are available on the website and for circulation to the public | |
| Sustainability | Assets are managed with respect for future generations | Lifecycle approach to managing assets | Prepare a ten-year asset condition and age-based renewals plan - ensure the plan is approved by Council and updated annually | |
| | Continuous improvement in asset knowledge, systems and processes. | Asset Management Working Group meets regularly to report on performance of strategic asset improvement program | 100% of the strategic asset improvement actions completed annually | |
| | Assets are being renewed in a sustainable manner | Asset renewal ratio (asset renewal expenditure / annual depreciation expense) | OLG benchmark > 100% | |
| Affordability | Council maintains its assets | Asset maintenance ratio, measured by (actual maintenance expenditure and required maintenance expenditure) | OLG benchmark 100% | |
| Health and safety | Ensure all assets are safe and do not cause a hazard to people | Safety audits | The three-year rolling average of total claims decreases | |

6 FUTURE DEMAND

6.1 DEMAND FORECAST

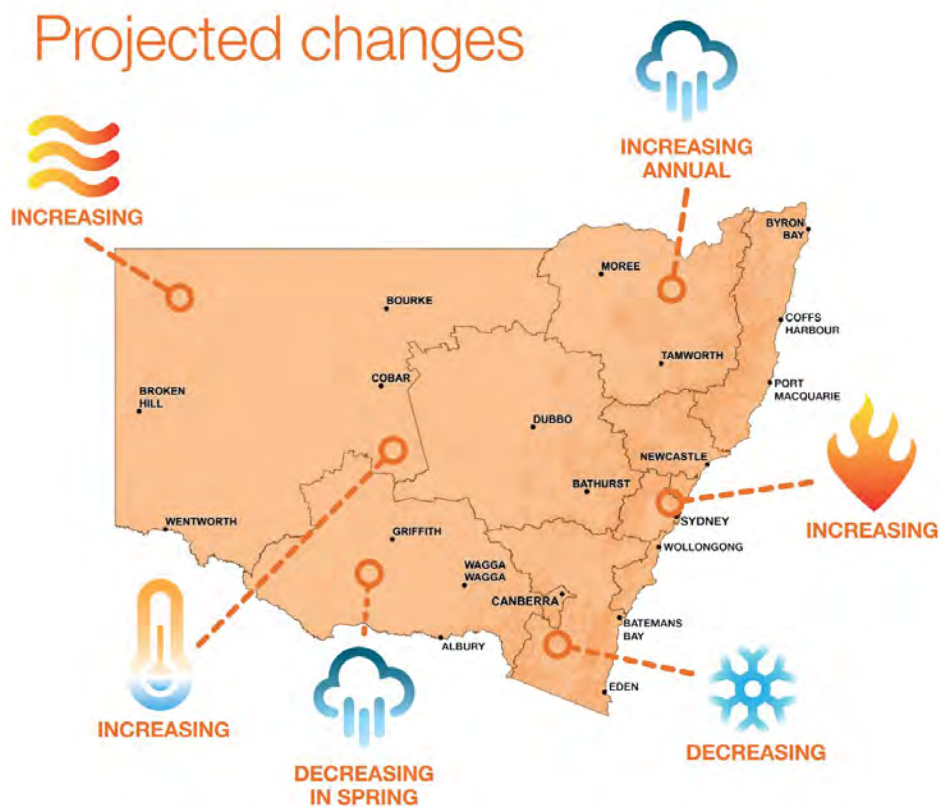
The future infrastructure demand for community infrastructure and facilities is driven by changes and trends in:

- population growth
- changes in the demography of the community
- urban planning
- residential occupancy levels
- commercial/industrial demand
- technological changes which impact the asset
- the economic situation
- government policy
- the environment.

Table 13 Future demand impacts

| Demand drivers | Present position | Projection | Impact on services |
|--|--|---|--|
| Population growth and residential development | Current estimated population is 7,142 (REMPAN) | 2019 NSW government estimates expected a contraction in the population of the LGA. However there has been an annualised growth rate of just under 0.6%. Throughout the forecasting horizon of this plan it is expected that the population of the LGA will not change significantly | Population growth will have limited impact on demand for assets. Council could expect a natural demand for increased services as community expectations and demands change over time. |
| Demographics | Around 25% of the population was over the age of 60 in the 2016 Census. | The population is expected to continue to age. With the expected increase in average age of the population. | An increasing and older population will place an increased demand on some assets and increased accessibility requirements for footpaths, aged care facilities, community centres and open space assets. |
| Lifestyle | Predominantly rural lifestyle. | Community engagement identified that the community wishes to maintain its rural lifestyle. | N/A |
| Economic | Transport infrastructure utilised by GHV due to mining activity in the region | Expectation of 2 additional mines to open either within or in close proximity to the LGA | Additional movements of GHV will create additional strain on the road network and reduce the useful lives of affected roads |
| Environment | The NSW and ACT Regional Climate Modelling (NARClIM) Project has undertaken climate modelling of the region for 2020-2039 and 2060-2079. | Expected climatic changes can be found in figure six. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overall increased temperatures - increased risk and intensity of natural disaster (fire) events. | Assets may be impacted by changes such as more severe weather events. |

Figure 6 NARClm Modelling and Expectations



6.2 DEMAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Demand management strategies have been developed to effectively manage the change in Wentworth Shire Council. These strategies will need to be monitored to ensure that they capture and are responsive to changing community expectations and demographic profile as the region develops.

Table 14 Demand management strategies

| Demand factor | Impact on services |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Population | Population growth will place a limited increased demand on assets, especially roads, water and sewer assets. |
| Demographics | An increasing and older population will place an increased demand on some assets and increased accessibility requirements for footpaths, aged care facilities, community centres and open space assets. |
| Road utilisation changes | Smart, multi-modal road solutions will be required to keep up with the growth and provide cheap, efficient and sustainable means of road transport. |
| Increasing costs | Requirement to continue to maximise service delivery within the funding limitations. |
| Environment and climate | Assets may be impacted by changes such as increased severity of natural disasters and weather events. |
| Technology | May require improved environmental/economical management of assets. |

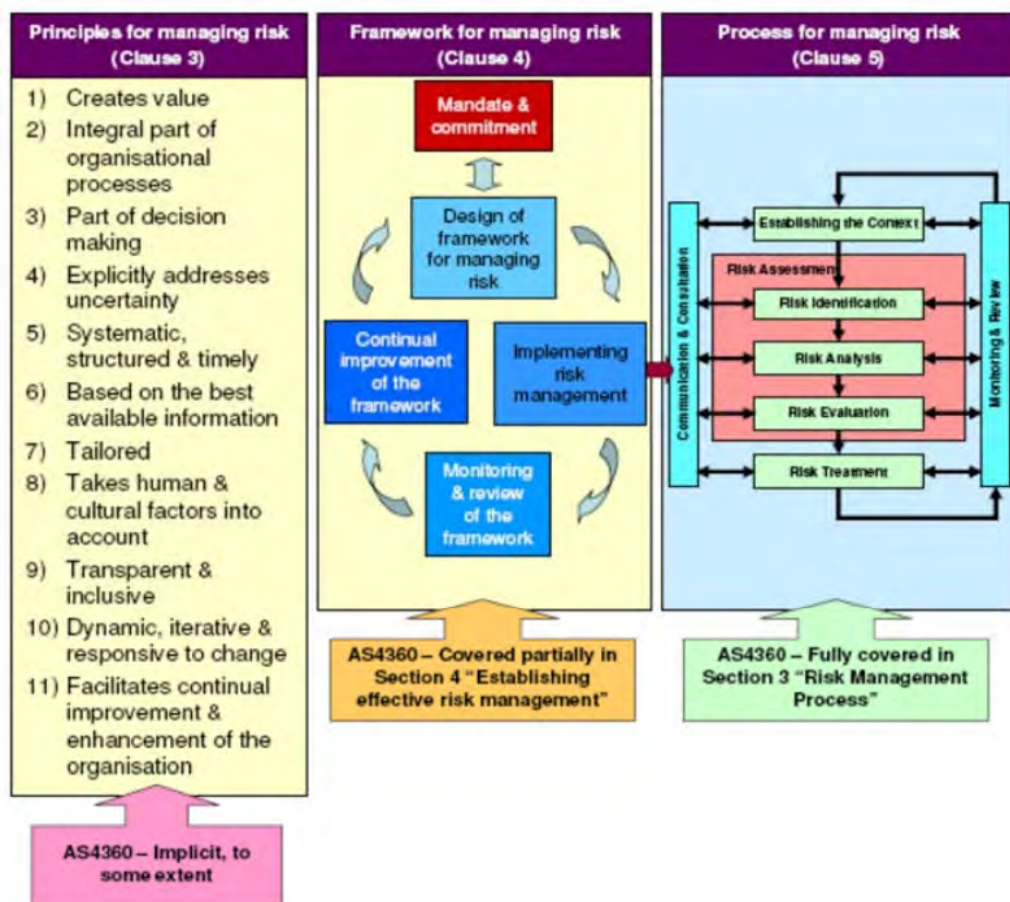
7 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk management is defined in 'AS/NZS 4360:2004' as: "the culture, processes and structures that are directed towards realising potential opportunities whilst managing adverse effects".

Wentworth Shire Council is committed to a structured and systematic approach to the management of risk with Councils enterprise risk management framework aligned with ISO 31000:2018. This aims to embed the principles of risk management in all aspects of Council's operations, which ultimately:

- increases the likelihood of Council achieving its objectives
- creates an environment where all employees have a key role in managing risk
- encourages proactive management
- improves the identification of opportunities and threats
- improves stakeholder confidence and trust
- improves financial stability and minimise losses
- improves organisational performance.

Figure 7 ISO 31000 Framework



This is a structured, best-practice and proven approach that is to be applied Council-wide to support the management of strategic, operational, financial, regulatory, and other risk. Under this approach, there are five key stages to the risk management process:

- communicate and consult - with internal and external stakeholders
- establish context - the boundaries
- risk assessment - identify, analyse and evaluate risks
- treat risks - implement and assess controls to address risk
- monitoring and review - risks reviews and audit.

7.1 INFRASTRUCTURE RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Council is currently developing 'infrastructure risk management plans' for each of its asset classes. These plans provide greater detail on Council's risk management approach for each of its infrastructure assets, including the risk analysis (likelihood and consequence) and treatment criteria specific to each asset class.

In general, risks are evaluated in the following way in Council's asset risk registers:

- risk identification
 - which asset is at risk?
 - what can happen?
 - when can it occur?
 - what are the possible causes?
 - what are the existing controls?
 - is the risk credible?
- risk analysis
 - what is the likelihood of occurrence?
 - what are the consequences of occurrence?
 - risk rating
 - what action is required?
 - is the risk acceptable?
- risk treatment
 - what treatment options are available?
 - what is the plan to treat the risk?
 - what is the residual risk?
- risk treatment plan
 - actions
 - responsibility
 - resource
 - budget
 - due date.

7.2 STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE RISKS

Using Council's Risk Management Framework, some high-level infrastructure-based risks have been identified that are associated with the management of the assets. These strategic risks are identified in following table.

Table 15 Risk identification table

| Asset at risk | What can happen? | Possible cause | Risk rating | Treatment option(s) |
|-------------------------|--|--|-------------|---|
| Urban road | Unserviceable, water over road due to flooding | Flooding/damage caused by under capacity | Very high | Communications/community awareness of Council policies |
| Road base (pavement) | Asset failure | Inadequate funding leading to continued deterioration of asset condition | Very high | Ensure renewal funding is optimised and available; develop and coordinate long term capital investment plan to fund renewal |
| Footpath or shared path | Asset failure | Inadequate funding leading to continued deterioration of asset condition | Very high | Ensure renewal funding is optimised and available; develop and coordinate long term capital investment plan to fund renewal |
| Kerb and gutter | Asset failure | Inadequate funding leading to continued deterioration of asset condition | Very high | Ensure renewal funding is optimised and available; develop and coordinate long term capital investment plan to fund renewal |
| All assets | Defect inspection program not implemented | Lack of resources; responsibility not clearly defined | Very high | Resolve asset management role and responsibility |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, due to major damage by developer | Inappropriate construction management by developers for high-risk work | High | Proactive public domain inspections |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, due to damage by utility provider or their contractor | Inappropriate construction management by utility providers and their contractors | High | Review utility provider work management practices; proactive precinct inspections |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, road blocked/water over road due to flooding | Due to defects of stormwater pit/pipe on/under a road | High | Proactive precinct inspections |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, road blocked/water over road due to flooding | Due to condition of stormwater pit/pipe on/under a road | High | Proactive condition inspection process |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, oil/chemical spill | As a result of a vehicular or industrial accident | High | Critical assets |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, water over road due to flooding | Flooding caused by trunk stormwater drainage asset failure | High | Critical assets |
| Urban road | Unserviceable, water over road due to flooding | Illegal dumping causing trunk drainage blockage | High | Critical assets |
| Road base (pavement) | Asset failure | Pavement condition due to poor wearing surface condition | High | Proactive precinct inspections; proactive condition inspection process |
| Bridge or culvert | Asset failure | Structural fatigue; traffic loads | High | Proactive precinct inspections; proactive condition inspection process |

| Asset at risk | What can happen? | Possible cause | Risk rating | Treatment option(s) |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|-------------|---|
| Bridge or culvert | Structure deterioration | Lack of planned or reactive maintenance | High | Proactive precinct inspections; maintenance program |
| Footpath or shared path | Unserviceable, due to damage by utility provider or their contractor | Inappropriate construction management by utility providers and their contractors | High | Review utility provider work management practices; proactive precinct inspections |
| Footpath or shared path | Trip or fall | Service pits | High | Review utility provider work management practices; proactive precinct inspections |
| Footpath or shared path | Trip or fall | Surface | High | Proactive precinct inspections; maintenance program |
| Footpath or shared path | Trip or fall | Tree roots/slab lift or tilt | High | Proactive precinct inspections; maintenance program |
| Footpath or shared path | Waste containers/materials on footpath causing obstruction | Skip bins placed in inappropriate location | High | Continue existing regulatory controls; proactive precinct inspections |
| Kerb and gutter | Cyclist crash/collision, due to stormwater grate | Stormwater grate missing | High | Proactive precinct inspections |
| Kerb and gutter | Poor condition causing injury | Slip, trip and fall from pedestrians crossing roads | High | Proactive precinct inspections |
| Traffic facility/ pedestrian crossing | Collision - motor vehicle and pedestrian | Facilities not maintained to appropriate condition | High | Proactive precinct inspections; maintenance program |
| All assets | Unserviceable, due to damage caused by natural disaster | Natural disaster emergency | High | Review critical assets and disaster management responsibilities |

7.3 CRITICAL ASSETS

Critical assets are those assets that are likely to result in a more significant financial, environmental and social cost in terms of impact on organisational objectives. By identifying critical assets and critical failure modes, organisations can target and refine investigative activities, maintenance plans and capital expenditure plans at critical areas.

ISO 55001 CI 6.2.1.2b requires organisations to 'review the importance of assets related to their intended outcomes, objectives and product or service requirements.' ISO 55002 CI 6.2.2.1 suggests that 'a key aspect of planning is the identification of events in which the functionality of assets is compromised, including potentially catastrophic events in which function is completely lost'. Council determines the criticality of assets based upon the following criteria:

- complexity
- impact of loss of service
- environmental impact
- health and safety impact
- cost of failure.

Critical assets for each asset class have been identified in their respective asset management plans.

8 EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS

8.1 ASSET VALUES

In preparing this SAMP, it has been identified that Wentworth Shire Council has an infrastructure and asset portfolio with a current replacement cost of approximately \$629 million. The asset values are estimates of the value of assets, as at 30 June 2021, based on our best estimate of asset values, taking into account recent asset revaluations. These values should be updated on an annual basis, in line with the annual financial statements, once completed.

Table 16 Asset Classes and Values

| Asset | GRC \$ 000's | WDV \$ 000's | DEP \$ 000's |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Buildings | \$72,601 | \$34,416 | \$907 |
| Other Structures | \$5,533 | \$3,481 | \$216 |
| Roads - Sealed Roads | \$187,048 | \$88,852 | \$3,440 |
| Roads - Unsealed Roads | \$6,077 | \$2,661 | |
| Bridges | \$12,632 | \$6,864 | \$84 |
| Footpaths | \$6,488 | \$3,188 | \$57 |
| Bulk Earthworks | \$190,626 | \$190,626 | \$0 |
| Stormwater | \$25,198 | \$15,221 | \$216 |
| Water | \$58,394 | \$30,672 | \$681 |
| Sewer | \$47,306 | \$18,353 | \$751 |
| Swimming Pools | \$3,137 | \$1,724 | \$65 |
| Open Space | \$662 | \$189 | \$59 |
| Other Infrastructure (wharves) | \$13,386 | \$10,486 | \$154 |
| Grand Total | \$629,088 | \$406,733 | \$6,630 |

8.2 ASSET BACKLOG

As per the 2020/21 Special Schedule 7, Council has a combined asset backlog of \$21.45 million, with this being the estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard. The satisfactory standard is currently taken as condition 3. The breakdown of backlog per asset class as of 30 June 2021 is shown in the following table.

Table 17 Asset backlog summary

| Asset Class | Backlog (\$ 000's) (Cost to Satisfactory) | Backlog Ratio (Cost to Satisfactory / WDV) |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Buildings | \$1,871 | 4.94% |
| Roads & Transport | \$5,158 | 1.77% |
| Stormwater | \$318 | 2.09% |
| Water and Sewer | \$13,017 | 26.55% |
| Open Space | \$1,086 | 8.76% |
| Combined Assets | \$21,450 | 5.27% |

8.3 ASSET CONDITION

Reviewing asset condition data shows that the most of Council's assets are in a satisfactory or better condition. The reliability of Council's condition data varies between the asset classes with most data being reliable, or highly reliable. Details of Council's current asset condition are shown in the table below. The condition is represented as a percentage of the replacement cost of Council's assets.

Table 18 Asset Condition Data

| Asset Class | Asset Condition (% of CRC) | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Buildings | 39.29% | 36.06% | 19.65% | 5.00% | 0.00% |
| Roads & Transport | 65.85% | 25.81% | 5.23% | 2.81% | 0.30% |
| Stormwater | 25.00% | 55.00% | 18.00% | 2.00% | 0.00% |
| Water and Sewer | 15.00% | 31.05% | 28.43% | 13.29% | 12.24% |
| Open Space | 28.42% | 44.19% | 17.64% | 9.64% | 0.12% |
| | | | | | |
| Combined | 51.35% | 29.63% | 11.77% | 5.00% | 2.25% |

8.4 EXPENDITURE AND REPORTING

The average capital and maintenance expenditure on Council assets over the ten-year forecast period is approximately \$12.5 million per year. This compares to the expenditure which is required to maintain, operate, and renew the asset network as required being \$14.5 million per year.

A summary of the projected expenditure requirements can be found in the following table.

Table 19 Combined asset expenditure projections

| Expenditure projections (\$,000s) – combined assets | | 2021/ 2022 | 2022/ 2023 | 2023/ 2024 | 2024/ 2025 | 2025/ 2026 | 2026/ 2027 | 2027/ 2028 | 2028/ 2029 | 2029/ 2030 | 2030/ 2031 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Actual | Renewal | 13,019 | 5,258 | 5,397 | 5,611 | 5,841 | 5,926 | 6,035 | 6,166 | 6,262 | 6,418 |
| | New and expanded assets | 14,526 | 2,131 | 676 | 999 | 1,078 | 1,112 | 1,148 | 1,184 | 1,221 | 1,276 |
| | Maintenance and operational | 3,020 | 3,086 | 3,154 | 3,224 | 3,295 | 3,367 | 3,441 | 3,517 | 3,594 | 3,673 |
| | Total expenditure | 30,565 | 10,475 | 9,228 | 9,834 | 10,214 | 10,406 | 10,624 | 10,867 | 11,077 | 11,368 |
| Required | Required renewal (depreciation) | 6,577 | 6,890 | 7,084 | 7,267 | 7,459 | 7,657 | 7,860 | 8,068 | 8,281 | 8,501 |
| | New and expanded assets | 14,526 | 2,131 | 676 | 999 | 1,078 | 1,112 | 1,148 | 1,184 | 1,221 | 1,276 |
| | Required O&M | 3,862 | 3,971 | 4,074 | 4,182 | 4,293 | 4,407 | 4,524 | 4,644 | 4,767 | 4,894 |
| | Total | 24,965 | 12,992 | 11,834 | 12,449 | 12,831 | 13,176 | 13,531 | 13,895 | 14,270 | 14,671 |
| Maintenance Gap | | -842 | -885 | -920 | -958 | -998 | -1,040 | -1,083 | -1,127 | -1,173 | -1,220 |
| Renewals Gap | | 6,442 | -1,632 | -1,687 | -1,657 | -1,618 | -1,730 | -1,825 | -1,901 | -2,020 | -2,083 |
| Overall (GAP) | | 5,599 | -2,517 | -2,607 | -2,615 | -2,616 | -2,770 | -2,907 | -3,028 | -3,193 | -3,303 |

Table 20 General Fund Expenditure Projection

| Expenditure projections (\$,000s) – combined assets | | 2021/ 2022 | 2022/ 2023 | 2023/ 2024 | 2024/ 2025 | 2025/ 2026 | 2026/ 2027 | 2027/ 2028 | 2028/ 2029 | 2029/ 2030 | 2030/ 2031 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Actual | Renewal | 11,695 | 3,645 | 3,619 | 3,664 | 3,709 | 3,715 | 3,741 | 3,788 | 3,796 | 3,824 |
| | New and expanded assets | 13,970 | 1,536 | 11 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 |
| | Maintenance and operational | 2,182 | 2,230 | 2,279 | 2,329 | 2,380 | 2,433 | 2,486 | 2,541 | 2,597 | 2,654 |
| | Total expenditure | 27,847 | 7,410 | 5,909 | 6,254 | 6,350 | 6,408 | 6,488 | 6,590 | 6,653 | 6,739 |
| Required | Required renewal (depreciation) | 5,043 | 5,300 | 5,447 | 5,583 | 5,725 | 5,871 | 6,020 | 6,173 | 6,330 | 6,490 |
| | New and expanded assets | 13,970 | 1,536 | 11 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 |
| | Required O&M | 3,185 | 3,273 | 3,355 | 3,440 | 3,528 | 3,618 | 3,709 | 3,804 | 3,900 | 3,999 |
| | Total | 22,197 | 10,109 | 8,812 | 9,284 | 9,514 | 9,749 | 9,990 | 10,237 | 10,491 | 10,750 |
| Maintenance Gap | | -1,003 | -1,043 | -1,076 | -1,111 | -1,147 | -1,185 | -1,223 | -1,263 | -1,303 | -1,345 |
| Renewals Gap | | 6,652 | -1,656 | -1,828 | -1,919 | -2,016 | -2,156 | -2,279 | -2,385 | -2,534 | -2,666 |
| Overall (GAP) | | 5,650 | -2,699 | -2,904 | -3,030 | -3,164 | -3,341 | -3,502 | -3,648 | -3,837 | -4,012 |

Table 21 Water and Sewer Fund Expenditure Projection

| Expenditure projections (\$,000s) – combined assets | | 2021/ 2022 | 2022/ 2023 | 2023/ 2024 | 2024/ 2025 | 2025/ 2026 | 2026/ 2027 | 2027/ 2028 | 2028/ 2029 | 2029/ 2030 | 2030/ 2031 |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Actual | Renewal | 1,324 | 1,613 | 1,778 | 1,947 | 2,132 | 2,212 | 2,294 | 2,378 | 2,466 | 2,594 |
| | New and expanded assets | 556 | 595 | 666 | 738 | 818 | 852 | 887 | 923 | 961 | 1,016 |
| | Maintenance and operational | 838 | 856 | 875 | 895 | 914 | 934 | 955 | 976 | 997 | 1,019 |
| | Total expenditure | 2,717 | 3,065 | 3,319 | 3,580 | 3,865 | 3,998 | 4,136 | 4,278 | 4,424 | 4,629 |
| Required | Required renewal (depreciation) | 698 | 719 | 741 | 764 | 787 | 812 | 838 | 865 | 892 | 921 |
| | New and expanded assets | 556 | 595 | 666 | 738 | 818 | 852 | 887 | 923 | 961 | 1,016 |
| | Required O&M | 677 | 698 | 719 | 742 | 765 | 790 | 815 | 841 | 868 | 896 |
| | Total | 1,931 | 2,012 | 2,126 | 2,244 | 2,371 | 2,454 | 2,540 | 2,629 | 2,721 | 2,833 |
| Maintenance Gap | | 161 | 159 | 156 | 153 | 149 | 145 | 140 | 135 | 129 | 123 |
| Renewals Gap | | 626 | 894 | 1,037 | 1,183 | 1,345 | 1,399 | 1,456 | 1,514 | 1,574 | 1,673 |
| Overall (GAP) | | 787 | 1,053 | 1,193 | 1,336 | 1,494 | 1,544 | 1,596 | 1,648 | 1,703 | 1,797 |

8.5 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Office of Local Government has established financial benchmarks for councils to strive towards and adhere to. The charts below showcase Council's current financial service levels and the impacts of Council's projected expenditure upon these service levels

Figure 8 Consolidated Portfolio overview 1

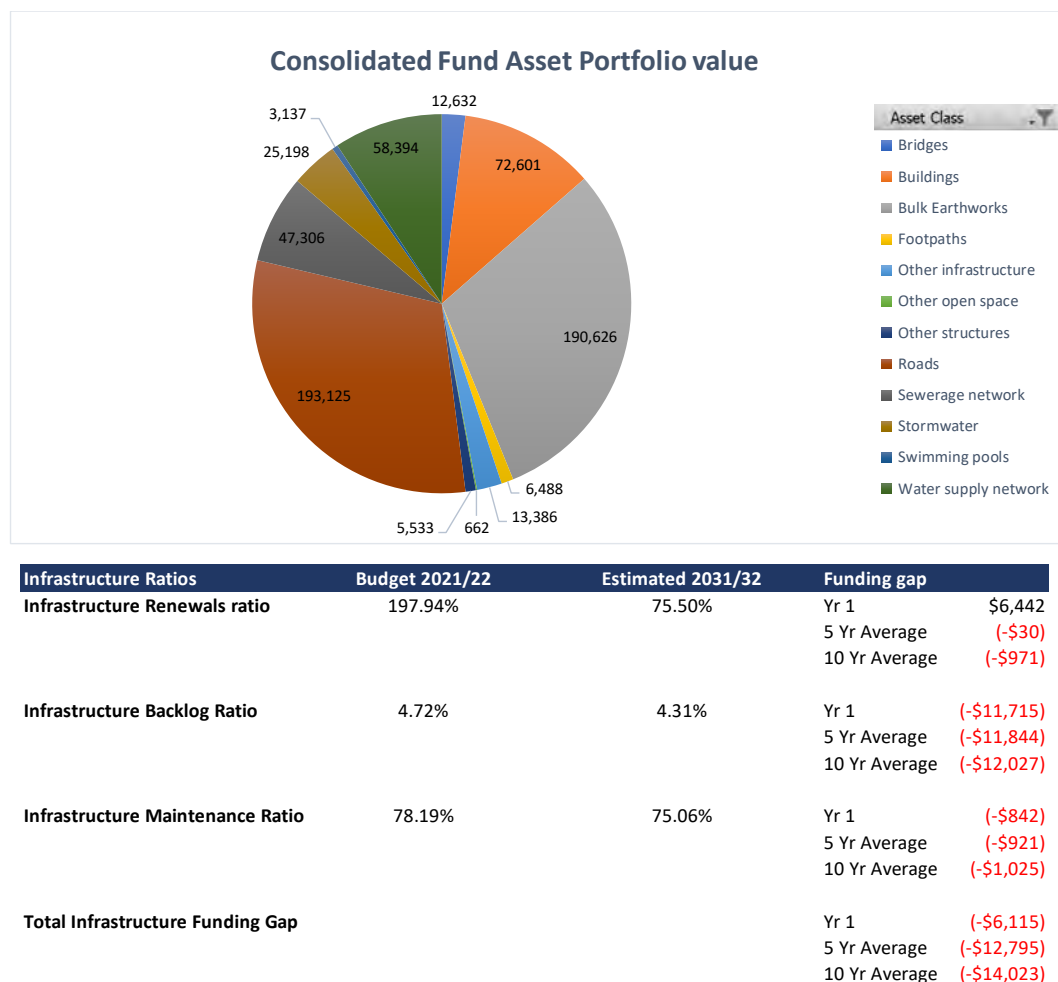


Figure 9 Consolidated Portfolio overview 2

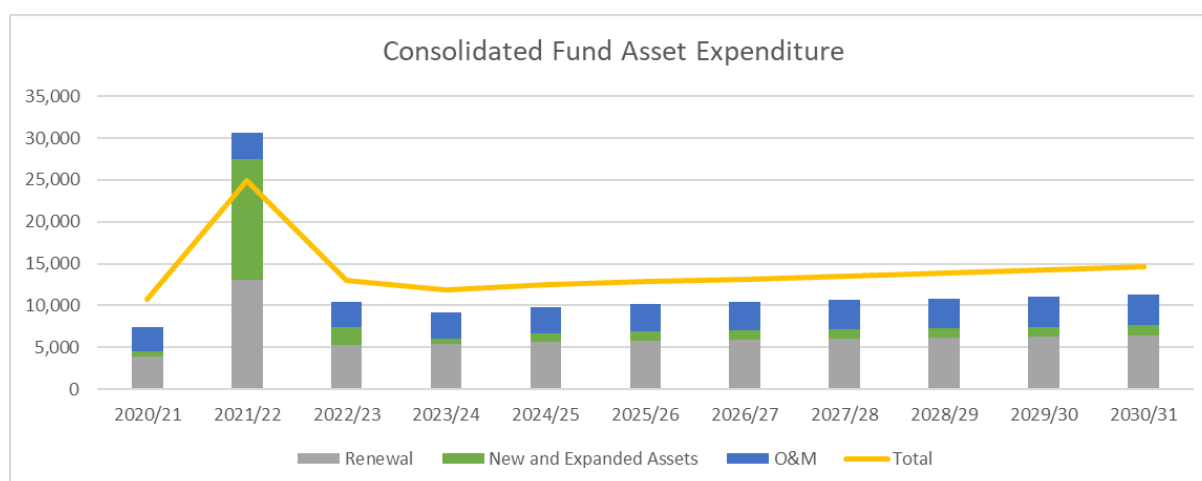


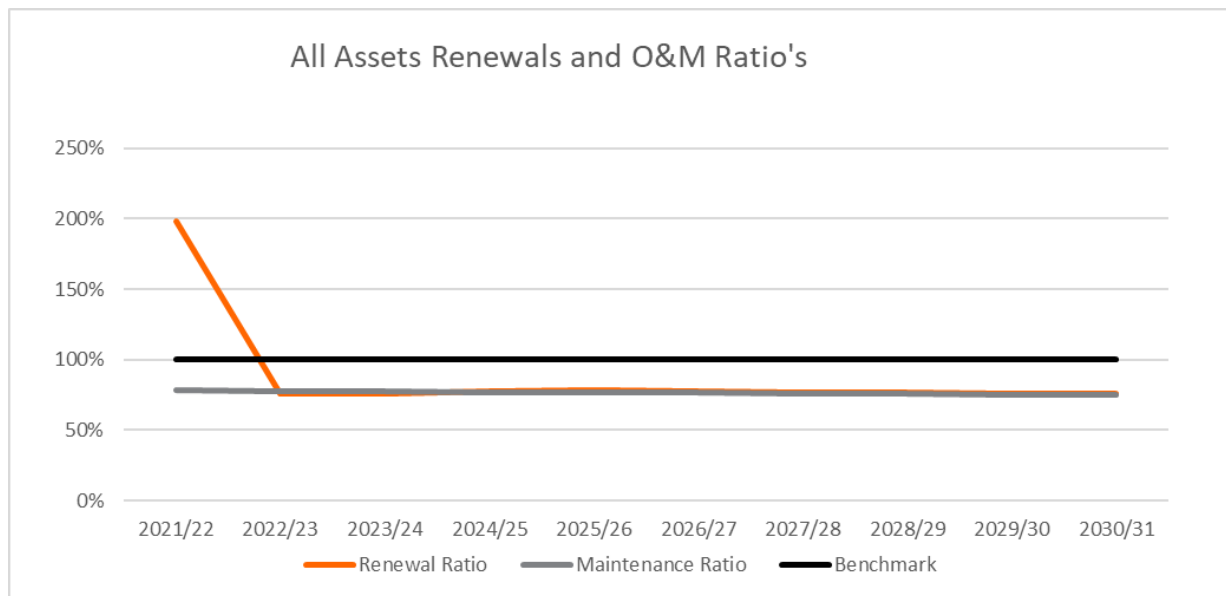
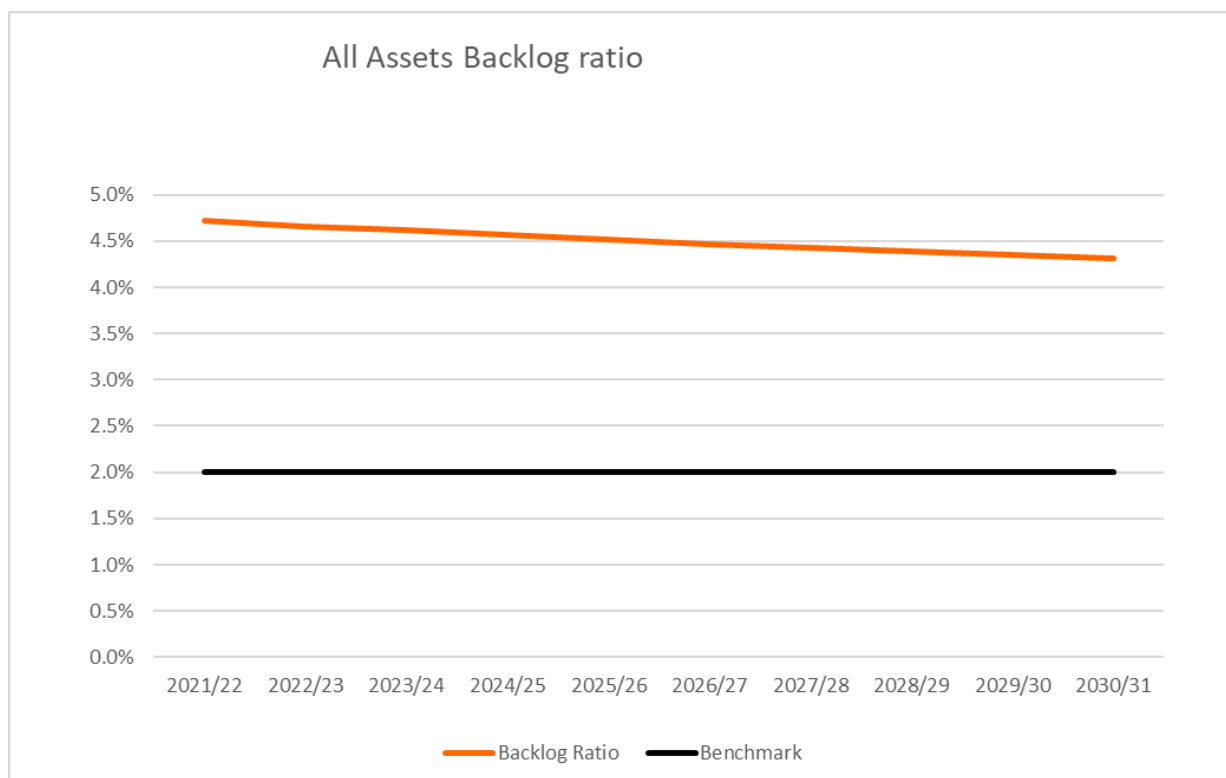
Figure 10 Consolidated OLG asset expenditure ratios**Figure 11 Consolidated OLG backlog ratio**

Figure 12 General Fund Portfolio overview 1

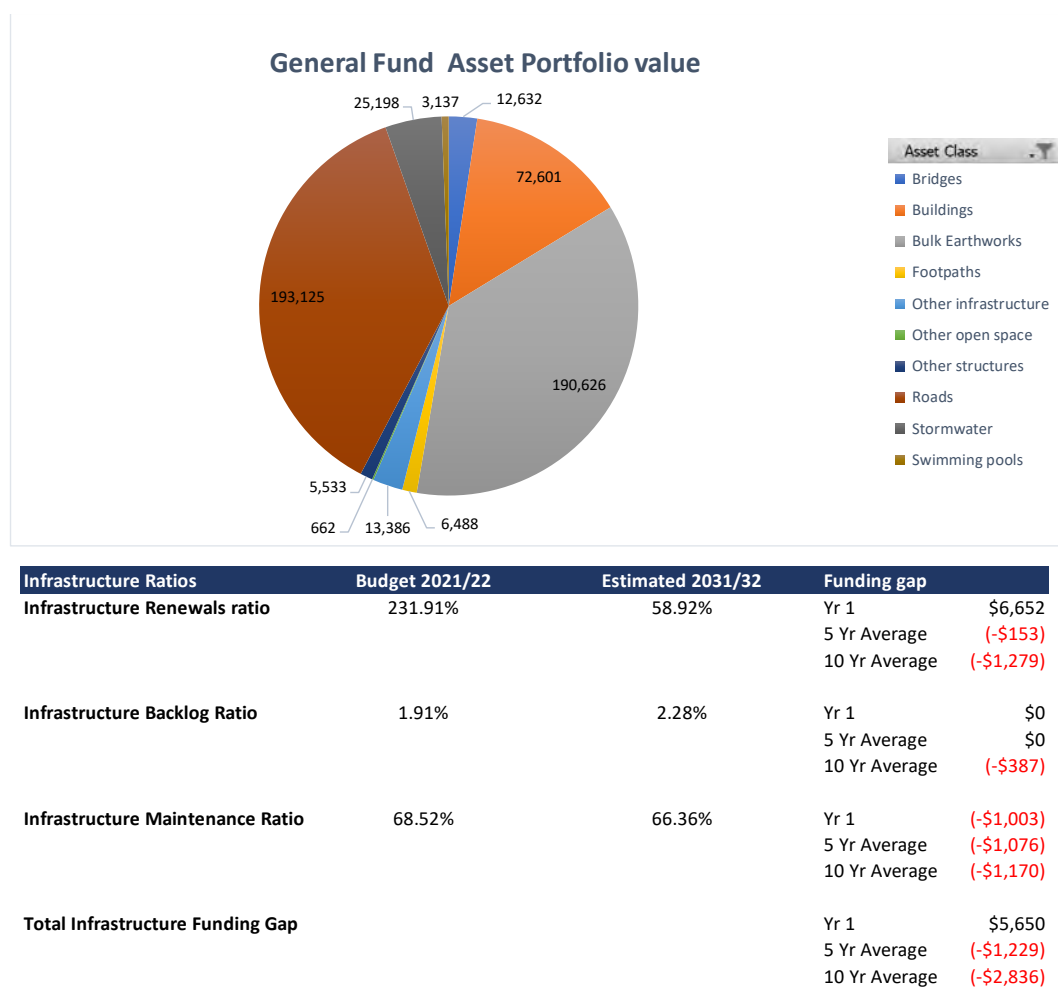


Figure 13 General Fund Portfolio overview 2

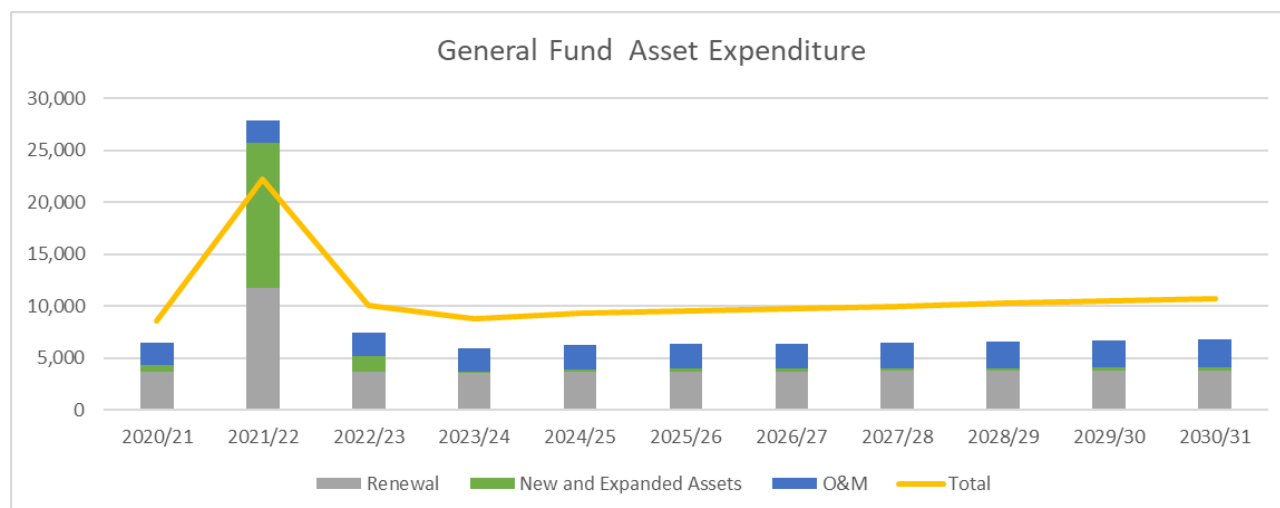


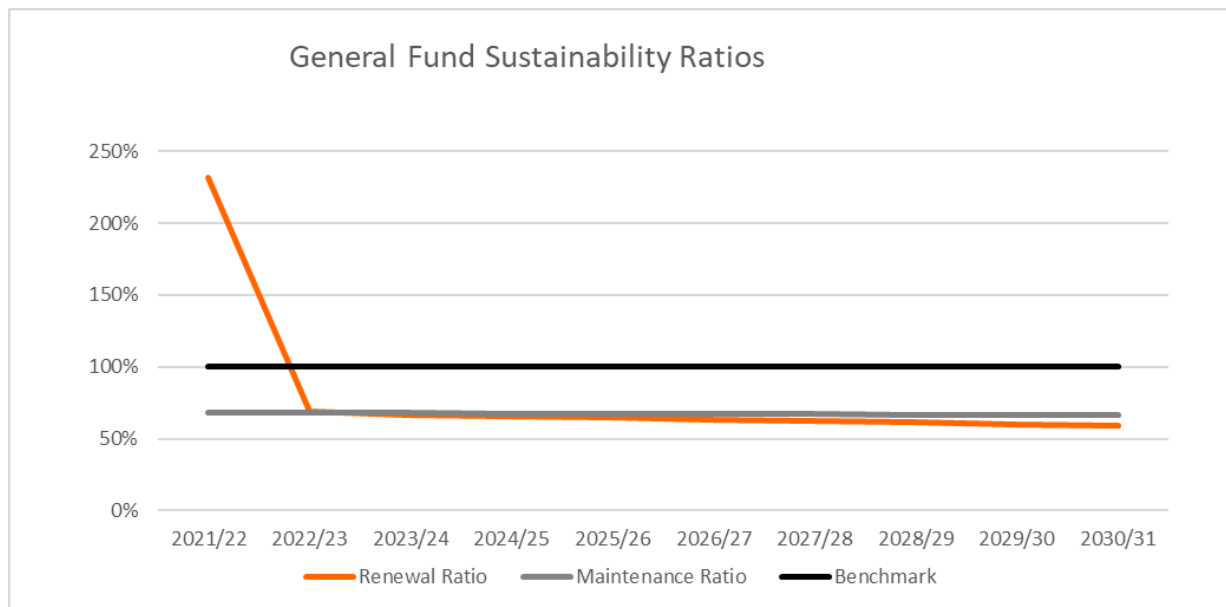
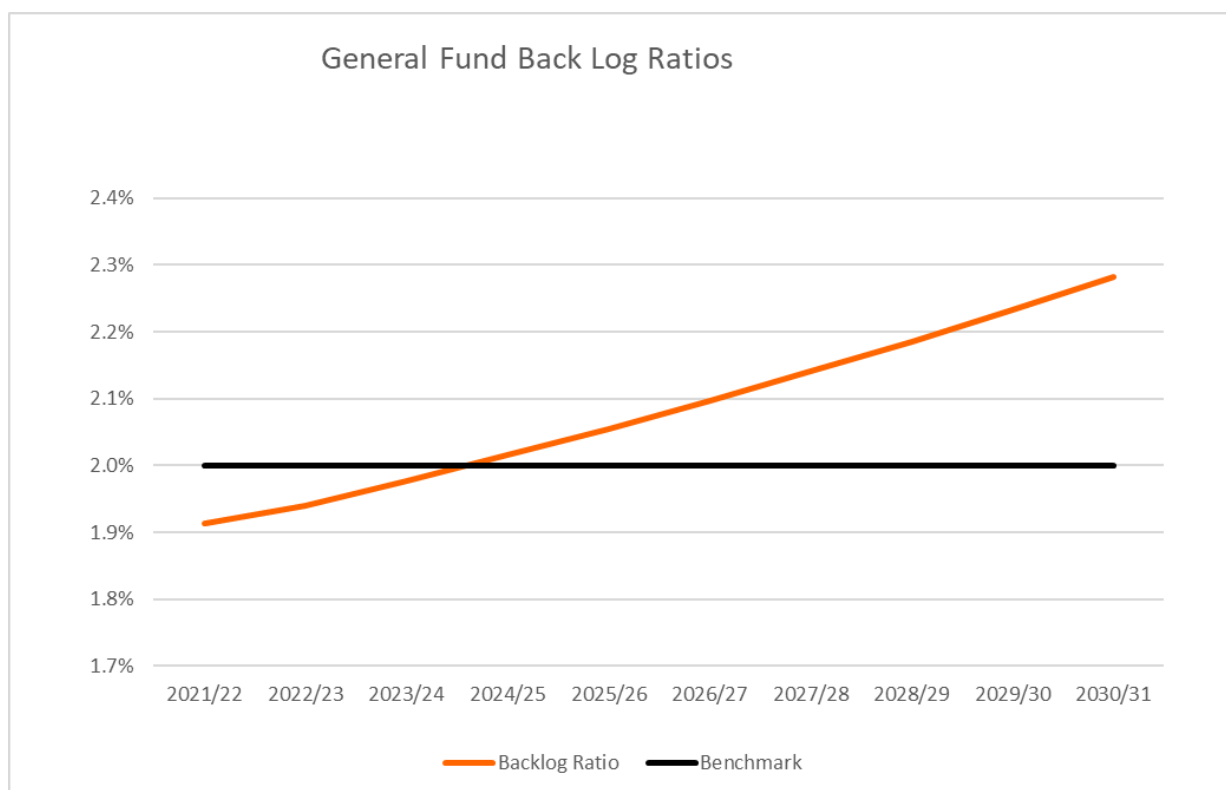
Figure 14 General Fund OLG asset expenditure ratios**Figure 1215 General Fund OLG backlog ratio**

Figure 13 Water and Sewer Fund Portfolio overview 1

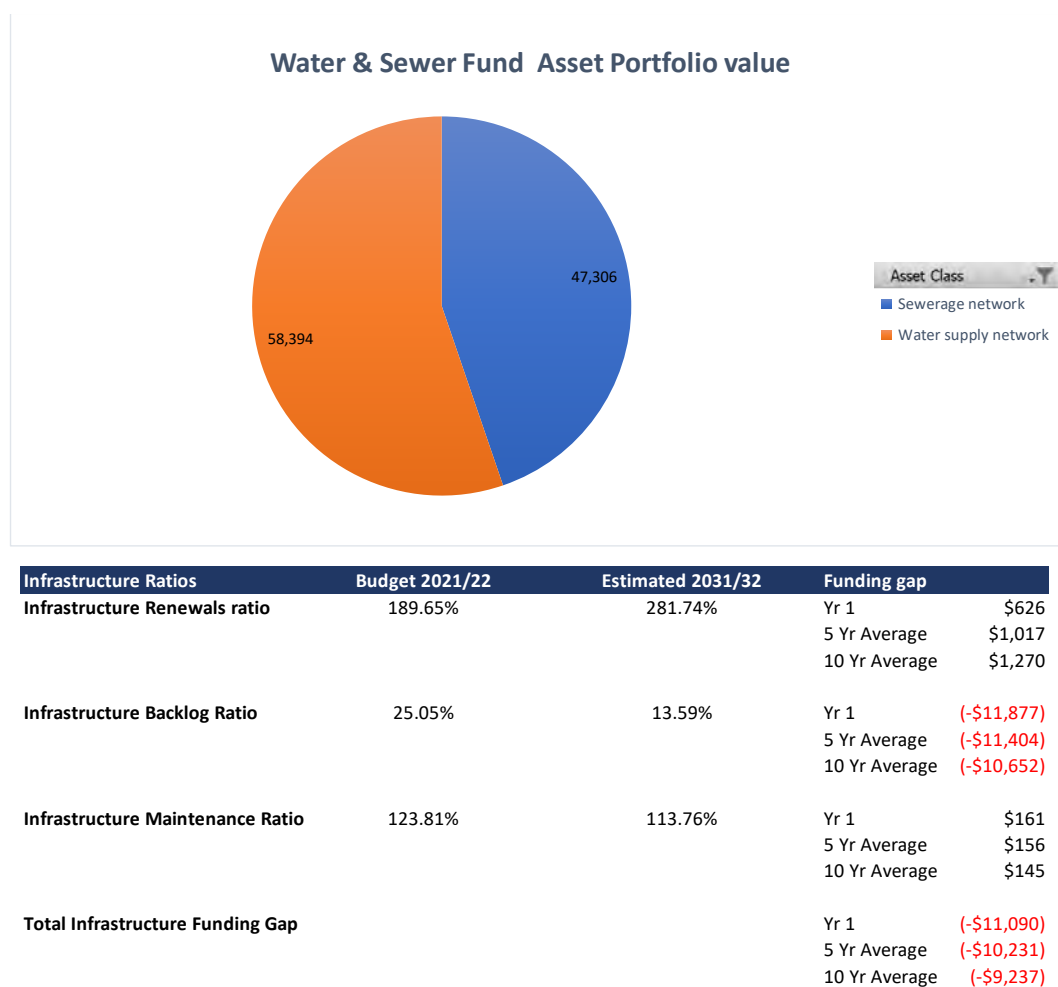


Figure 17 Water and Sewer Fund Portfolio overview 2

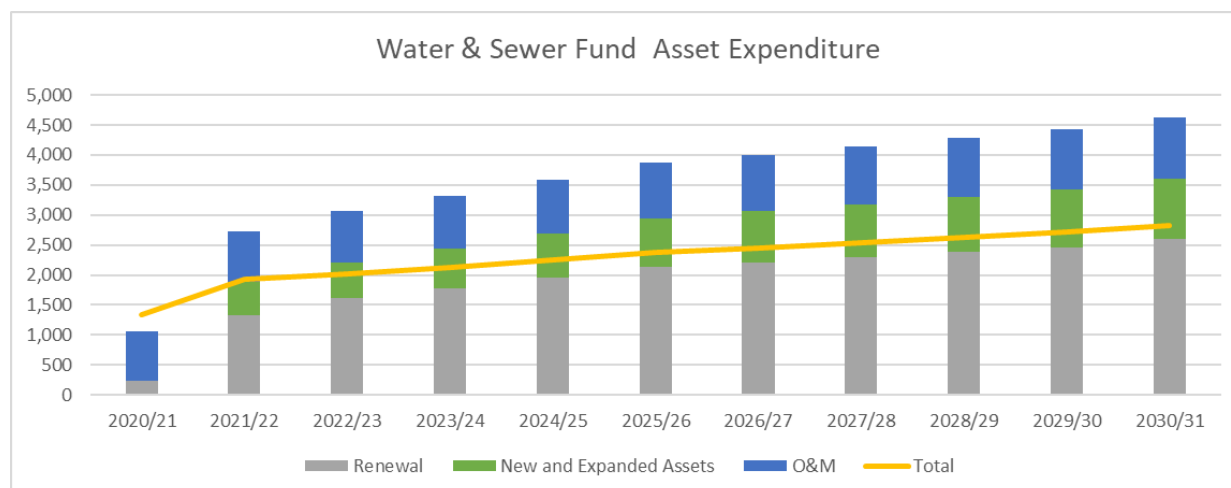


Figure 1814 Water and Sewer Fund OLG asset expenditure ratios

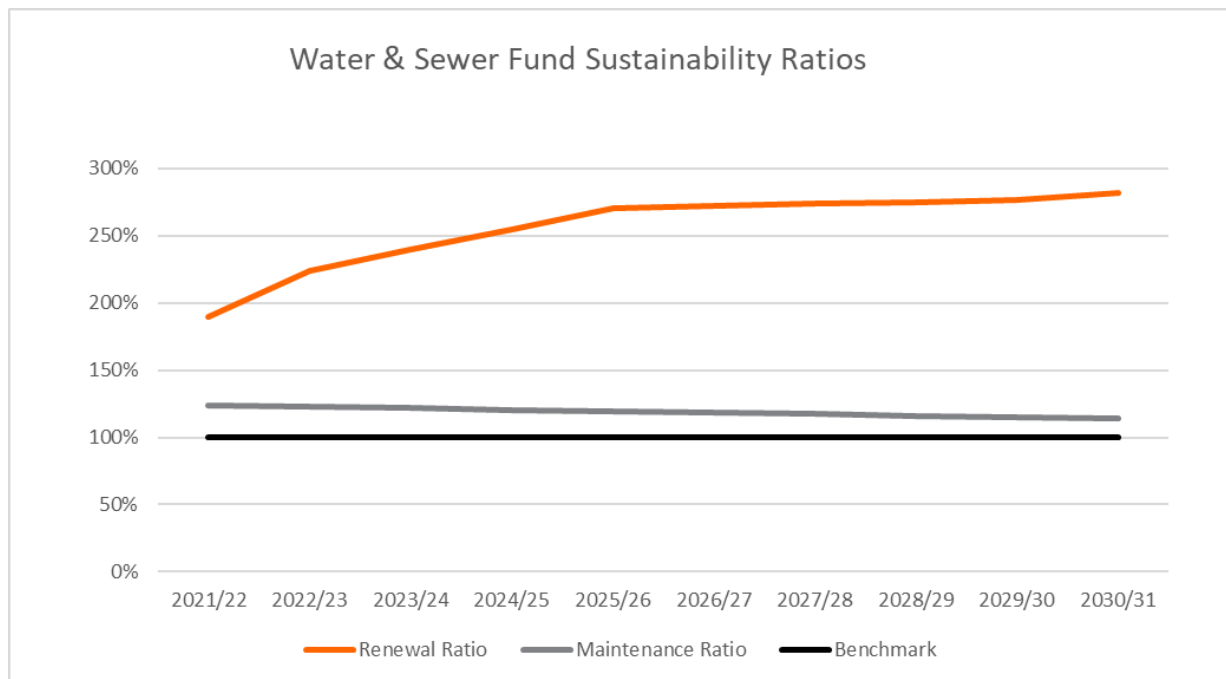
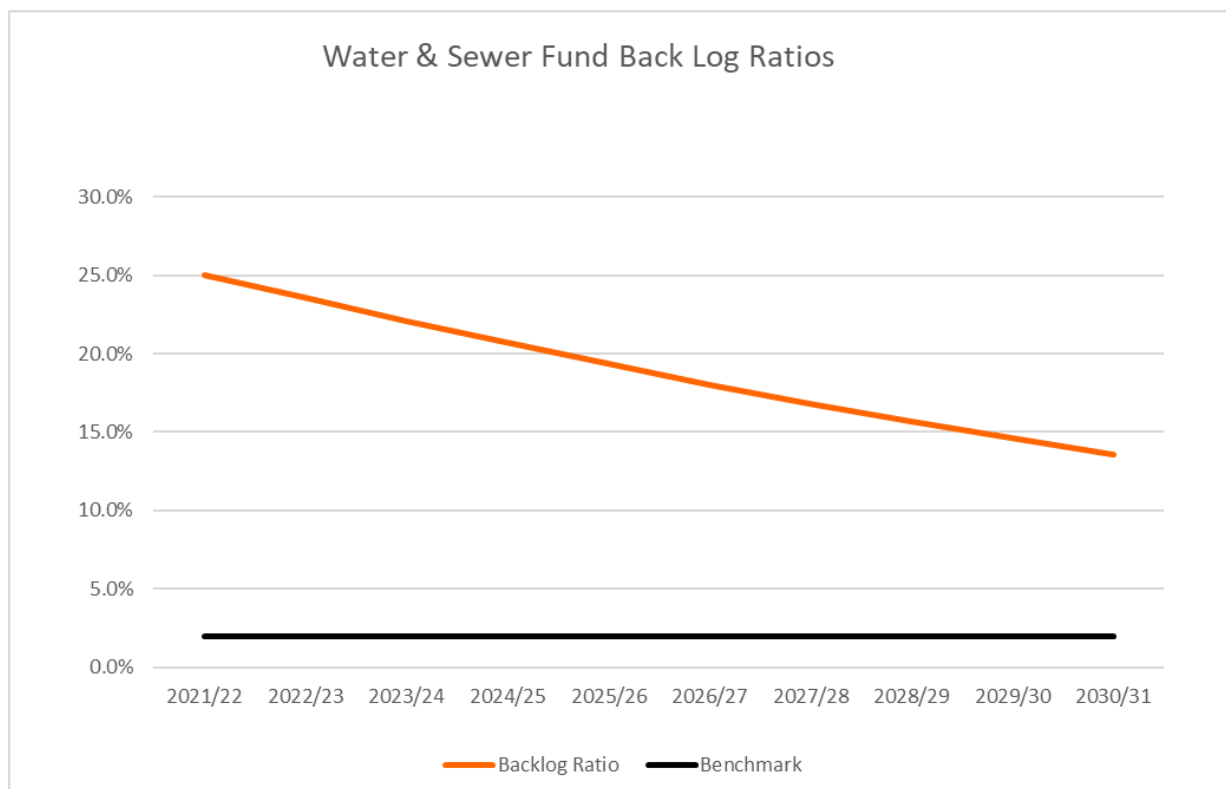


Figure 19 Water and Sewer Fund OLG backlog ratio



9 OVERARCHING IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Strategic Asset Management Plan is to enable Council to:

- demonstrate how its asset portfolio will meet the service delivery needs of its community into the future
- ensure the integration of Council's asset management with its Community Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Asset Management Plan proposes the following strategies to enable the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan to be achieved.

Table 22 Asset management strategic actions

| No | Strategy | Desired outcome |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Continue the move from annual budgeting to long term financial planning for all asset classes | The long-term implications of Council services are considered in annual budget deliberations. |
| 2 | Further develop and review the Long-Term Financial Plan covering ten years incorporating asset management plan expenditure projections with a sustainable funding position outcome. | Sustainable funding model to provide Council services. |
| 3 | Review and update asset management plan financial projections and long-term financial plans after adoption of annual budgets. Communicate any consequence of funding decisions on service levels and service risks. | Council and the community are aware of changes to service levels and costs arising from budget decisions. |
| 4 | Continue to report Council's financial position at fair value in accordance with Australian accounting standards, financial sustainability and performance against strategic objectives in annual reports, ensuring that asset remaining lives are assessed on an annual basis. | Financial sustainability information is available for Council and the community. |
| 5 | Ensure Council's decisions are made from accurate and current information in asset registers, on service level performance and costs and 'whole of life' costs. | Improved decision making and greater value for money. |
| 6 | Report on Council's resources and operational capability to deliver the services needed by the community in the Annual Report. | Services delivery is matched to available resources and operational capabilities. |
| 7 | Ensure responsibilities for asset management are identified and incorporated into staff position descriptions. Assess whether current resourcing is sufficient to cover all asset management functions for all asset classes. | Responsibility for asset management is defined. |
| 8 | Implement an improvement plan to initially realise 'core/good' maturity for the financial and asset management competencies, then progress to 'advanced/better' maturity. | Improved financial and asset management capacity within Council. |
| 9 | Develop and implement an asset condition inspection strategy which ensures that council has a complete data set for an asset class the year prior to a revaluation | Asset condition inspection strategy. |
| 10 | Report annually to Council on development and implementation of asset management strategy and plan and long-term financial plans. | Oversight of resource allocation and performance. |

| Ref no. | Improvement plan tasks | Priority | Suggested timeframe |
|-----------|--|----------|---------------------|
| 1. | Asset management maturity | | |
| 1.1 | Council is to achieve a core level of asset management. | High | 2024 |
| 2. | Asset data and knowledge | | |
| 2.1 | Clean asset data to ensure that asset condition is measured consistently across the various asset classes and sub classes. | High | 2024 |
| 2.2 | Review Asset Hierarchy and asset class and sub class categorisation of buildings, open space and other assets. | Medium | 2025 |
| 2.3 | Develop an asset condition inspection strategy that ensures all assets are inspected on a regular basis. | High | 2024 |
| 2.4 | Clearly identify maintenance and operational activities as part of a maintenance management system, and clearly identify capital works projects as renewal, expansion or new asset expenditure. | Medium | 2025 |
| 2.5 | Develop and implement asset lifecycle strategy and processes for operations, maintenance, renewal, development and disposal of assets. | Low | 2026 |
| 3. | Asset knowledge processes | | |
| 3.1 | Valuation methodology and assumptions must be fully documented and applied. | High | 2024 |
| 3.2 | Undertake an annual desktop review of asset valuations ensuring that there is an annual review of useful life of assets. | High | 2024 |
| 3.3 | Ensure that the asset data in the asset management system is the true record of Council's assets and is up to date. | High | 2024 |
| 3.4 | Adopt consistent reporting methodology across all asset classes informed by current asset data. | Medium | 2025 |
| 4. | Strategic asset planning processes | | |
| 4.1 | Determine the long-term expenditure requirements for Council's assets based on a sustainable asset approach and incorporate findings into the Council's LTFP. | High | 2024 |
| 4.2 | Review and readopt the Asset Management Policy to ensure that it is up to date and remains relevant. | Medium | 2025 |
| 4.3 | Ensure that all asset classes have up to date asset management plans. | High | 2024 |
| 4.4 | Revise Asset Management Plans to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - refined level of service statements and clearly defined community and technical level of service targets - forward programs identifying forecasts for renewals, new assets, upgrades, maintenance, operations and depreciation expenditure - asset performance and utilisation measures with associated links to levels of service - identify critical assets for each asset class. | Medium | 2025 |
| 4.5 | Review and update asset management plans and long-term financial plans after adoption of annual budgets. Communicate any consequence of funding decisions on service levels and service risks. | Medium | 2025 |
| 4.6 | Review the Asset Management Strategy to ensure that it incorporates the most up to date and relevant information on each asset class. | Medium | 2025 |
| 4.7 | Integrate asset lifecycle planning and costing into the LTFP. | Medium | 2025 |
| 5. | Operations and maintenance work practices | | |
| 5.1 | Implement a maintenance management system for maintenance planning and ensure that operational and maintenance requirements are specified against asset performance and service level expectations for all asset classes. | Medium | 2025 |
| 5.2 | Identify critical assets and incorporate critical asset risk mitigation plans into Council's emergency response planning procedures. | Medium | 2025 |

| | | | |
|-----|--|--------|------|
| 5.3 | Ensure that all works are costed correctly to either operational, maintenance, renewal, or new asset expenditure. | High | 2024 |
| 6. | Information systems | | |
| 6.1 | Review need for single source of truth asset register for councils assets, currently data for each asset class is stored separately and does not fully integrate with the Finance System. | High | 2024 |
| 6.2 | Develop an operational process to ensure that the asset register integrates with the maintenance system, financial system and the spatial system. Ensure that that these are reconciled and aligned on a regular basis. | Medium | 2025 |
| 7. | Organisational context | | |
| 7.1 | Implement a process for reporting on asset management progress and improvement plan status and create a process for annual reporting to senior management. | Medium | 2025 |
| 7.2 | Ensure that asset reporting in the financial statements is up to date and consistent across each asset class. | Medium | 2025 |
| 7.3 | Ensure responsibilities for asset management are identified and incorporated into staff position descriptions. Review current asset management capacity and capability for all asset classes to ensure council can undertake strategic planning for all asset classes. | High | 2024 |



DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2022-2026

WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE



This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.

Images were sourced from Council's Image Library unless otherwise stated.
© Copyright Wentworth Shire Council 2022

**Wentworth Shire Council would like to
acknowledge the Traditional Custodians
of the Land and pay its respects to Elders
past, present and emerging.**

This page has intentionally been left blank





DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2022-2026

INDEX

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Statement of Commitment from the Mayor | 6 |
| Introduction | 7 |
| Why Inclusion is Important | 7 |
| Definitions | 9 |
| Focus Areas | 9 |
| Strategic & Policy Context | 11 |
| Legislative Framework and Strategic Links | 12 |
| Disability in Australia | 14 |
| Engagement Activities | 15 |
| The Plan | 16 |
| Key Outcome Areas and Actions | 17 |
| Attitudes and Behaviors | 17 |
| Liveable Communities | 18 |
| Improving Access to Mainstream Services | 20 |
| Supporting Access to Meaningful Employment | 22 |
| Monitoring and Evaluating | 23 |



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT FROM THE MAYOR



I am pleased to present Wentworth Shire Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026.

Council is committed to providing outstanding services to all members of our community, and I am confident that our 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan will allow us to continue to deliver on this commitment. We understand that the basis of a strong community stems from diversity and when a range of viewpoints and individual perspectives are considered and valued.

Council has an important role to play in supporting and promoting access and inclusion and is committed to ensuring that inclusion is considered in all Council business. This includes how Council develops the built environment, provides information and services, supports employment opportunities and promotes positive community attitudes and behaviour toward people with disability.

This Disability Inclusion Plan builds on the work we completed as part of the 2017-2021 Plan, which saw our Council take important steps

towards improving access to services, increasing the liveability of our communities and providing employment opportunities for people with disability.

Evidence of this work can be found throughout our Shire as Council continues to make improvements to access through upgrades to sharedways and footpaths in Buronga, Gol Gol and Dareton. Council continues to focus on ensuring that pedestrian access and mobility is monitored on an annual basis and that improvements, upgrades and new infrastructure cater for the needs of people with disability. In addition, Council is undertaking an audit of Council's websites against the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines to ensure that people with disability have greater access to information.

I am proud of what we have achieved so far but there is more work to be done.

Several key actions identified in this Plan include: supporting positive attitudes towards inclusion amongst Council staff; assessing existing infrastructure compliance with Australian standards for access and mobility; encouraging, supporting and promoting accessible businesses and tourism in the Wentworth Region; ensuring people with disability have greater access to information via Council websites; and implementing recruitment and employment policies that reflect best practice with regards to encouraging and supporting the employment of people with disability.

With this Plan, and working alongside other governmental agencies, industry leaders and our community, Council will continue to advocate and act to make our Shire a welcoming and inclusive place for all our residents and visitors to enjoy.

Cr Tim Elstone
Mayor

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**



INTRODUCTION

About this Plan

We want to make sure that people with disability, their families and carers are included in Wentworth Shire and that our community is more accessible. In writing our Disability Inclusion Action Plan we have asked the community about the barriers that people with disability face in the Shire and their ideas for improvement. The Plan explains the actions we will take to improve the lives of people with disability in our community.

Overview of Plan

The *Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (NSW)* (DIA) (the Act) is the legislative foundation for Local Government disability inclusion and access planning. The Act supports the Government's commitment to improving lives of people with disability and reaffirms NSW's direction on building an inclusive community. In 2014, the Act required all NSW Local Government Areas to develop a Disability Inclusion Action Plan in consultation with people with disability. This Plan outlines Wentworth Shire Council's commitment to people with a disability to

improve access to services, facilities and employment. It is also designed to change perceptions about people with disability and to create a more inclusive community for everyone.

WHY INCLUSION IS IMPORTANT

Personal choice and control are only possible when communities are inclusive for all people with disability, including those with physical, intellectual, cognitive, sensory disabilities and those with mental health conditions. Real diversity cannot be realised unless people with disability are provided with the opportunities inherent in truly inclusive communities.

In addition to the human rights imperative, the case for an inclusive community is strong:

- inclusion improves opportunities for participation in the local economy, with the potential to increase economic activity within the Shire;
- providing physical access to businesses benefit not only people with disability, but



older people, parents with prams and business owners by expanding their business reach;

- exclusion leads to disadvantage and discrimination, which have far reaching negative impacts across all aspects of life, including health, welfare, education and employment.

These impact are felt beyond the individual, with families and the broader community being negatively impacted by a non-inclusive community.

Wentworth Shire Council strives to make the Wentworth region an accessible and inclusive community providing a place for everyone to be able to live, work and visit.

Council has a key role in promoting and supporting access and inclusion in all areas of Council business. This includes how Council develops the built environment, the provision of information and services, supporting employment opportunities and promoting positive community attitudes and behaviour towards people with disability.

The removal of barriers for people with disability supports the inclusion of members of the local community who may otherwise fall outside of identified definitions of disadvantage.

Wentworth Shire Council is working towards creating a region that is accessible and inclusive of everyone and provides equal opportunity for people with disability to enjoy what our region has to offer. Almost 90% of disabilities are 'invisible' disabilities, the invisibility of disability highlights the critical need to ensure that not only access but inclusion was considered when developing this plan.

Negative attitudes, physical barriers and difficulties accessing necessary supports still limit the opportunities of people with disability to find work, study, socialise and be included in community life.

To create liveable communities, we need to focus our attention and resources on the elements of community life that most people desire. To create liveable communities for people with disability, we must do more than

modify the physical environment; we must advocate for such aspects such as accessible housing, access to transport, community recreation, social engagement and universal design.

It is imperative that we respect people with disability in relation to their lived experience, empower them to influence their life direction, and encourage them to fully participate so we can identify barriers and propose solutions.

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan has been developed in recognition of Council's responsibility to remove barriers and ensure that people with disability are able to participate equally in their community.

The Plan sets out the strategies and actions that Council will deliver to enable people with disability to have greater access to Council information, services and facilities. Council is committed to the attraction, recruitment and retention of people with disability.

The Plan has been based on the following principles enshrined in the Act:

- People with disability have the same
- inherent rights to respect for their worth and dignity as individuals.
- People with disability have the right to participate in and contribute to social and economic life and should be supported to do so.
- People with disability have the right to realise their capacities and potential and to contribute these to the community.
- People with disability have the same rights as other members of the community to be consulted about decisions that affect their lives.
- People with disability have the right to access information in a way that is appropriate for their disability and enables them to make informed choices.
- The needs of children with disability as they mature, and their rights as equal members of the community are to be respected.



The role that Council will play will vary for each of the focus areas. Although being facilitated by Council, the vision for inclusion is intended for the community and key stakeholders, and is not just focused on all activities internal to Council. Whilst Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and implementing the Plan, other partners, such as State Agencies, community groups and businesses may also be engaged in delivery the long-term objectives of the Plan.

DEFINITIONS

INCLUSION

Inclusion is the process whereby every person (irrespective of age, disability, gender, religion, sexual preference or ethnicity) who wishes to can access and participate fully in all aspects of an activity or service in the same way as any other member of the community. Inclusion requires time, space, effort and resources, but it creates a society which is fairer, more cohesive and richer.

DISABILITY

The definition of disability applied in this document includes both definitions provided by the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (NSW)* and the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)*.

The *Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (NSW)* defines disability as including a: long-term physical, psychiatric, intellectual or sensory impairment that, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder the person's full and effective participation in the community on an equal basis with others.

The *Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992 (Cth)* defines disability as:

- The total or partial loss of the person's body or mental functions;
- The total or partial loss of a part of the body;
- The presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness;
- The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person's body;

and

- A disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION

Disability discrimination occurs when people with disability are treated less favourably than people without disability. Disability discrimination can be direct or indirect.

The DDA provides legal protection against discrimination based on disability.

FOCUS AREAS

The Plan has been divided into four Focus Areas where significant barriers to access and inclusion will be addressed.

These are:

1. Attitudes and Behaviours

"Build community awareness of the rights and abilities of people with a disability, and to support the development of positive attitudes and behaviour towards people with disability."

2. Liveable Communities

"Increase participation of people with disability in all aspects of community life, through targeted approaches to address barriers in housing, learning, transport, health and wellbeing."

3. Improving access to mainstream services

"Ensure that people with disability are able to easily and efficiently access mainstream government services and other opportunities in the community."

4. Supporting access to meaningful employment

"Increase the number of people with disability in meaningful employment, thereby enabling people with disability to plan for their future and exercise choice and control as a result of economic security."



STRATEGIC AND POLICY CONTEXT

The Plan links to Council's Community Strategic Plan as follows:

Our Community

Council will improve the accessibility of services and programs in Council and encourage inclusive social and recreational opportunities for the enjoyment of all.

Our Economy

The Plan will support the Wentworth Region to stimulate the local economy by assisting to develop more inclusive businesses, tourism, accommodation, events and activities.

Our Environment

Council will work to ensure that our buildings, facilities and services are accessible and inclusive for all people.

Our Leadership

Council will champion the development of positive attitudes and behaviours; the engagement of people with disability in decision making; and support and promote increased inclusion in events, buildings and activities in the Wentworth region.

The policy context for the DIAP is one in which all levels of government in Australia are working in concert to ensure the rights of people with disability are actively promoted and upheld. Legislation in place ensures people with disability are consulted about how, together, we can make practical changes to how services are delivered so that they can be accessed equally by all Australians.

The Plan also builds on existing social equity requirements within the IP&R framework to strengthen Council's commitment to inclusion, consultation and rights for people with disability.

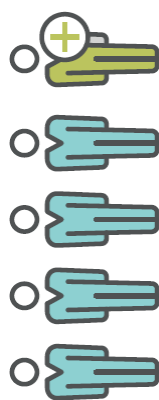


LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK AND STRATEGIC LINKS

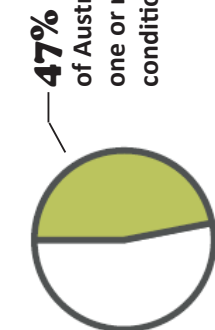




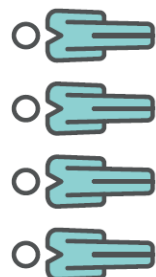
DISABILITY IN AUSTRALIA



Almost **1 in 5** people in Australia have a disability.¹



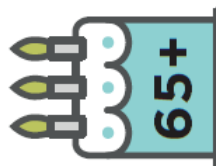
47% of Australians have one or more chronic conditions.²



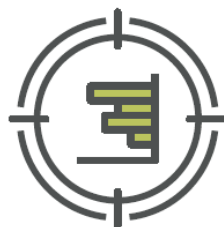
1 in 9 Australians provide unpaid care for a person with disability³ or an older person.³



26% of customers with disability have dissuaded others from using a product or service based on their reputation for disability inclusion and accessibility.⁵



The prevalence of disability generally increases with age and more than doubles **after the age of 65.**⁴



In Australia, people with disability have a combined income of around **\$54 million** and rising.⁵



1 in 5 people with disability were positively influenced by an organisation's reputation as being supportive of people with disability.⁵



29% of customers with disability reported that they ceased the completion of a transaction because they were not being treated with respect.⁵

In Australia, the labour force participation rate for people with disability aged 15-64 years is **53.4%**, compared to **84.1%** of people the same age without disability.⁶



**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**

1 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, Summary of Findings 2018 (Catalogue No 4430.0, 24 October 2019).

2 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2020, Chronic conditions and multimorbidity, viewed 15 March 2021, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/australias-health/chronic-conditions-and-multimorbidity>

3 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, Summary of Findings 2018 (Catalogue No 4430.0, 24 October 2019).

4 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers, Summary of Findings 2018 (Catalogue No 4430.0, 24 October 2019).

5 Australian Human Rights Commission 2017, Missing out: The business case for customer diversity, <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/rights-and-freedoms/publications/missing-out-business-customer-diversity-2017>.

6 Australian Bureau of Statistics, Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2018 (Catalogue No. 4430.0, 24 October 2019).

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

We Asked

For feedback to assist in developing this Plan, particularly focussing on four key themes:

1. Developing positive community attitudes and behaviours
2. Creating liveable communities
3. Supporting access to meaningful employment
4. Improving access to services through better systems and processes.

You Connected

- Online survey completed
- 6 Consultation meetings

You Said

'Employ more staff who are used to people with disability'

'Provide more information on services that Council provides and what activities and places are accessible to people with disability'

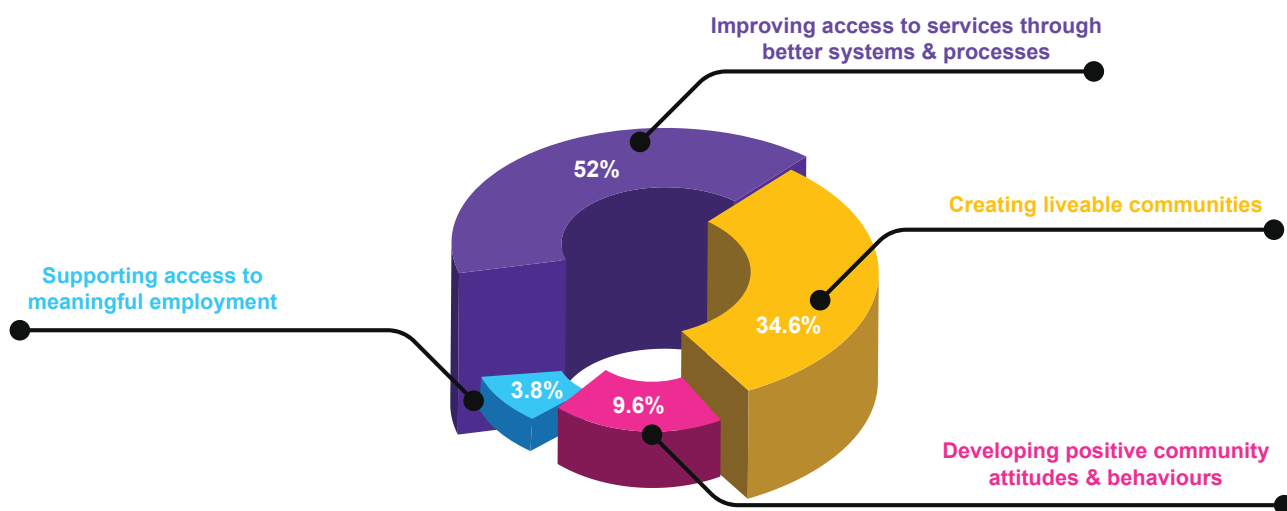
'A more disability-friendly community space in each town'

'A designated quiet shopping time for people with autism'

'More accessible footpaths and ramps to make it easier to get around'

'Incorporate more people with disability in advertising and on Council staff'

Responses





THE PLAN

Council's commitment is to create greater opportunities for people of all ages, all cultures, and of differing abilities, to access the full range of services and activities available in the local community.

Attitudes and Behaviours

People with disability experience positive attitudes and respectful behaviour from Council staff and express the view that Council encourages these positive attitudes and behaviours within the broader community.

- Support positive attitudes towards inclusion amongst Council staff
- Contribute positive media stories about what Council is doing to build inclusion with people with disability.

Liveable Communities

People with disability, their families and supporters have greater access to community places, buildings and events.

- Assess existing infrastructure compliance with Australian standards for access and mobility.
- Plan to progressively improve the accessibility of public toilets.
- Increase accessibility and inclusion of events held in the Wentworth Region.
- Encourage, support and promote accessible businesses and tourism in the Wentworth Region.

Improving access to mainstream services

People with disability can more easily and efficiently access Council services and are engaged in the decision making of Council.

- People with disability have greater access to information via Council website.
- Improve communication and information processes.

- Update Customer Service Charter to provide guidance to staff in how to make information more accessible.
- Council services can be accessed more independently by people with disability.

Supporting access to meaningful employment

People with disability have greater access to employment opportunities with Council.

- Council has recruitment and employment policies that reflect best practice with regards to encouraging and supporting the employment of people with disability.



KEY OUTCOME AREAS AND ACTIONS

Attitudes and Behaviours

People with a disability experience positive attitudes and respectful behaviour from Council staff and express the view that Council encourages these positive attitudes and behaviours within the broader community.

Community Outcome

The attitude and behaviours of the general community toward people with disability can be the greatest barrier to full access and inclusion. Community attitudes can further be influenced by the intersection of the particular characteristics of a person with disability, such as gender, age, ethnicity, or type of disability itself.

Council will work to build community awareness of the rights and capabilities of people with disability, and support the development of positive attitudes and behaviour towards people with disability.

| Outcome | Actions |
|--|---|
| Support positive attitudes towards inclusion amongst Council staff | Update Annual Training Plan to include disability awareness training to existing staff |
| | Update Induction process to encompass the topic of inclusion of people with disability |
| | Incorporate disability awareness and person-centred communication in the Customer Service Charter. |
| | Provide regular media stories on the progress of the implementation of the DIAP. |
| Contribute positive media stories about what Council is doing to build inclusion with people with a disability. | Include pictures of people with disability in mainstream Council publications and in promotion of mainstream events, not just for disability specific areas |
| | Support disability awareness campaigns by displaying promotional posters in Council facilities and in Council media and publications. |



Liveable Communities

People with disability, their families and supporters have greater access to community places, buildings and events.

Community Outcome

Inclusiveness and accessibility for people with disability forms a crucial component of the assessment of the liveability of any community. Council will work to eliminate the barriers in the built environment and advocate for improved transport, housing and local supports that prevent people with disability from fully engaging with the opportunities that exist within their communities.

| Outcome | Actions |
|---|---|
| Assess existing infrastructure compliance with Australian standards for access and mobility. | Undertake audits of Councils buildings and footpaths to ensure that they meet the demand of those with disability. |
| | Ensure the provision of at least one footpath in each urban road reserve. |
| | Review and Update Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan priorities and assessments including the priority list for maintenance or upgrade of PAMP related infrastructure in consultation with people with mobility and vision related disabilities. |
| | Document the accessibility features of Council parks, sporting fields and playgrounds and include these on all relevant websites. |
| Plan to progressively improve the accessibility of public toilets. | Council public toilets are increasingly modified or replaced in line with priorities identified via sector consultation process. |
| | Current and accurate information on the location of Council accessible toilets is made available to residents and visitors. |
| | People with disability are directly consulted about the priorities for enhancement of Council public toilets. |
| | Council staff responsible for events are supported to ensure all community recreation, cultural and social programs and events are as inclusive and accessible as possible. |
| Increase accessibility and inclusion of events held in the Wentworth Region | Access by people with disability attending meetings held at Council is specifically addressed and catered for. |
| | Council Events manual to include guidance material on how event organisers can make events more accessible. |
| | Business and tourist attractions in the Wentworth Region have a greater awareness of the economic benefits of developing accessible and ageing friendly places and activities |
| | |
| Encourage, support and promote accessible businesses and tourism in the Wentworth Region. | |



Improving access to mainstream services

People with disability can more easily and efficiently access Council services and are engaged in the decision making of Council.

Community Outcome

A common issue for people with disability is the difficulty in navigating the systems and processes required to access the services and supports they need in the community. These difficulties are the product of a number of barriers including a lack of accessible information, inflexible processes, and limited opportunities for feedback and input.

Council will work to ensure that people with disability can make informed choices about available services and will advocate for other community and business organisations to review and change the way they do business to ensure people with disability can have equal access to information and services.

| Outcome | Actions |
|---|--|
| People with disability have greater access to information via Council website. | Undertake an audit of Council's websites against WCAG 2.0 standards. |
| | Develop guidelines and/or checklists for staff who author web accessible documents |
| Improve communication and information processes. | Ensure all service information is available in a range of formats to support different needs and capabilities. |
| Update Customer Service Charter to provide guidance to staff in how to make information more accessible. | Customer Service training and processes incorporate the topic of disability awareness and person-centred communication. |
| | Progressively review the procedures supporting access to all Council services and processes to ensure improved access. |
| Council services can be accessed more independently by people with disability. | Ensure Council led community consultation events are held in accessible venues and a range of formats are used that considers the needs of people with disability. |





Supporting access to meaningful employment

People with disability have greater access to employment opportunities with Council.

Community Outcome

Employment rates for people with disability are significantly lower than those without disability across all sectors. Participation in meaningful employment is vital if people with disability are to attain economic security, retain a sense of purpose and engage effectively with others in our community.

Council will aim to advocate for an increase in the number of people with disability in meaningful employment, thereby enabling people with disability to plan for their future, exercise choice and control, and increase their economic security.

| Outcome | Actions |
|---|--|
| Council has recruitment and employment policies that reflect best practice with regards to encouraging and supporting the employment of people with a disability | Review Council's recruitment and employment processes to ensure they provide fair and barrier free opportunities to candidates who have a disability |
| | Keep inclusion front of mind when designing workforce management processes and practices |
| | Actively develop a respectful and welcoming work culture that is inclusive and disability conscious. |



MONITORING AND EVALUATING

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan will be forwarded to the Disability Council NSW. Monitoring and evaluation of strategies is to occur on an annual basis. Council will report on the DIAP action items as part of its Annual Report. The report will be available in a range of formats through Council's website and Administration Office.

Wentworth Shire Council will commit to implementing and monitoring the Actions within the Plan over the next four years. We look forward to working with the community to ensure that the Actions within the Plan are implemented to a high standard and to the benefit of all.

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan will be reviewed and updated in 2026.



Our values: Honesty and Integrity | Accountability and Transparency | Respect | Quality | Commitment

| Change | Amount | Impact |
|--|-------------|---|
| Men in Sheds Contribution | \$192,564 | Reduction in Capital Grants & Contribution Revenue |
| | | Reduction in Capital Expenditure |
| OLG Regional Recovery Funding | \$301,708 | Increase in Operating Grants & Contribution Revenue |
| | | Increase in Materials & Contracts Operating Expenditure |
| Wentworth Pool Painting & Tiling | \$80,000 | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Wentworth Depot Workshop Equipment Replacement | \$25,000 | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Round 3 for 2023-2024 financial year. | \$1,278,207 | Increase in Capital Grants & Contributions Revenue |
| | | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Emergency Services Contributions | \$155,018 | Increase in Other Expenses operating expenditure |
| 3 Sisters Drainage Basin | \$30,000 | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Wentworth Extended Day Care | \$350,000 | Increase in Capital Grants & Contributions Revenue |
| | | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Civic Centre Outdoor Area | \$450,000 | Increase in Capital Grants & Contributions Revenue |
| | | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer | \$300,000 | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Pooncarie-Menindee Road | \$2,090,000 | Increase in Capital Grants & Contributions Revenue |
| | | Increase in Capital Expenditure |
| Willow Bend Caravan Park | \$150,000 | Increase in User Fees & Charges Revenue |
| CHAC Contribution | \$37,500 | Increase in Other Expenses Operating Expenditure |
| Shire Promotion | \$50,000 | Increase in Other Expenses Operating Expenditure |

9.6 POLICY REVIEW - FINANCE & POLICY DEPARTMENT

File Number: RPT/22/357

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 25 are the responsibility of the Finance & Policy Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed seven policies and are presenting them to Council for adoption.

Recommendation

That Council adopted the following revised policies:

- a) AF012 - Writing off Rates, Charges and Debts Policy
- b) AF015 - Borrowing & Overdraft Policy
- c) GOV007 - Privacy Policy
- d) GOV008 - Public Access to Information Held by Council (GIPA) Policy
- e) GOV019 - Statement of Business Ethics
- f) GOV022 - Legislative Compliance Policy
- g) PR014 - Cemetery and Memorial Management Policy

That Council, following the completion of the public exhibition period and there being no submissions, adopt the following draft policy:

GOV025 – Contract Management Policy

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the process of reviewing Council policies that has begun following the general election of all Councillors.

Background

After each general election of Councillors, the Act requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 25 are the responsibility of the Finance & Policy Department.

Matters under consideration

For this report staff within the Finance & Policy Department have reviewed the following policies:

- a) AF012 - Writing off Rates, Charges and Debts Policy
- b) AF015 - Borrowing & Overdraft Policy

- c) GOV007 - Privacy Policy
- d) GOV008 - Public Access to Information Held by Council (GIPA) Policy
- e) GOV019 - Statement of Business Ethics
- f) GOV022 - Legislative Compliance Policy
- g) PR014 - Cemetery and Memorial Management Policy

As part of ongoing continuous improvement, a new template for both Council and Operational policies has been developed to ensure consistency and ease of use. As part of the review process all existing policies will be updated using the new policy template.

While reviewing these policies it has been determined that the policies are still required policies of Council and that the current scope and intent of the policies are still relevant, therefore only minor formatting and administrative updates in order to reflect best practice has been made to the policies.

At the May 2022 Ordinary Council meeting the following policy:

- GOV025 – Contract Management Policy

was adopted in draft format and placed on public display. The public exhibition period has closed and there have been no comments received from the public, therefore it is recommended that this policy be adopted.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The Act requires Council to review all of its official Council policies following a general election of all Councillors.

Conclusion

The Finance & Policy department is currently responsible for 25 Council policies. For this Council meeting the department has reviewed seven policies and are presenting them to Council for adoption. It is the recommendation of the reporting officer that these policies be adopted.

Attachments

1. Revised Borrowing & Overdraft Policy[↓](#)
2. Revised Legislative Compliance Policy[↓](#)
3. Revised Writing Off Rates, Charges & Debts Policy[↓](#)
4. Revised Privacy Policy[↓](#)
5. Revised Cemetery & Memorial Management Policy[↓](#)
6. Revised Statement of Business Ethics Policy[↓](#)
7. Revised Public Access to Information Held by Council (GIPA) Policy[↓](#)
8. Draft Contract Management Policy[↓](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF015**BORROWING & OVERDRAFT POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The broad objective of this policy is to make policy-based provision with respect to Wentworth Shire Council (Council) borrowings, so as to ensure that all such borrowings are strictly in accordance with the relevantly applicable legislative provisions.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure the sound management of Council's existing and future debt. Council recognises that loan borrowings are an important funding source for Local Government by providing the opportunity to bring unfunded projects forward and ensures that full cost of infrastructure is not borne entirely by present-day ratepayers.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all borrowings of Council.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|---------------------------|---|
| Borrowing | Cash received from another party in exchange for future payment of the principal, interest and other finance charges. |
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |
| Debt Service Ratio | Is the measure of the level of debt servicing costs as a percentage of total revenue from ordinary activities. It indicates the ability to service debt and the risk associated with debt and interest commitments. The benchmark for this ratio is > 0% and < 20%. |
| Loan Break Costs | Costs associated with paying out a loan prior to the loan expiry date. |
| OLG | Office of Local Government |

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:

Principles

Loans will be used to fund infrastructure and other specific capital projects. At no time are loans to be used to fund annual operational expenditure;

The total amount of loan borrowings is to be sustainable in terms of Council's ability to meet future repayments and budgetary obligations;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF015**BORROWING & OVERDRAFT POLICY**

Prior to undertaking any borrowing, Council shall assess its capacity to repay the loan ensuring the community is not burdened with unnecessary risk including interest rate changes;

The total amount of loan borrowings will meet industry best practice in respect to Council's Debt Service Ratio;

Borrowings are not a form of revenue and do not replace the need for Council to generate sufficient operating revenue to service its operating requirements;

Any proposed borrowing amount must be included in Council Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan;

All borrowings will be considered in line with Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Community Strategic Plan;

Before considering a loan, Council will take into account inter-generational equity considerations in terms of the ratepayers who benefit from the expenditure and therefore on a user pays basis, who should pay for the costs associated with such expenditure; and

Where possible that the structure of any borrowing is appropriate for the nature of the asset being funded.

Limitations

The Local Government Borrowing Order prescribes current borrowing restrictions:

- Council shall not borrow from any source outside the Commonwealth of Australia nor in any currency other than Australian currency.

Loan Terms

The repayment period of a loan should not exceed the useful life of the asset being funded, but in all cases shall not be for a period in excess of 20 years.

Security

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, security for any loan will only be given over future Ordinary Rates of Council.

Borrowing Redemption

When surplus funds exist, the decision to repay loan borrowings shall be made based on the facts available at the time giving due regard to minimising the overall cost to Council. Loans will only be paid out early if there is a significant financial benefit to Council.

Internal Borrowings – Externally Restricted Funds

Internal loans from externally restricted funds must have approval from the Minister for Local Government before the loan can be drawn down.

Internal Borrowings – Internally Restricted Funds

The use of internally restricted funds is not considered to be an internal loan by the OLG. The use of internally restricted cash for a purpose that is different from its original purpose requires a resolution of a previous Council resolution.

Borrowings from internally restricted funds must be approved via a Council resolution and must be in accordance with this policy, a payment schedule to repay the internal borrowings will be drafted to ensure repayments to internal reserves can be funded, as if it was an external loan.

Overdraft

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF015**BORROWING & OVERDRAFT POLICY**

Council has an overdraft facility established with the Bendigo & Adelaide Bank. The overdraft facility is only used for short term unavoidable and essential cash flow purposes only.

At no time is the overdraft facility to be used as an operating debt facility or to fund anything except unavoidable and essential short-term cash flow requirements.

Use of the overdraft facility is to be jointly approved by the General Manager and the Director Finance & Policy and must be reported to Council at the next available Council meeting.

Reporting

Council is required to complete the Office of Local Government (OLG) Proposed Borrowing Return detailing projects to be funded for any borrowings each financial year.

A monthly reconciliation of all borrowings, will be completed by the Finance team and reported to Council as part of the monthly finance report.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act (NSW) 1993*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 (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
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy
- GOV023 – Conflicts of Interest Policy

Council Documents

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Procurement Manual
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)
- Gifts and Benefits Register
- Conflicts of Interest Register

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF015**BORROWING & OVERDRAFT POLICY**

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**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV022**LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

Wentworth Shire Council (Council) is committed to ensuring its utmost compliance with all applicable legislative obligations. This policy sets out Council's legislative compliance principles, and commitment to ensuring that its obligations are met in a proactive, timely and transparent manner.

Council has an obligation to ensure that all legislative requirements and obligations are met and this policy is a key element in Council's overall legislative compliance framework for monitoring compliance and identifying action required for corrective measures.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Council establishes systems which:

- Promote a culture of compliance within the organisation;
- Prevent, and where necessary, identify and respond to, breaches of laws, regulation, codes or organisational standards applicable to Council;
- Meet the expectations, of the community and those working at Council, that Council shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that Council will comply with applicable legislation;
- Assist Council in achieving the highest standards of governance; and
- Provide sufficient resources to ensure that Council's compliance program can be implemented, maintained and improved.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all areas of Council's operations and covers compliance with State and Federal legislation, Council policies and procedures, contracts, funding agreements and relevant standards etc.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Compliance | Means adhering to the requirements of laws, industry and organisational standards and codes, Council policies and plans, principles of good governance and accepted community standards. |
| Compliance Framework | Means Council's overarching framework that identifies and manages Council's legal and compliance obligation. |
| Compliance System | Means the framework, policies and procedures that holds and maintains the data, strategic documents and information that assists Council meet its compliance obligations. |
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV022**LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE POLICY**

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Legislative Obligations | Means legal requirements that an organisation has to comply with. |
| Non-Compliance | Refers to an act or omission, which causes Council to fail to meet its compliance obligations. |

5. POLICY CONTENT

Council shall have appropriate resources, processes and structures to ensure that legislative requirements are achievable and are integrated into the everyday running of Council.

These processes and structures will aim to implement the following principles, which are derived from the Australian Standard 3806-2006 – Compliance Programs:

Commitment

- Commitment by the governing body and executive management to effective to effective compliance that permeates the whole organisation;
- The compliance policy is aligned to the organisation's strategy and business objectives, and is endorsed by the governing body;
- Appropriate resources are allocated to develop, implement, maintain and improve the compliance program;
- The objectives and strategy of the compliance program are endorsed by the governing body and executive management; and
- Compliance obligations are identified and assessed.

Implementation

- Responsibility for compliant outcomes is clearly articulated and assigned;
- Competence and training needs are identified and addressed to enable employees to fulfil their compliance obligations;
- Behaviours that create and support compliance are encouraged and behaviours that compromise compliance are not tolerated; and
- Controls are in place to manage the identified compliance obligations and achieve desired behaviours.

Monitoring and Measuring

- Performance of the compliance program is monitored, measured and reported; and
- The organisation is able to demonstrate its compliance program through both documentation and practice.

Continual Improvement

- Responsible management of compliance obligations includes a systematic approach to continuous improvement. This consist of on-going monitoring and reporting of non-compliance incidents, together with appropriate remedial action.

Maintenance and Review

- Council will ensure adequate processes are in place to ensure that timely advice is received regarding changes to compliance obligations and good governance practices by:
- Maintaining arrangements with legal advisors;
- Continuing memberships with professional bodies;
- Subscribing to relevant information services;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV022**LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE POLICY**

- Attending industry forums, conferences, workshops and seminars; and
- Monitoring regulators' website.

Legislative compliance is primarily a management responsibility and therefore commitment must be demonstrated by all levels of management to ensure that Council's legal obligations within their area of responsibility are met. Appropriate actions must be taken to ensure an adequate understanding of obligations and where necessary expert advice sought to guide management actions. To achieve Council's compliance objective, a compliance framework has been implemented to support monitoring and review of obligations and responsibilities.

To support the framework all levels of management will:

- Promote a culture of compliance and good governance;
- Uphold a culture of compliance without fear of reprisal;
- Document and review Council's processes to ensure they comply with applicable laws and regulations;
- Provide training and assistance to employees to enable understanding of compliance obligations and required management actions;
- Continue to monitor and report on compliance to identify breaches or system failures; and
- Promptly address identified breaches or other non-compliance to mitigate Council's exposure to legal risk.

Accountabilities and Responsibilities**Councillors**

- Adhere to and comply with all relevant legislation and policies that are endorsed by Council;
- Review and endorse this policy periodically; and
- Support a positive culture.

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

- Review compliance status reports annually, noting the effectiveness of the framework and identified areas for improvement;
- Review this policy periodically; and
- Provide recommendations for any reporting on compliance, including any identified areas of non-compliance or breaches.

General Manager

- Will be responsible for developing a framework to ensure that when legislation changes, steps are taken to ensure that actions comply with the amended legislation; and
- Will ensure that the framework sets out a range of actions required to achieve compliance with legislation and to achieve excellence based on benchmark activities set out in AS 3806-2006 Compliance Programs. Achievement will be assessed internally through Council's Internal Audit Plan and reported to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee annually;

Directors

- Adhere to and comply with all relevant legislation including Council's policies and operating policies;
- Review this policy periodically;
- Encourage behaviours that create a positive compliance culture;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV022**LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE POLICY**

- Support system implementation to better identify, monitor and report on compliance obligations;
- Participate in training as required; and
- Report on any areas of identified non-compliance and ensure corrective action is taken.

Managers

- Will ensure that directions relating to compliance are clear and unequivocal and that legal requirements which apply to each activity for which they are responsible are identified;
- Will have systems in place to ensure that all staff are given the opportunity to be kept fully informed, briefed and/or trained about key legal requirements relative to their work;
- Review and provide regular reporting updates on legislative compliance obligations;
- Notify the General Manager and their Director on any identified areas of non-compliance; and
- Action any identified areas for improvement in a timely manner.

Employees

- Have a duty to seek information on legislative requirements applicable to their area of work and to comply with the legislation; and
- Shall report through their supervisors to senior management any areas of non-compliance that they become aware of.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 (NSW)*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)*
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*
- *State Records Act 1998 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV009 – Delegations Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy

Council Document

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Risk Management Manual
- Risk Management Plan
- Delegations Manual
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV022

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..](#) 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: AF012**WRITING OFF RATES, CHARGES AND DEBT POLICY**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (Regulations) govern the circumstances under which amounts owed to Wentworth Shire Council (Council) can be written off, and the process through which this can occur.

It should be noted that there is no provision in the Act or Regulations for Council to write off rates or other charges due to financial hardship. Accordingly, Council has adopted a Hardship Policy (AF013) which details the assistance that Council may give to ratepayers who are experiencing hardship.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This official Council policy deals with Council's ability to write off an individual rate or charge.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to amounts owed to Council for rates and other charges.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged.

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

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:

Council will at all times follow the requirements of the Act and the Regulations in determining whether to write off amounts owed to it for rates and other charges.

In accordance with clause 131(1) of the Regulations, the amount of rates and charges above which any individual rate or charge may be written off only by resolution of Council is set by Council under this policy at \$2,000.00.

In accordance with clause 131(2) of the Regulations, an amount of rates or charges of or below the amount mentioned above can be written off either by resolution of the Council or by the order in writing of the Council's General Manager.

In accordance with the Regulations (clause 131(3)) a resolution or order writing off an amount of rates or charges must:

- specify the name of the person whose debt is being written off;
- identify the account concerned; and
- specify the amount written off, or must refer to a record kept by the council in which those particulars are recorded.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF012**WRITING OFF RATES, CHARGES AND DEBT POLICY**

In accordance with the Regulations (clause 131(4)) an amount of rates or charges can be written off under this clause only:

- if there is an error in the assessment; or
- if the amount is not lawfully recoverable; or
- as a result of a decision of a court; or
- if Council or the General Manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the amount would not be cost effective.

In accordance with the Regulations (clause 131(5)) the fact that an amount of rates or charges is written off under this clause does not prevent Council concerned from taking legal proceedings to recover the amount.

In accordance with the Regulations (clause 131(6)) the General Manager must advise the council of rates and charges written off by written order of the General Manager.

In accordance with the Regulations (clause 132) Council's annual report must include the amount of rates and charges written off during the year.

Council will act in accordance with the Regulations (clause 133) in carrying out the sale of land to recover overdue rate or charges.

In accordance with the Regulations (clauses 159 and 160) the prevention of waste and misuse of water supplied by Council is the responsibility of the owner, occupier or manager of the premises. Where the owner or occupier of a premises on which a water meter is installed believes there to be an error in the assessment then, in accordance with the Regulations (clause 158):

- At the request of an owner or occupier of premises and on the payment of a fee fixed by Council, Council must arrange for a water meter installed on the premises to be examined and tested.
- Council may, on its own initiative, arrange for such a water meter to be examined and tested.
- If, as a result of such an examination and test, a water meter is found not to correctly measure the quantity of water passing through it, Council may charge for the supply of water:
 - on the basis of a daily consumption equal to the average daily consumption during the corresponding meter reading period of the previous year, or
 - on such other basis as Council and the owner/occupier may agree.
- Testing carried out at the request of a person who is the owner or occupier of premises is to be at the expense of the person, unless the meter is one hired from or provided by Council and the testing indicates that the meter is defective, in which case the testing is to be at the expense of Council.
- A water meter that registers less than 4 per cent more or less than the correct quantity is taken to correctly measure the water passing through it.
- If a water meter provided by Council is found to be defective, the Council must replace it with one that is not defective.
- If a privately owned meter is found to be defective, Council may require the owner to rectify the meter or, if the defect cannot be rectified, replace the meter with one

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: AF012**WRITING OFF RATES, CHARGES AND DEBT POLICY**

that is not defective. An owner who is required to rectify or replace a meter must comply with the requirement.

- The rectification or replacement is to be at the expense of the owner.
- When a privately owned water meter is being rectified or is awaiting replacement, the supply of water to the owner of the meter:
 - is to be regulated by special contract made between the owner and Council, and is to be restricted to use for domestic purposes.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- AF013 – Financial Hardship Policy
- AF014 – Debt Recovery Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy

Council Document

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Privacy Management Plan

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

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV007**PRIVACY POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

To safeguard personal information held by Wentworth Shire Council (Council) and explain how personal information is dealt with by Council.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Council will comply with the Information Protection Principles set out in the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW), as modified by the Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government and the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002* (NSW).

Council considers that the responsible handling of personal information is a key aspect of democratic governance, and is strongly committed to protecting an individual's right to privacy.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to Councillors and members of staff of Council.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged.

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

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth. |
| GIPA Act | <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009</i> (NSW) |
| HRIP Act | <i>Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002</i> (NSW) |
| PPIA Act | <i>Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998</i> (NSW) |
| Personal Information | Any information or opinion about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion. This includes records containing names, addresses, sex or other personal details, or physical information like fingerprints, body samples or DNA |
| Health Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the physical, mental or psychological health of an individual a disability of an individual an individual's expressed wishes about the future provision of health services to him or her a health service provided, or to be provided, to an individual that is also personal information other personal information collected to provide, or in providing, a health service to an individual |

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV007**PRIVACY POLICY**

Council will apply the following general principles, based on the 12 information Protection Principles and the 15 Health Privacy Principles outlined in the relevant legislation. Modifications and exceptions to the following general principles are set out in detail in Council's Privacy Management Plan:

General Principles

Collection of Information:

- Council will only collect personal information for a lawful purpose;
- Council will only collect personal information if it is directly related to Council's activities and necessary for that purpose;
- Council will ensure that the personal information is relevant, accurate and up to date and not excessive;
- Council will ensure that the collection does not unreasonably intrude into the personal affairs of the individual;
- Council will only collect personal information directly from the person concerned, unless it is unreasonable or impracticable to do so;
- Council will inform the person as to why it is collecting personal information about them, what it will do with the information, and who else might see it;
- Council will tell the individual how they can see and correct their personal information, and any consequences if they decide not to provide their information to Council; and
- If Council collects personal information about a person from someone else, it will take reasonable steps to ensure that the individual has been notified as set out above.

Storage of Information

- Council will ensure that personal information is stored securely, not kept any longer than necessary, and disposed of appropriately; and
- Personal information will be protected from unauthorised access, use or disclosure.

Access and Accuracy

- Council will explain to the individual what personal information about them is being stored, why it is being used and any rights they have to access it;
- Council will allow people to access their personal information without unreasonable delay or expense;
- Council will allow people to update, correct or amend their personal information where necessary; and
- Council will ensure that the personal information is relevant and accurate before using it.

Use

- Council will generally only use personal information for the purpose for which it was collected, or a directly related purpose that the person would expect; and
- Should Council wish to use personal information for a purpose other than that for which it was collected, it will seek the consent of the individual where reasonably practicable.

Disclosure

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV007**PRIVACY POLICY**

- Council will generally only disclose personal information for the purpose for which it was collected, or a directly related purpose that the individual would expect;
- Should Council wish to disclose personal information for a purpose other than for which it was collected, it will seek the consent of the individual where reasonably practicable; and
- Requests for access to Government Information lodged under GPIA can be refused if there is a public interest consideration against disclosure of information if disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to have one or more of the following effects:
 - Reveals an individual's personal information; or
 - Contravenes an information protection principle under the PPIA Act or a Health Privacy Principle under the HRIP Act.

Identifiers and Anonymity

- In using health information, Council will only assign identifiers to individuals if the assignment of identifiers is reasonably necessary to enable Council to carry out any of its functions efficiently.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 (NSW)*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)*
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*
- *State Records Act 1998 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy

Council Document

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV007**PRIVACY POLICY**

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**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Policy is to outline the overall principles that underpin how Wentworth Shire Council (Council) manages cemeteries and other memorials in order to comply with legislative requirements and to provide a dignified and responsive cemetery and memorial service to the community.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Council provides cemetery services that are safe, consistent and socially acceptable standards and practices for the benefit of Council workers, funeral industry representatives, clients and members of the general public. It will also ensure the conduct expectations for those working in or entering the cemeteries is in accordance with reasonable and practical standards.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to Council employees, community members, contractors and the funeral industry.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Applicant | The person making an application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To obtain or transfer an interment right; To have the body of a deceased buried or exhumed; or b. To have the remains of a cremated body interred in a cemetery. |
| Appropriate fee | A fee set by Council |
| Ashes | The cremated remains of a deceased person. |
| Burial | The act of burying, interring or immuring the remains of a deceased person. |
| Cemetery or cemeteries | An area containing one or more burial places. For the purposes of this Policy, one that is administered and controlled by Wentworth Shire Council. |
| Coffin | A long, narrow box, typically of wood, in which a dead body is buried or cremated. |
| Columbarium/Columbaria | A room or building with niches for funeral urns to be stored. |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014

CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |
| Exhumation | The removal of human remains from a burial site. |
| Funeral Director | An individual or business licensed to carry out funeral services. |
| Grave | A hole dug in the ground to receive a coffin or dead body. |
| Interment | The placement of human remains in a mausoleum, vault, columbarium or other structure designed for the placement of such remains or the burial in the earth of human remains (directly in the earth or within a container.) |
| Interment Right | Previously known as a right of burial, right of interment or burial license. This gives the holder the exclusive right to use a specified piece of land for interment and to place a monument over the grave. |
| Memorial | A statue or structure established to remind people of a person or event. |
| Monument | Any structure, plaque, headstone, footstone, masonry, metalwork, casting or item placed over, in or around a burial place. |
| Niche | Interment site within a columbarium, wall or other site for cremated remains. |
| Plinth | A heavy base supporting a statue, vase or placard. |
| Plot | A small, numbered piece of land used for the purpose of burial within a section of a cemetery. |
| Public Health Registration | The Public Health Regulation 2012 (NSW) under the <i>Public Health Act 2010 (NSW)</i> |
| Register | Council's formal data repository containing all the required details relating to burials, cremations, memorial sites or interment rights. |
| The Act | <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> |

5. POLICY CONTENT

The following is the policy of this Council:

Interment Right

Council will allow a person to purchase an interment right (right) for themselves or for other people within Council's cemeteries. Purchasing a right gives the person nominated on the application exclusive rights to a designated columbarium niche or interment site. Subject to the following terms and conditions, a right:

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

1. Is a contract between the cemetery operator, Council and a right holder which permits the holder to place human remains in the earth, a columbarium niche.
2. Applies to the burial of remains (including cremated remains) in either the earth, or placement in a columbarium.
3. Will only be granted on application and payment of the current fee.
4. May be granted to one or two persons as joint holders.
5. Is an interest in land but the holder does not become the owner of the land; it is a right to inter remains in a designed location within the cemetery.
6. Is granted by Council in perpetuity and allows the right holder to inter the deceased and for their remains to be left undisturbed forever, subject to exhumation.

Limits to the number and location of interment rights

Whilst Council makes provision for purchasing rights, there are limitations which are as follows:

1. No person can hold more than two interment rights in the one cemetery in NSW, unless approved by Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW.
2. Council will only allow the purchase of a right within the past or active sections of the cemetery.
3. Applications for a right within future or closed sections will not be accepted.
4. Council will only allow a person to purchase right(s) from the next available vacant and unreserved sites.
5. A person can only nominate themselves on a maximum of two licenses (including rights that are jointly held) in accordance with NSW legislation.
6. If the purchase of a right(s) is at the same time as a burial, the burial will take place in the last of the reserved interment sites, unless requested otherwise.
7. Only the right holder has authority to decide who can be buried within site.
8. Opposing interment sites can only be purchased by the applicant of the other opposing interment site, as long as the following criteria is met:
 - i. The two opposing interment sites are purchased by the same applicant, and
 - ii. The next interment site within the row of current interment sites is not available, and
 - iii. The opposing interment site is available.

Burial License

Upon acceptance of an application and payment of the applicable fee, Council will:

1. Record the right and its holder within Council's Cemetery Register.
2. Issue a Burial License which is evidence that a person, or any person they nominate, has exclusive right to be interred at the designated site.

Transfer of interment rights (Lawn cemeteries only)

The following section details the conditions of a transferal of a right:

1. Council will not accept and/or refund right transfers to any third party.
2. A right can be transferred back to Council for the original fee paid. A copy of the original burial receipt or Burial License should accompany the transfer application. This right will be available for resale by Council at the current rate.
3. Transfer of a joint right back to Council must be approved by both joint holders (if living).
4. On the death of a joint holder of a Burial License, the remaining holder is entitled to the right.

Revocation of perpetual interment rights

Council may revoke the right if it has not been exercised within fifty years after it has been granted. The process of revocation will be done in accordance with the *Cemeteries and Crematorium Act 2013 (NSW)*.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Cemetery Register

Council is required to keep a cemetery register which is available for public inspection upon request. Details about the holder of a right issued on a pre-need basis (reservation) shall not be made public.

The register will record the following information:

1. Rights granted in respect of interment sites.
2. Memorials erected for each interment site.
3. Each interment carried out within the cemetery.
4. The identity of each holder of a right.
5. The contact details of a nominated secondary contact or next of kin.
6. The name, age and last address of persons whose remains have been interred or cremated, the date of death and date of interment or cremation.

Burials or interments

The following details Council's Policy for burials and interments:

1. Prior to any interment, confirmation of the interment site and a copy of the Burial License must be provided to Council prior to an interment date being arranged.
2. New burials will only be placed in the next unused interment site unless the person has an existing right.
3. Adults cannot be buried or interred in the children's section of the cemetery.
4. Children can have double interment sites.
5. Second interments are not permitted in single depth interment site.
6. There is to be a minimum 4 hours gap interval between interments within the same cemetery.
7. All burial depths and covers shall be in accordance with the Public Health Regulation 2012. There shall be a minimum of 900mm soil cover, and where this is not possible, no additional burials can take place.

Ash Interment

1. Council will permit ash interment in both single and double interment sites.
2. Initially the ashes will be placed underneath the plinth until space requirements move them into the interment site.
3. No minimum cover is required for ash interments under a plinth.
4. When ash interments progress into the interment site, a space of 300mm x 300mm x 300mm is allowed for each ash placement. A minimum cover of 100mm below the surface is required over the ash placement which must be located within the plan of the interment site.

Mausoleums and Crypts

All mausoleums and crypts require a Development Application to be approved prior to installation. All works must comply with AS4425-1996 Above Ground Burial Structures and Council requirement.

Plinths and Plaques at Council Lawn Cemeteries

The following details Council's requirements for Plinths and Plaques:

1. Council will only allow standard concrete interment site plinths supplied and erected by Council to be placed in the lawn cemetery. The final position of the plinth is determined by Council.
2. Monuments, crosses or any type of memorial cannot be erected in the lawn cemetery.
3. All plaques are subject to Council specifications and must be ordered through Council.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

4. Council will only accept plaques cast in bronze to be placed on plinths. All other non-prescribed plaques will be removed and disposed of. Council accepts no financial responsibility for the deterioration and/or theft of plaques.
5. Only the holder of the Burial License, their Executor or next of kin (where there is no will) can authorise the ordering of a plaque from Council for an interment site.
6. The holder of the Burial License, their Executor or next of kin can, at their own cost, can apply to have a plaque with multiple names (e.g. due to multiple ash interments).

MAINTENANCE OF CEMETERY GROUNDSGeneral Maintenance

Council is responsible for the maintenance of areas surrounding graves, columbarium/niche walls and ashes garden beds. This includes, but is not limited to, mowing, brush-cutting and other landscape works. Council employees will take care to minimise any damage to masonry, monuments or grave structures.

Council's first priority remains the safety of the public and employees of Council, every attempt will be made to liaise with families before any action is taken however action may be required to rectify situations without prior consultation. Council reserves the right to remove any tributes that have been placed at an interment/ashes site, niche or plot that cause safety or amenity concerns to visitors, Council staff or Council equipment, interfere with any maintenance work or burials, or encroach upon other graves and plots.

CEMETERY CONDITIONS OF USEItems permitted at a Council Lawn Cemetery interment site

The only items Council will permit at an interment site are:

- a) Natural, plastic and silk flowers arrangements, provided they are:
 - i. Placed in the two vases provided by Council, and
 - ii. Placed in the two holes provided in the interment site's concrete plinth.

These items shall remain within the 600mm width of the interment site. The vases may be assisted to fit vertically in the vase holes of the plinth.

Spent flowers are removed by Council staff during normal maintenance operations.

Items NOT permitted at a Council Lawn Cemetery interment site

The following items are NOT permitted at an interment site or elsewhere in the law cemetery:

- a) Any type of receptacle that has not been provided by Council.
- b) Any adhesive product and rubber bands.
- c) Any ornament, landscaping material, monument, plans or illumination including around the perimeter of the interment sites.

Additional actions NOT permitted at Council Lawn Cemeteries

The following details actions that are not permitted at Council's Lawn Cemeteries:

- a) Painting of plinths or plaques (the applicant will be asked to compensate for the cost of removing paint).
- b) Turf must not be painted, damaged, dug up, relocated or removed from the cemetery.
- c) The moving of mobile chapels/shelters.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Persons found to be acting contrary to the above will be asked to leave the cemetery.

Additional actions NOT permitted at any Council Cemeteries

The following details actions that are not permitted at any of Council's Cemeteries:

- a) Dumping rubbish within the cemetery.
- b) The burial of animals within the cemetery.
- c) Picking and gathering of flowers and plants within the cemetery.
- d) Relocating flowers from one interment site to another.
- e) Planting of flora within the cemetery.
- f) The landscaping of interment sites.
- g) Bringing any animals into the cemetery (with the exception of registered guide, companion or assistance dogs).
- h) Driving vehicles off formed roads and carparks (disabled parking close to interment sites or the columbarium is available and must be arranged by prior agreement with cemetery staff).
- i) Distributing items such as circulars or handbills.
- j) Driving vehicles above the 25km/h speed limit.
- k) Hanging or leaving items in shrubs and trees or on cemetery seats.
- l) Camping or residing on any Wentworth Shire cemetery lands.
- m) Playing loud music.
- n) Possess or consume an alcoholic or intoxicating beverage or substance.

Persons found to be acting contrary to the above will be asked to leave the cemetery.

Activities permitted upon approval at all Cemeteries

Council's approval will be required to carry out the following activities within the cemetery:

- a) Selling or buying anything (e.g. flowers at the gate).
- b) Taking part in a meeting other than that of a religious or commemorative character (e.g. Halloween or night tours).
- c) Discharging any firearms (e.g. at a military funeral).

Exhumations

Exhumations will only take place:

- 1) In accordance with the requirements under the *Public Health Act 2010*, and
- 2) With the approval of the NSW Department of Health and payment of the current fee, or
- 3) By court order.

Disputes

In the event of a dispute regarding an Interment Right, a person may apply to Council for a determination. The decision will be made in accordance with the Cemeteries and Crematorium Act 2013 (NSW).

Council will have the final decision to accept an application for a new or replacement plaque.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW)
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10318

Council Policy No: PR014**CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

- *The Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013*
- *Public Health Act 2010 (NSW)*
- *Public Health Regulation 2012*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW)*
- *Heritage Act 1977*
- *Crown Land Management Act 2016*
- *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018*

Council Policies

- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy

Council Document

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)

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**

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 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.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|--------------------------|---|
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |
| 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. |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

| Statement | 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; 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;
- Loss of approvals;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- 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.

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;
- Present the highest standards of professionalism, ethical behaviour and probity in all dealings with suppliers and the community;
- Be able to account for all decisions and provide feedback on these decisions;
- Not be involved in any activities such as performing work with suppliers, consultants or contractors;

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- 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.

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.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

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.

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.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

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)*
- *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

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10085

Council Policy No: GOV019**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS ETHICS**

- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV005 – Procurement Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy
- GOV023 – Conflicts of Interest Policy

Council Documents

- Legislative Compliance 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 [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:

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council[Click here to enter a date.](#)**Date**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA) POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This Official Council Policy deals with the public's right to access government information under the Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (NSW) (GIPA Act).

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to facilitate the public's right to access government information under the GIPA Act. Members of the public have a legally enforceable right to access government information held by the Wentworth Shire Council. The GIPA Act extends the right to the community to have access to information held by State Government departments, local and public authorities with a view to achieving more open, accountable, fair and transparent government.

This Policy sets out the documents and types of information that are available to members of the public as a matter of routine (open access information), and information not made publicly available which may be requested via the formal access application process. It establishes an internal process for processing formal access applications and informal requests for access to Council records, and aims to demonstrate Council's commitment to the principles of the GIPA Act.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to Councillors and all members of Council staff.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring, supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged.

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

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|---|---|
| Council | Council of the Shire of Wentworth |
| GIPA Act | <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009</i> (NSW) |
| Formal Application Access | Valid application for access to government information under Part 4 of the GIPA Act. |
| Open Information Access | Records containing government information which is publicly available |
| Government Information | <p>The information contained in a record held by Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any paper or other material on which there is writing. Any paper or other material on which there are marks, figures, symbols or perforations having a meaning for a person qualified to interpret them, Any disc, tape or other article or any material from which sounds, images, writings or messages are capable of being produced or reproduced (with or without the aid of another article or device) |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA)
POLICY**

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Contracts Register | Is a register of government contracts that records information about each government contract to which Council is a party that has a value of \$150,000 or more |
|---------------------------|---|

5. POLICY CONTENT

The following is the policy of this Council:

Legislative Requirements

Council is committed to providing, as far as possible, an open, accountable and transparent environment, which enables members of the public access to Council records which do not require recourse to formal procedures. Council will seek to ensure that legitimate requests for access to information are handled promptly and that members of the public are able to access information, subject to the need to protect the privacy of others, commercially sensitive information and information the disclosure of which would not be in the public interest.

Access to Information

Accessing Personal Information and Amendment of Council Records:

- The GIPA Act recognises privacy as a key principle against disclosure – Section 14 (2). Where an application for access to personal information involves the disclosure of personal information about another person, Council must consult with that other person before providing the applicant with access to the information requested.
- The GIPA Act transfers the right for amendment of personal information held in Council's records from Part 4 of the previous Freedom of Information Act to the new Part 6A of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIPA) – Schedule 3, Part 2, Section 4. All applications for amendment of Council's records will be dealt with under PPIPA.

Ways to Access Government Information

Under the GIPA Act, a person seeking access to Council information has a legally enforceable right to be provided with access unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information.

In accordance with Part 2, Division 1 of the GIPA Act, access to government information may be exercised in four ways:

- Mandatory proactive release of certain government information. Council publishes open access information, defined in Section 18 of the GIPA Act, on its website at www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au. The following publications constitute open access information:
 - Publication guide – described in Part 3, Division 2 of the GIPA Act
 - Policy documents – described in Part 3, Division 4 of the GIPA Act
 - Register of government contracts – described in Part 3, Division 5 of the GIPA Act
 - Additional open access information – described in Part 3, Division 1 (Section 18 (b), (f) and (g)) of the GIPA Act.
- Authorised proactive release of government information, which must be exercised in an appropriate manner by or with the authority of Council's Information Access officer, free of

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA) POLICY**

charge (or at the lowest reasonable cost), unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information – Part 2, Section 7 of the GIPA Act.

- Informal release of government information via release of the information to a person in response to an informal request unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information. This may only be exercised by or with the authority of Council's Information Access officer – Part 2, Section 8 of the GIPA Act.
- Formal access application. According to Part 2, Section 9 of the GIPA Act, in some limited circumstances, people seeking access to government information will need to make a formal request for that information (eg. Where consultation with other agencies or third parties is required, or where the scope of request means that it will take significant agency resources to provide information).

Making a Formal Access Application

In some limited circumstances, when the government information is not open access information published on the website or available from the Customer Service Counter, and when releasing of the information requires previous consultation with third parties, this information may be accessed through a formal access application process.

In accordance with Part 4, Division 1, Section 41 of the GIPA Act, a valid formal access application must:

- Be in writing;
- Specify that it is made under the GIPA Act;
- Provide an email address for receipt of request information;
- Be accompanied by a \$30 fee; and
- Provide sufficient detail to enable the Council to identify the requested information

In making an application, a person may include any other additional information they think is relevant to the public interest test, which should be taken into account in determining whether or not there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information. Access application may be amended or withdrawn by the applicant at any time.

The application form for access information is available from Council's website, at Council's Customer Service section, or by calling the Information Access Officer on (03) 5027 5027.

Processing access application

The Information Access Officer is to decide whether the application is a valid access application (made in accordance with Part 4, Division 1, Section 41) or not (falls outside the scope of the Act), and notifies the applicant about the decision within 5 working days after the application is received – Part 4, Division 3, Section 51 of the GIPA Act.

The notification that the application is not valid must include – according to Part 4, Division 3, Section 52 of the GIPA Act – a statement of the reason why it is not valid, and provide an assistance to the applicant to provide such information as may be necessary to enable the applicant to make a valid access application.

According to Part 4, Division 4, Section 57 of the GIPA Act, the Information Access Officer must decide a valid access application and give the applicant a notice of the decision within 20 working days after receiving an application.

If consultation with a third party is required and/or records are required to be retrieved from the archive – the decision period can be extended by up to 10-15 working days.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA)
POLICY**

In accordance with Part 4, Division 4, Section 58 of the GIPA Act – to respond to valid access applications, the Information Access Officer may make the following types of decision:

- Decision that information is already available to the applicant;
- Decision to refuse to deal with application;
- Decision to refuse to provide access to information; or
- Decision to provide access to government information

Granting Access to Government Information

In accordance with Part 4, Division 6, Section 72 of the GIPA Act the access to the information in response to access information may be exercised by:

- Providing opportunity to inspect a record
- Providing a copy of a record
- Providing written transcript of the information

Council must provide access in the way requested by the applicant. Exceptions to that rule are described in Part 4, Division 6, Section 72 (2) of the GIPA Act.

The applicant has a period of 6 months to access the information. The access period starts from when notice of decision to grant access is given to the applicant.

Review of the Decision

In accordance with Part 5, Division 1 of the GIPA Act, any member of the public who is dissatisfied with Council's decision for access to information, may lodge a request for review of Council's decision.

There are three ways of review of Council decision:

- *Internal review by a Senior Officer of Council* – an application for internal review must be made within 20 working days of receiving the decision, and accompanied by a \$40 fee – Part 5, Division 2 of the GIPA Act. Council must complete its internal review within 15 working days of receiving the application, which may be extended by up to 10 working days if further consultation is required.
- *External review by the Information and Privacy Commissioner* – an application for Information and Privacy Commissioner's review must be made within eight weeks of the person receiving notice of the council's decision – Part 5, Division 3 of the GIPA Act.
- *External review by the Civil and Administrative Tribunal* – an aggrieved person may seek review by the NCAT within eight weeks of the decision or four weeks after the Information Commissioner's review – Part 5, Division 4 of the GIPA Act.

Other Provision

The GIPA Act abolishes the access to information regime under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW). Section 12 of LGA now falls under the open access information – Schedule 5, Part 2, Section 3 of the GIPA Act.

The GIPA Act does not affect the operations of the *State Records Act 1998* (NSW).

Published and released Council records are intended for general use and information. Information and files may be downloaded, stored, displayed and printed. Content must not be modified, copied, reproduced, or republished except with the written authorisation of the Wentworth Shire Council.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA)
POLICY**

Copyright laws apply to all copies of documents provided for information purposes by Council, where the documents are used for any other purposes.

Personal information about employees of Council is not available to the general public unless it is subpoenaed or required by law.

Information about the name and price of successful tenders, and also information about contracts that have a value of \$150,000 or more, is publicly available from the Council's Contract Register, published on Council's website – Part 3, Division 5 of the GIPA Act. Accessing any further information about tenders will be processed on receipt of formal access application for information access.

Information held by Council concerning companion animals must be handled in accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998* (NSW) and cannot otherwise be disclosed to the public. The details of a registered owner may be disclosed in response to a formal access application, made under the GIPA Act.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994* (NSW)
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW)
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW)
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002* (NSW)
- *State Records Act 1998* (NSW)
- *Companion Animals Act 1998* (NSW)

Council Policies

- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy

Council Document

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV008**PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY COUNCIL (GIPA)
POLICY**

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**

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The effective management of contracts with suppliers is essential to Council in maximising the benefits and achieving its corporate objectives. These benefits can be summarised as follows:

- **Business Benefits**
 - Maximises outcomes to Council (i.e. Council “gets what it is paying for”) by managing supplier performance, maintaining quality, improving productivity and identifying opportunities for improvement and innovations.
- **Value for Money**
 - Enables savings and benefits opportunities identified during the procurement or contract management process to be realized, whilst also ensuring the achievement of expected procurement outcomes.
 - Enables further benefits through ongoing performance reviews, services improvements, supply chain improvements, innovation etc.
- **Risk Management**
 - Reduces contractual risks through robust contract management practices.
 - Ensures Council is also aware of, and complies with, its own contractual and legislative obligations.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that there is a clear and standardised approach to managing and administering contracts for goods and services purchased from suppliers.

This policy applies to all contracts and any other documents that create legally binding obligations on Council for the procurement of goods, services and works which may include procurements which are simple in nature and low risk. Furthermore, it applies to a contract until all contractual obligations have been completed.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all Council staff responsible for the management of contracts on behalf of Council.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|----------------------------|---|
| Contract | An agreement, exchange of letters, heads of agreement, deeds of agreement, binding memorandum of understanding, response to tender, grant application, trust deed and any other document which creates or which may create binding obligations on Council and on the other party/parties to the contract. |
| Contract Management | Refers to all activities at the commencement of, during and after the contract period, to ensure that all contractual obligations have been completed. |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Contract Owner | Council staff member with the relevant financial delegation who is ultimately accountable for the outcomes of the contract. The contract owner approves contract variations including extensions, as well as appointing the contract management roles. |
| Contract Manager | Council staff member nominated to be responsible for the management and administration of the contract. |
| Contract Register | A register maintained for all procurements valued at over \$100,000. |
| Contract Variation | Is an addition or alteration to the original contract and may include a change to the scope of the contract, value of the contract, the contract options to be exercised, contract prices and quantity purchased. |
| GIPA | <i>Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009</i> |
| Value of a Contract | The value of a contract is whichever of the following values (inc. GST) is appropriate to the kind of contract concerned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total estimated value of the project, or • The total estimated value of the goods or services over the term of the contract, or • The value of the real property transferred. |

5. POLICY CONTENT

The application of this policy will commence at the completion of the procurement process (post award) and is designed to assist Council staff in managing and monitoring contracts and to ensure all contractual objectives are realised.

Council is responsible for the management of a diverse range of contracts including service, supply, building and construction-based contracts. To effectively manage these contracts Council staff must apply the following key principles of effective contract management:

- A Contract Management Plan must be developed prior to the commencement of the contract;
- Contracts are managed in a manner that facilitates business delivery while minimising risk;
- Contracts are managed maximising financial and operational performance;
- A standard approach and framework is adopted to managing contracts;
- Consistency in Council's procurement activities;
- Staff are adequately skilled and trained, and understand their roles and responsibilities under a contract;
- The principles of probity are adhered to: and
- Compliance with legislative and administrative arrangements.

The management of a contract may extend beyond the current term of the contract when there are ongoing obligations associated with maintenance agreements, warranties and guaranties.

Stages in the Contract Management Life CycleStage 1

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Contract Commencement – How to initiate and plan the contract management process:

- Successful Contract Management is highly influenced by activities performed prior to awarding the contract. Ensuring contract terms, conditions, scope, deliverables, KPI reporting and relationship management are clearly established in the signed contract and understood by all parties, is fundamental for effective Contract Management.

Stage 2

Contract Management – How to manage and administer contracts:

- Properly managing supplier performance with respect to outcomes and deliverables clearly specified and agreed in the contract will help ensure Council obtains the business benefits and value for money within target timeframes.

Stage 3

Contract Close Out – How to close and transition contracts:

- The contract close-out is the stage for finalising contract obligations and liabilities with suppliers. It may also include transitioning to another supplier for the goods/services.

Mandatory Requirements:

The following minimum requirements apply to all Council contracts valued at \$100,000 or more:

- Each contract must be given a contract number with the specific details of the contract recorded in the contracts register that is maintained in Council's Electronic Document Management System.
- A Contract Manager must be appointed.
 - The Contract Manager may manage a contract valued at more than their level of financial delegation. However, the Contract Manager must not approve or incur expenditure on goods, services or a project valued at more than their level of financial delegation. This also applies to any variations to the original price of the contract.
- Council developed and approved Contract Templates must be used.
 - Staff must use Council developed and approved contract templates at all times. These include contracts based on Australian Standards.
 - If in doubt specific advice should be sought to determine the appropriate terms and conditions to apply.
- All contracts must include appropriate clauses in the following areas:
 - Work Health & Safety, Quality Assurance, Environmental, Financial Capability, Insurance, Industrial Relations, Performance, Code of Conduct, Business Ethics, and Disclosure of Information (GIPA)
 - That allow and support contract compliance and risk management, with having regard to project value, requirements and complexity.
- All contracts must include appropriate clauses in the areas of:
 - Payments and Retentions, Price Adjustments, Delay to Completion/Delivery, and Dispute Resolution.
 - That allow managing or regulating variations to the original contract, having regards to project value, contract requirements and complexity.
- Contract performance of all contracts valued at \$100,000 or more must be regularly monitored, evaluated and reported.
 - This is required at least annually over the term of the contract and upon completion.
- All contract variations must be approved in writing in accordance with the contract and be approved by the appropriate delegate.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

- All risks must be reviewed annually and where applicable, the risk management plans updated
- Council's Code of Conduct must always be adhered to in the management of contracts on behalf of Council, in particular ensuring responsible decision making, declaring and appropriately managing any conflicts of interest and appropriate declining any offered Gifts or Benefits
- The responsible Contract Owner assigns the day to day management of the contract to the Contract Manager.
- For the purpose of this policy, staff that are responsible for managing procurement that is simple in nature and low risk will be considered a Contract Manager. Therefore, staff must manage all related legally binding obligations on the Council in an appropriate manner in accordance with this Policy.
- At the completion of a contract, a formal review process must be undertaken by the Contract Owner and the Contract Manager.
- The outcomes of such reviews shall be recorded and used to inform corrective actions and guide future contracting decisions.

Responsibilities**Executive Team**

- Overall Implementation of the Policy

Director Finance & Policy

- Ensuring the appropriate contract disclosures as required by the GIPA Act;

Manager Finance & Administration

- Ensuring that Council's Contract's Register is maintained and up to date; and
- Assist Contract Managers in monitoring and evaluating and reporting on the performance of contracts valued at \$100,000 or more.

Contract Owners

- Facilitation and oversight of contracts on the contracts register within their respective portfolio;
- Appointment of a suitably qualified, capable and adequately skilled Contract Manager according to the level and complexity of the contract; and
- Assigning day to day management of a contract to a Contract Manager.

Contract Manager

- Development, negotiation, execution and management of contracts in accordance with approved policies, procedures and processes;
- Ensuring contracts valued at \$100,000 or more are registered in Council's contract register;
- Day to Day management of assigned contracts in compliance with approved policies, procedures and processes and that all client obligations contained in contracts are fully satisfied; and
- Clearly defining in contracts, the performance standards, review mechanisms and deliverables required from contractors.

This policy does not apply to the following:

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

- Employment Contracts;
- Non-binding Memoranda of Understanding; or
- Partnering and collaborative contracts with other Local or State Organisations

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATIONLegislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)*
- *Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)*
- *Health Records & Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*

Council Policies

- GOV001 - Gifts & Benefits Policy
- GOV004 – Internal Reporting Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy
- GOV009 – Delegations Policy
- GOV011 – Councillor and Staff Interaction
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 – Legislative Compliance Policy
- GOV023 – Conflicts of Interest Policy

Council Documents

- Legislative Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Gifts and Benefits Register
- Conflict of Interest Register
- Privacy Management Plan
- Secondary Employment Policy (Operational)
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)
- Contract Management Framework

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: TBC

Council Policy No: GOV025**CONTRACT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

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**

9.7 UPDATED DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS

File Number: RPT/22/358

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

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

Summary

The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) and Council's Code of Conduct Policy require Councillors to update their Disclosure of Interest Return whenever there has been a change to a Councillors individual circumstances that might potentially create a pecuniary interest in matters that come before Council.

Councillors Cooper, Elstone and Nichols have recently updated their returns and they are now being tabled before Council for noting.

Recommendation

That Council notes the updated Disclosure of Interest Returns.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to table updated Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors Cooper, Elstone and Nichols.

Background

The Act and Council's Code of Conduct Policy require Councillors to update their Disclosure of Interest Return whenever there has been a change to a Councillors individual circumstances that might potentially create a pecuniary interest in matters that come before Council.

Report Detail

Updated Disclosure of Interest Returns have been received from the following Councillors:

- Cr Steve Cooper
- Cr Tim Elstone
- Cr Susan Nichols

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

Conclusion

By updating their Disclosure of Interest Returns the three Councilors have fulfilled their obligations under the Act and the Code of Conduct.

Attachments

1. Revised Returns of Interest for Crs Cooper, Elstone & Nichols. [↓](#)

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN
NSW

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH ~~THE~~ DRIVE

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Hazel Susan Nichols

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 23/05/2022 in respect of the period from 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2022

[insert return date]

Signed:

[Redacted Signature]

Date: 23/05/2022

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

A. Real Property

| Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest |
|---|--------------------|
| 5 (15) 226-228 Adams Street Wentworth NSW 2648 | Owner |
| | |
| | |

B. Sources of income

1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

| Description of occupation | Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable) | Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable) |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Councillor | WWSC 26-28 Adelaide St Wentworth NSW 2648 | |
| | | |

2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

| Name and address of settlor | Name and address of trustee |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |

3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

| Source | Amount |
|--------|--------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |

C. Gifts

| Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June | Name and address of donor |
|---|---------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

D. Contributions to travel

| Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June | Dates on which travel was undertaken | Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| NIL | NIL | NIL |
| | | |
| | | |

E. Interests and positions in corporations

| Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest (if any) | Description of position (if any) | Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company) |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| NSW Justice of Peace | | Member | Service Member |
| Wentworth Bowling Club | | President | Sporting Club (Promoting Bowls) |
| | | | |

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)YES / ☒**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

| Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Description of position |
|---|-------------------------|
| Sporting Shooters | Member |
| Justices Association | Member |
| | |
| | |

H. Debts

| |
|---|
| Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June |
| No debts owing to any person or organization. |
| |
| |

I. Dispositions of property

| |
|--|
| 1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time |
| NIL |
| |
| |

| |
|--|
| 2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property |
| NIL |
| |
| |

J. Discretionary disclosures

| |
|-----|
| NIL |
| |
| |
| |

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN
NSW

WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL
WORTH THE DRIVE

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Timothy Elstone

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 24/05/2022 in respect of the period from 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2022

[insert return date]

Signed:

[Redacted signature]

Date: 24/05/2022

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

A. Real Property

| Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest |
|--|--------------------|
| Shops 1+2 61 Darling St Wentworth | Owned by SMSF |
| 158 Darling View Road Wentworth | Owned by Spouse |
| | |

B. Sources of income

1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

| Description of occupation | Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable) | Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable) |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Real Estate Agent & Water Broker | Co-owner Wentworth & District Real Estate | N/A |
| | | |

2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

| Name and address of settlor | Name and address of trustee |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |

3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

| Source | Amount |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Wage from Business | \$100,000 |
| | |
| | |

C. Gifts

| Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June | Name and address of donor |
|---|---------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

D. Contributions to travel

| Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June | Dates on which travel was undertaken | Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| NIL | | |
| | | |
| | | |

E. Interests and positions in corporations

| Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest (if any) | Description of position (if any) | Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company) |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Wentworth & District Real Estate | Co-owner | Co-owner | Real Estate & Water Broking |
| Elltim Pty Ltd | Director | Director | SMSF |
| | | | |

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)YES / NO**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

| Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Description of position |
|---|-------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

H. Debts

| |
|---|
| Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June |
| NIL |
| |
| |

I. Dispositions of property

| |
|--|
| 1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time |
| NIL |
| |
| |

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

| |
|-----|
| NIL |
| |
| |

J. Discretionary disclosures

| |
|--|
| Manage property at 64 Beverley Street Wentworth on behalf of Wentworth Shire Council |
| and charge management fee |
| |
| |

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN
NSW

**WENTWORTH
SHIRE COUNCIL**
WORTH THE DRIVE

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **Stephen Charles Cooper**

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at **24/05/2022** in respect of the period from **01/07/2021** to **30/06/2022**

[insert return date]

Signed



Date: **24/05/2022**

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

A. Real Property

| Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest |
|---|--------------------|
| 31 Syndicate Road Curlwaa | |
| 129 Darling Street Wentworth | |
| | |

B. Sources of income

1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

| Description of occupation | Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable) | Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable) |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Real Estate Agent | Co-owner Wentworth & District Real Estate | N/A |
| | | |

2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

| Name and address of settlor | Name and address of trustee |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |

3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

| Source | Amount |
|--------|--------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |

C. Gifts

| Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June | Name and address of donor |
|---|---------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

D. Contributions to travel

| Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June | Dates on which travel was undertaken | Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| NIL | | |
| | | |
| | | |

E. Interests and positions in corporations

| Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Nature of interest (if any) | Description of position (if any) | Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company) |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| NIL | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)YES / NO**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

| Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June | Description of position |
|---|-------------------------|
| NIL | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

H. Debts

| |
|---|
| Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June |
| Bendigo Bank - 36 Darling Street Wentworth |
| |
| |

I. Dispositions of property

| |
|--|
| 1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time |
| NIL |
| |
| |

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

| |
|-----|
| NIL |
| |
| |

J. Discretionary disclosures

| |
|-----|
| NIL |
| |
| |
| |

9.8 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/352

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 2022 were \$1,255,800.11. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 88.96%. For comparison purposes 87.7% of the levy had been collected at the end of May 2021. Council currently has \$43,659,545.66 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 2022

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 31 May 2022.

| | Combined Bank Account |
|--|-------------------------|
| Cash Balance as at 1 May 2022 | \$ 2,041,295.90 |
| Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 31 May 2022 | \$ 5,222,318.66 |
| Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous | |
| Less: Payments for the Period Ending 31 May 2022 | |
| Cash Book entries for this Month | \$ 4,628,444.42 |
| Cash Balance at at 31 May 2022 | \$ 2,635,170.14 |
| Investments | |
| Total Investments as at 31 May 2022 | \$ 41,024,375.52 |
| TOTAL | \$ 43,659,545.66 |

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of May 2022 were \$ 1,255,800.11. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 88.96%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 31 May 2022 is as follows.

| | Rates and Charges | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| Levies | | |
| Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2021 - Rates / Water | 957,794.11 | |
| Rates and Charges Levied 20 July 2021 | 9,545,527.09 | \$ 10,503,321.20 |
| + Additional Water Charges | 1,392,824.00 | |
| + Supplementary Rates and Charges | 78,864.46 | |
| + Additional Charges | 67,460.56 | |
| - Credit Adjustments | 20,090.21 | |
| - Abandonments | 861.88 | \$ 12,021,518.13 |
| Deductions | | |
| - Payments | 10,530,311.11 | |
| - Less Refunds of Payments | 13,747.13 | \$ 10,516,563.98 |
| | | \$ 1,504,954.15 |
| - Pensioner Subsidy | | |
| Government Subsidy | 98,000.64 | |
| Council Subsidy | 80,182.35 | \$ 178,182.99 |
| Total Rates/Water Charges Outstanding | | \$ 1,326,771.16 |

Note: For comparison purposes 87.7% of the levy had been collected at the end of May 2021.

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 May 2022.

| Account | Date | Amount | Comment |
|--------------|----------|--------|--|
| Rates | | | |
| 1536.01 | 9.5.2022 | 12.90 | write off accrued interest while waiting for a response on a rating matter |
| 1536.02 | 9.5.2022 | 13.90 | write off accrued interest while waiting for a response on a rating matter |
| 1536.03 | 9.5.2022 | 13.90 | write off accrued interest while waiting for a response on a rating matter |
| 1536.04 | 9.5.2022 | 13.98 | write off accrued interest while waiting for a response on a rating matter |
| | | | |

Council Loans Report

| Name | Institution | Purpose | Interest Rate | Loan Amount | Amount Outstanding | Due Date |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------|
| Loan 201 | National Australia Bank | Buronga Landfill | 4.550% Fixed | \$ 920,000.00 | \$ 313,394.29 | 30/01/2025 |
| Loan 202 | ANZ Bank | Civic Centre | 3.470% Fixed | \$ 850,000.00 | \$ 625,735.63 | 21/10/2026 |
| Loan 203 | National Australia Bank | Midway Centre | 3.586% Fixed | \$ 1,900,000.00 | \$ 1,566,483.45 | 28/04/2023 |
| Loan 204 | Bendigo Bank | Buronga Landfill | 5.290% Fixed | \$ 1,500,000.00 | \$ 1,258,452.82 | 12/05/2037 |
| CFWC31 0604 | T-Corp | Trentham Cliffs Sewer | 1.82% Fixed | \$ 750,000.00 | \$ 715,589.05 | 4/06/2031 |
| CFWC31 0624 | T-Corp | Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater | 1.79% Fixed | \$ 1,250,000.00 | \$ 1,146,483.83 | 24/06/2031 |
| Loan 205 | National Australia Bank | Willowbend Caravan Park | Fixed 2.2% | \$ 1,500,000.00 | \$ 1,500,000.00 | 25/01/2027 |
| Loan 206 | Bendigo Bank | Buronga Landfill #3 | Fixed 1.85% | \$ 900,000.00 | \$ 821,641.17 | 25/09/2028 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | TOTAL | \$ 7,947,780.24 | |

Overtime and Travelling

| Month | May-19 | Pay Periods | 23 & 24 | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Overtime | | | | | | | | |
| | Time and a Half | | Double Time | | Double Time and Half | | Tripple Time and Half | |
| Department | Hours | Amount | Hours | Amount | Hours | Amount | Hours | Amount |
| Animal Services | 14.00 | \$ 680.45 | 12.50 | \$ 813.53 | | | | |
| Civil Works | 11.00 | \$ 526.50 | 1.00 | \$ 88.93 | | | | |
| Finance | 2.50 | \$ 124.25 | 1.00 | \$ 59.18 | | | | |
| Governance | 4.50 | \$ 325.87 | | | | | | |
| Parks & Gardens | 6.00 | \$ 248.04 | 3.00 | \$ 165.37 | | | | |
| Roads - Council | 123.00 | \$ 5,465.14 | 128.00 | \$ 8,090.43 | | | | |
| Roads & Engineering Indoor | 31.00 | \$ 2,281.95 | 9.00 | \$ 906.86 | | | | |
| Roads - RMS | 1.00 | \$ 37.36 | | | | | | |
| Tourism | 4.25 | \$ 215.46 | | | | | | |
| Waste Management | 37.00 | \$ 1,723.95 | 30.00 | \$ 2,102.40 | 23.50 | \$ 2,305.33 | | |
| Water & Waste Water | 52.50 | \$ 2,790.37 | 52.25 | \$ 3,504.72 | 42.50 | \$ 2,801.96 | 4.50 | \$ 336.21 |
| Total | 286.75 | \$ 14,419.34 | 236.75 | \$ 15,731.42 | 66.00 | \$ 5,107.29 | 4.50 | \$ 336.21 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Grand Total | | 35,594.26 | | | | | | |

Conclusion

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

9.9 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

File Number: RPT/22/366

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

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

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

Summary

As at 31 May 2022 Council had \$37 million invested in term deposits and \$6,659,545.66 in other cash investments. Council received \$8,783.24 from its investments for the month of May 2022.

In May 2022 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 1.11% and it currently has \$8,407,239.79 of internal restrictions and \$27,136,721.15 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.

Matters under consideration

As at 31 May 2022 Council had \$43,659,545.66 invested with ten (10) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation.

Breakdown of Total Funds Available

| Financial Institution | Amount | Percentage of Available Funds |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| AMP | \$1,000,000.00 | 2.29% |
| Bank of Queensland | \$1,000,000.00 | 2.29% |
| Bendigo Bank | \$4,635,170.14 | 10.62% |
| Commonwealth Bank | \$4,000,000.00 | 9.16% |
| IMB Bank | \$1,000,000.00 | 2.29% |
| Macquarie Bank | \$9,024,375.52 | 20.67% |
| ING Bank | \$7,000,000.00 | 16.03% |
| National Australia Bank | \$7,000,000.00 | 16.03% |
| Westpac | \$6,000,000.00 | 13.74% |
| Suncorp | \$2,000,000.00 | 4.58% |
| Northern Territory T-Corp | \$1,000,000.00 | 2.29% |
| TOTAL | \$43,659,545.66 | 100.00% |

Investments on Hand as at 31 May 2022

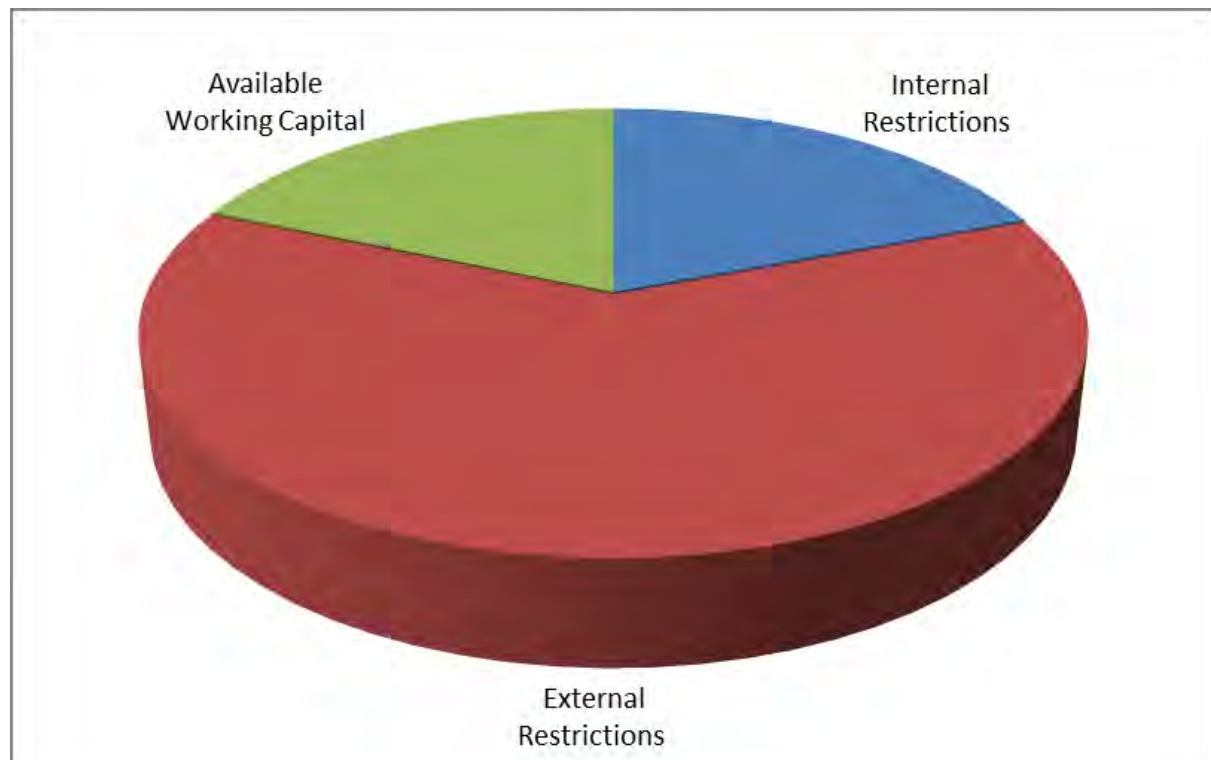
| Wentworth Shire Council | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|
| Investments on Hand as at 31 May 2022 | | | | | | |
| Investee | Date Invested | Date of Maturity | Effective Interest Rate | Investment Type | Amount Invested | Rating |
| AMP Bank | 22/09/2021 | 22/09/2022 | 0.80% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A2/BBB |
| Bank of Queensland | 7/12/2021 | 5/09/2022 | 0.50% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A2/BBB+ |
| Bendigo Bank | 24/02/2022 | 24/02/2023 | 0.85% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A2/BBB+ |
| Bendigo Bank | 27/09/2021 | 27/06/2022 | 0.30% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A2/BBB+ |
| Commonwealth Bank | 8/04/2022 | 6/04/2023 | 1.87% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Commonwealth Bank | 15/06/2021 | 15/06/2022 | 0.40% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Commonwealth Bank | 14/07/2021 | 14/07/2022 | 0.46% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Commonwealth Bank | 27/05/2022 | 26/05/2023 | 3.01% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| IMB Bank | 9/03/2022 | 9/06/2022 | 1.10% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A2/BBB+ |
| Macquarie Bank | 7/10/2021 | 24/08/2022 | 0.40% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| Macquarie Bank | 3/12/2021 | 2/11/2022 | 0.50% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| Macquarie Bank | 22/02/2022 | 23/08/2022 | 0.65% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| Macquarie Bank | 23/03/2022 | 23/02/2023 | 1.25% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| Macquarie Bank | 8/03/2022 | 6/09/2022 | 0.65% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| National Australia Bank | 19/04/2022 | 15/11/2022 | 1.29% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 19/01/2022 | 19/07/2022 | 0.52% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 21/01/2022 | 18/10/2022 | 0.62% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 19/04/2022 | 17/10/2022 | 1.20% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 3/12/2021 | 1/07/2022 | 0.49% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 11/03/2022 | 11/03/2024 | 1.85% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| National Australia Bank | 25/03/2022 | 20/02/2023 | 1.18% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| ING Bank | 23/03/2022 | 23/03/2023 | 1.24% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 31/03/2022 | 31/03/2023 | 1.68% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 19/04/2022 | 19/04/2024 | 3.09% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 19/04/2022 | 20/03/2023 | 1.98% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 19/04/2022 | 19/12/2022 | 1.42% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 5/04/2022 | 5/04/2023 | 1.68% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| ING Bank | 18/05/2022 | 18/05/2023 | 3.11% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| NT T-Corp | 16/09/2021 | 15/12/2025 | 1.35% | Fixed Bond | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Suncorp Bank | 10/06/2021 | 10/06/2022 | 0.33% | Term Deposit | \$ 2,000,000.00 | A1/A+ |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 24/11/2021 | 20/10/2022 | 0.52% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 28/02/2022 | 25/11/2022 | 0.63% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 28/02/2022 | 28/12/2022 | 0.71% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 7/01/2022 | 5/08/2022 | 0.46% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 3/12/2021 | 3/06/2022 | 0.35% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | 11/03/2022 | 11/03/2024 | 1.92% | Term Deposit | \$ 1,000,000.00 | A1+/AA- |
| Total | | | | | \$ 37,000,000.00 | |
| Other Cash Investments | | | | | | |
| Investee | Date Invested | Date of Maturity | Effective Interest Rate | Amount Invested | Rating | |
| Bendigo Bank - Operating A/c | N/A | Ongoing | | \$ 2,635,170.14 | A2/BBB+ | |
| Macquarie Bank (4) - Ongoing | 3/12/2020 | Ongoing | 0.60% | \$ 4,024,375.52 | A1/A+ | |
| Total Funds Available | | | | | \$ 43,659,545.66 | |

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

Restrictions

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Internal Restrictions | | |
| - Employee Entitlements | \$2,376,437.00 | |
| - Doubtful Debts | \$124,556.00 | |
| - Future Development Reserve | \$1,076,217.20 | |
| - Trust Account | \$830,029.59 | |
| - Caravan Park Loan Facility | \$1,500,000.00 | |
| - Capital Projects | \$1,200,000.00 | |
| - Plant Replacement Reserve | \$1,500,000.00 | \$8,407,239.79 |
| External Restrictions | | |
| - Water Fund | \$10,579,954.48 | |
| - Sewer Fund | \$4,294,207.41 | |
| - T-Corp Loan Balance | \$1,127,094.07 | |
| - Developer Contributions Reserve | \$663,375.97 | |
| - Unexpended Grants | \$9,718,098.72 | |
| - Crown Reserves Reserve | \$213,700.14 | |
| - Loan Guarantee Reserve | \$3,460.91 | |
| - Prepayments Cemeteries | \$536,829.45 | \$27,136,721.15 |
| Day to Day Liquidity | | \$8,115,584.72 |
| Total Funds Available | | \$43,659,545.66 |

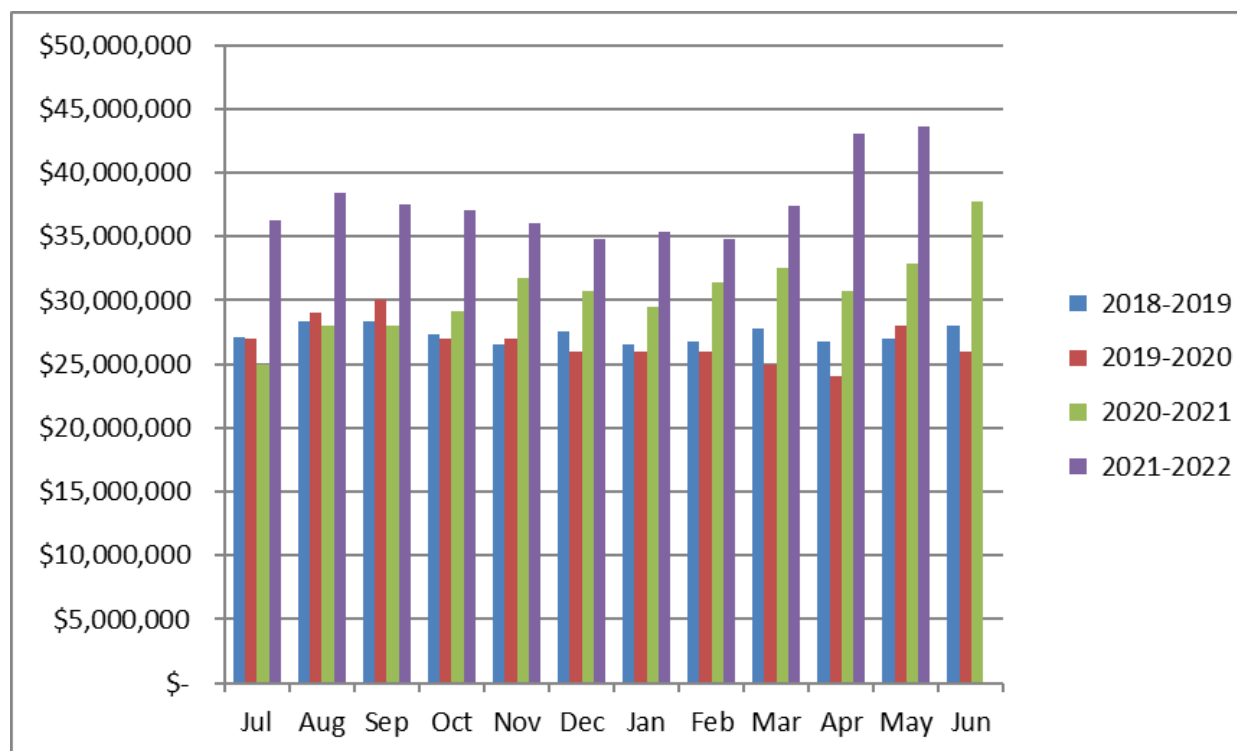
Breakdown



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 31 May 2022

| Grant | Amount |
|---|-----------------------|
| Library Infrastructure Grant | \$477,685.19 |
| Resources For Regions VIC Relocation | \$423,300.55 |
| SCCF Wentworth Rowing Club | \$60,156.11 |
| Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Astronomy Park | \$658,033.01 |
| Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Pooncarie Racecourse | \$29,700.00 |
| Resources For Regions Junction Island Bridge | \$145,590.97 |
| Main Road Block Grant | \$185,155.00 |
| Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Wentworth Caravan Park Grant | \$874,982.30 |
| EDS Grant | \$121,563.99 |
| Murray Darling Basin Upstairs Area | \$481,389.00 |
| Fixing Local Roads Grants | \$307,880.12 |
| Resources for Regions Round 8 | \$648,091.86 |
| General Assistance Grant 22/23 prepayment | \$5,301,868.00 |
| Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Upgrade | \$2,702.62 |
| Total | \$9,718,098.72 |

Total Funds Invested



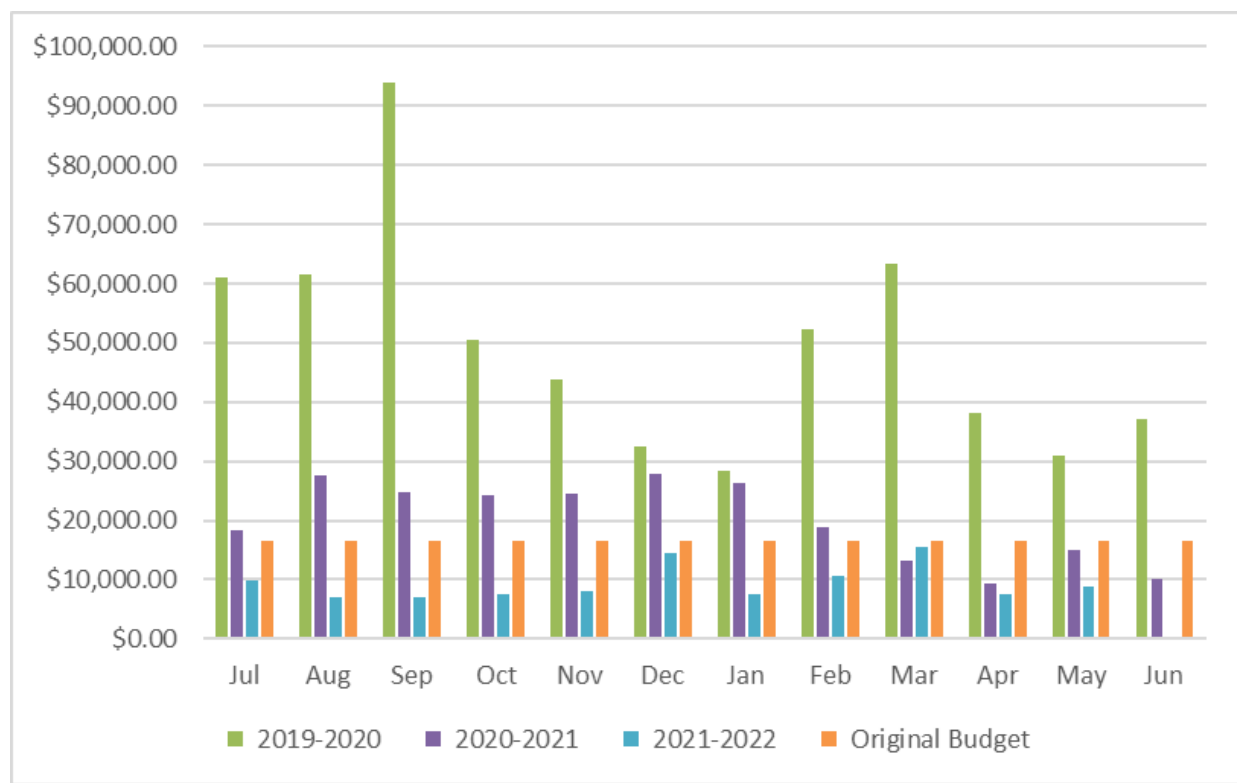
Two (2) deposits and One (1) other account matured or provided interest in May earning Council \$8,783.24 in interest. The budget for May was \$16,666.67. Year to date Council has received \$103,996.46 in interest. The budget for the current financial year is currently set at \$200,000.00.

Currently on the back of the new investment policy approval Council is restructuring their investments into longer term deposits, bonds and managed investments from which we hope to see increased returns.

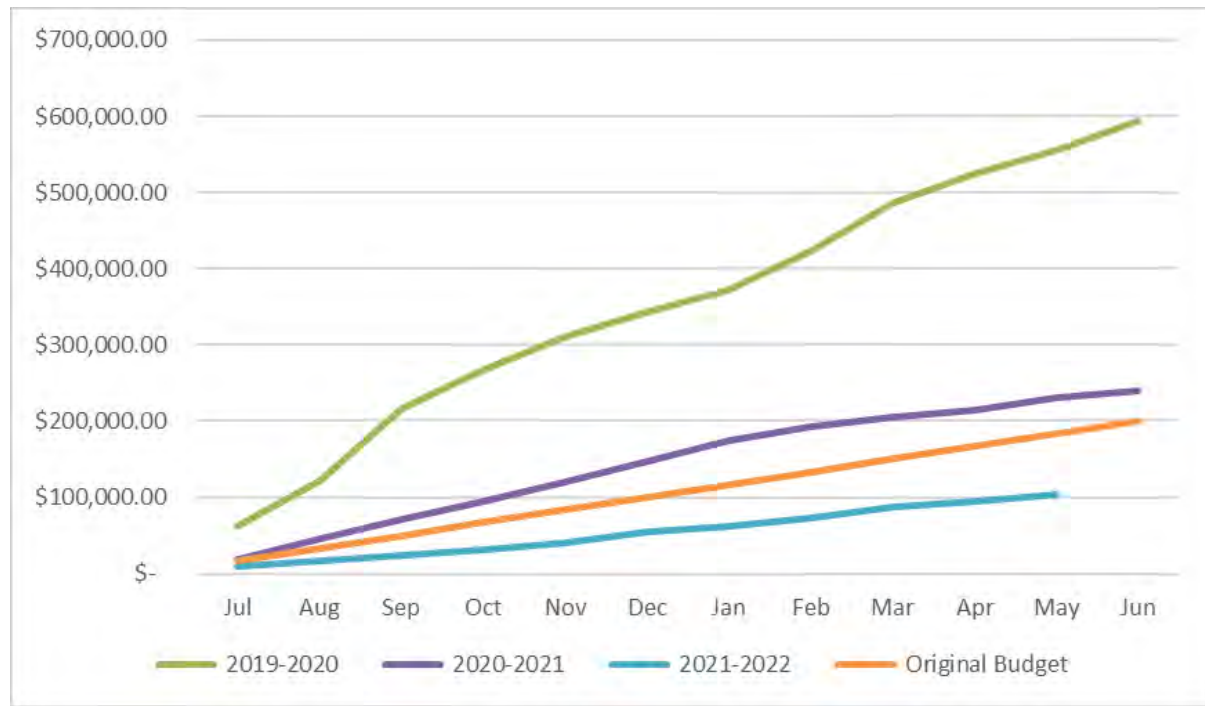
Investment Revenue in May 2022

| Investee | Date Invested | Date of Maturity | Effective Interest Rate | Amount Invested | Interest Earned |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Term Deposits | | | | | |
| Commonwealth Bank | 20/05/2021 | 20/05/2022 | 0.39% | \$1,000,000.00 | \$3,900.00 |
| Commonwealth Bank | 27/08/2021 | 27/05/2022 | 0.37% | \$1,000,000.00 | \$2,767.40 |
| Other Cash Investments | | | | | |
| Macquarie Bank | 3/12/2020 | Ongoing | 0.60% | \$4,024,375.52 | \$2,115.84 |
| Total | | | | | \$7,251.39 |

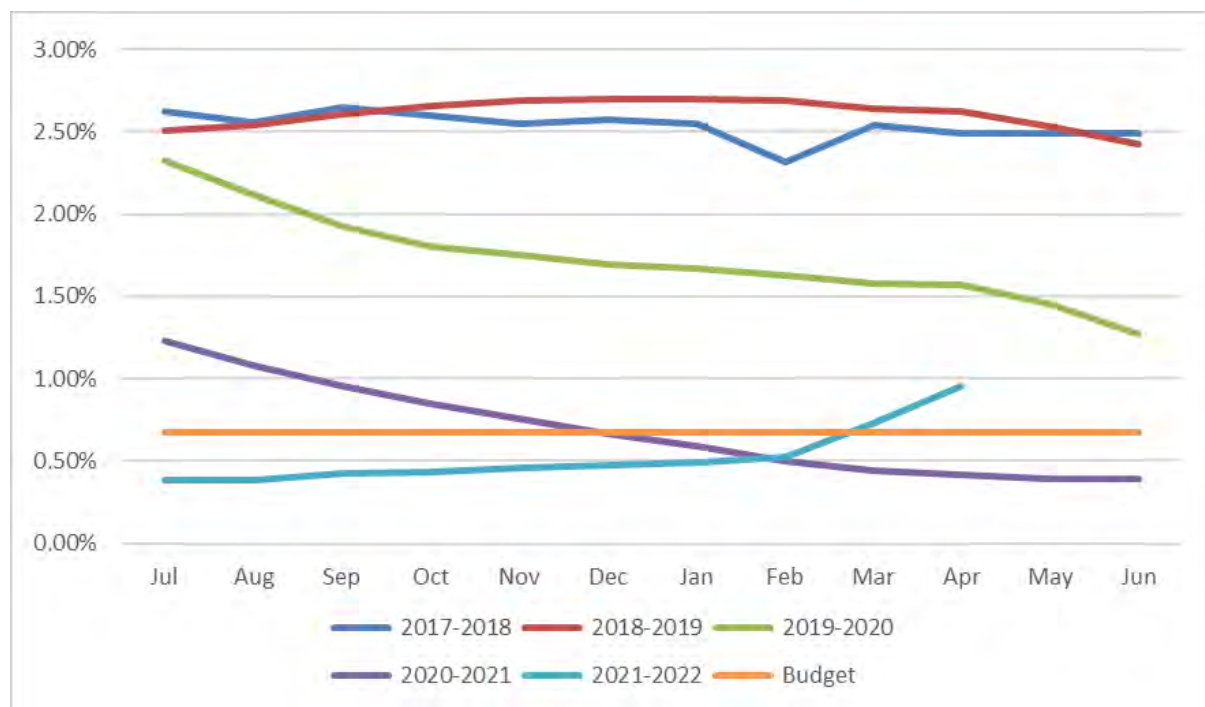
Investment Revenue received May 2022



Total Interest received July 2021 – June 2022



For May 2022 Council's investments returned an effective average rate of 1.11%. Year to date the effective average rate has been 0.58%. The budget for 2021-2022 was set at 0.67%.



Conclusion

The Director Finance & Policy certifies that all investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Local Government (General) Regulations 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

9.10 WRITE OFF OF DOUBTFUL DEBTS

File Number: RPT/22/365

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Directorate: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

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

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

Recommendation

That Council writes off as a bad debt the amount of \$ 10,499.50 pertaining to the Debtor accounts listed, all avenues of recovery have been exhausted and to continue pursuing the matter further would have no cost benefit for Council.

Summary

Council has been unable to recover the amount of \$ 10,499.50 being for waste charges from the Wentworth Caravan Park, Trade display fees for the Western Division conference. Council authorisation is required in order to write off these amounts.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's authorisation to write off a number of fees and charges where Council has exhausted all avenues to recover the funds.

Background

Council reviews its outstanding debtors on a monthly basis and makes every attempt to recover those outstanding amounts. However, from time to time it becomes apparent that Council will not be able to recover the outstanding amounts and to continue attempting to recover the outstanding amounts would not be cost effective for Council.

When this occurs, Council is required to write off the bad debt from its books. This ensures that our outstanding debtors are not stated above the amount that we can reasonably expect to receive.

Matters under consideration

Council has identified the following outstanding amounts that require writing off as the chances of recovering the amounts are unlikely and to continue to pursue the debts would not be cost effective for Council;

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Debtor Account - Advertising and Trade Display | \$ 5,500.00 |
| • Western Division Conference | |
| Debtor Account – Waste account | \$ 4,999.50 |
| • Removal of Car Tyres from the Wentworth Caravan Park. Contractor did not on charge Council for disposal of Car tyres in Council tip. | |

Options

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

- 1) Approve the recommendation; or
- 2) Continue pursuing the outstanding amounts incurring greater expense than we are likely to recover.

Conclusion

Council has no prospect of a successful recovery of the outstanding amounts. To continue to do so would not be cost effective, so it is recommended that these amounts be written off.

Attachments

Nil

9.11 DEPARTMENT HEALTH AND PLANNING POLICY REVIEW

File Number: RPT/22/363

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

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

After each general election of Councillors, *the Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 15 are the responsibility of the Health and Planning Department.

For this Council meeting Health and Planning has reviewed three (3) policies and one (1) document being the Community Participation Plan, which are now presented for consideration.

Recommendation

- 1) That Council adopt the following:
 - a) Community Participation Plan
 - b) PR003 Storm Water Drainage Policy
- 2) That Council approve PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy and PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties, to go out to public exhibition for 28 days per Council's Community Participation Plan.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the process of the review of Council policies that is ongoing following the election of all Councillors.

Background

After each general election of Councillors, the Act requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 15 are the responsibility of the Health and Planning Department.

Matters under consideration

As part of ongoing continuous improvement, a new template for both Council and Operational Policies has been developed to ensure consistency and ease of use. As part of this review process, all existing policies submitted for review have been updated using the new policy template.

For this report, staff within the Health and Planning Directorate have reviewed the following policies and documents:

PR003 Stormwater Drainage Policy

PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy

PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**Community Participation Plan**

While reviewing these policies:

PR003 Storm Water Drainage Policy**Community Participation Plan**

It has been determined they are still required of Council and that the current scope and intent of these policies are still relevant. Only minor formatting and administrative updates were needed of this policy. It is therefore recommended these policies be adopted.

While reviewing the remaining Policies:

PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy**PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

They have been subject to significant changes to bring them in line with current legislation and accepted industry standards. Due to these changes, these policies will need to go out to public exhibition for a period of 28 days before being presented to Council for adoption.

PR008 – Compliance and Enforcement Policy

This policy has been updated to include risk-based approaches to compliance and it also clearly outlines how and when Council will respond to concerns about unlawful activity.

PR015 – Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties

This policy has been updated to ensure that Wentworth Shire Council establishes systems which regulate and control the keeping of animals in the Wentworth Shire Local Government Area and to inform the community of responsible animal care and ownership.

Conclusion

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review its official Council Policies following a general Election of Council. The Health and Planning Department is responsible for 15 Council policies. For this meeting Council has reviewed three (3) policies and the Community Participation Plan.

Attachments

1. PR003 Stormwater Drainage Policy[↓](#)
2. Community Participation Plan[↓](#)
3. PR008 Compliance and Enforcement Policy[↓](#)
4. PR015 Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties[↓](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/6060

Council Policy No: PR003**STORMWATER DRAINAGE POLICY**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

This Official Council Policy deals with cost recovery of development of stormwater drainage construction in new urban/residential areas.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to form the basis for recovery of the cost of development of stormwater drainage construction in new urban type user areas. The cost of these works are to be set out in Council Developer Contribution Plan.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all areas of Council's operations and covers stormwater drainage construction services.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

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

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

N/A

4. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:-

5.1 That where land is being subdivided in the stormwater catchment indicated in the schedule that a drainage contribution fee be payable by the subdivider as a 7.11/7.12 Contribution provided by in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

5.2 That contribution fee only apply to land being subdivided for non-agricultural use.

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act

6. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

7. 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.](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/6060

Council Policy No: PR003

STORMWATER DRAINAGE POLICY

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council

Date

DRAFT



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Community participation in the planning system | 3 |
| What is community participation and why is it important? | 3 |
| What is the purpose of our Community Participation Plan? | 3 |
| What functions does the community participation plan apply to? | 3 |
| Who does this Community Participation Plan apply to? | 4 |
| How the community can participate in Council's planning functions | 4 |
| Our community participation objectives | 4 |
| Our approach to community participation | 6 |
| The role of exhibitions in the planning system | 8 |
| Exhibitions..... | 8 |
| Exhibition timeframes..... | 8 |
| How can you get involved in a public exhibition? | 10 |
| Making a submission..... | 10 |
| Appendix..... | 11 |

Community participation in the planning system

What is community participation and why is it important?

Community participation is an overarching term covering how we engage the community in our work under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act), including plan making and making decisions on proposed development. The level and extent of community participation will vary depending on the community, the scope of the proposal under consideration and the potential impact of the decision.

Council recognises community participation throughout the planning system is not only your right, it also delivers better planning results for the people of the Wentworth Shire. The community includes anyone who is affected by the planning system and includes individuals, community groups, Aboriginal communities, peak bodies representing a range of interests, businesses, local government, and State and Commonwealth government agencies. Community participation in the planning system is important because it:

- a) builds community confidence in the planning system;
- b) creates a shared sense of purpose, direction and understanding of the need to manage growth and change, while preserving local character; and
- c) provides access to community knowledge, ideas and expertise

What is the purpose of our Community Participation Plan?

Our Community Participation Plan (CPP) is designed to make participation in planning clearer for the Wentworth Shire community. It does this by setting out in one place how and when you can participate in the planning system, our functions and different types of proposals. This CPP also establishes our community participation objectives which we use to guide our approach to community engagement.

What functions does the community participation plan apply to?

Our planning responsibility is to deliver the objectives of the EP&A Act including the promotion of orderly and economic use of land, facilitating ecologically sustainable development and promoting social and economic wellbeing in the Shire. The specific planning functions of Council are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Planning functions this CPP applies to

| Planning Functions | Details |
|--------------------|---|
| Plan making | Strategic planning is an essential aspect of our work where we set the strategic direction, vision and context for planning in the Shire. It involves planning for communities which integrates social, environmental and economic factors with the area's special attributes and their future realisation within the planning system. Examples of this work include the creation of or amendments to local environmental plans, planning proposals for local environmental plans subject to a gateway determination, development control plans, local strategic planning statements, contribution plans, structure plans, and land/community development strategies. |
| Assessments | The Council, General Manager and delegated officers of the Council all make planning decisions on a range of developments. When making decisions on |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| | these developments, consideration is given to whether land use proposals are in accordance with the strategic priorities of the Council, public interest and applicable policies and guidelines. Proposals assessed may be residential developments, commercial developments, industrial activities, mining developments, transport and social infrastructure projects. In these proposals the planning phase is just one aspect of the overall lifecycle and at other phases engagement may be undertaken by either proponents or other NSW Government agencies. In some instances, we require ongoing engagement as a condition of approval. |
| Policies | Council develops policies that shape how we interact with the planning system. These may include policies on developments that do not require a development application, street trees, mobile food vending, sheds and frost fans. |

Who does this Community Participation Plan apply to?

Our CPP is a requirement of the EP&A Act (see division 2.6 and Schedule 1 of the EP&A Act) and applies to the exercise of planning functions by the Council, the General Manager and delegated Council Officers. Our CPP does not apply to other NSW planning authorities. Our CPP will be reviewed on a periodic basis.

How the community can participate in Council's planning functions

Our community participation objectives

Our community participation objectives have been developed having regard to the community participation principles set out in Section 2.23(2) of the EP&A Act. The objectives and the measurable actions we will undertake to deliver them are presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Community participation objectives

| Objectives | Actions | Examples |
|--|--|---|
| Community participation is open and inclusive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage community participation by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> keeping the community informed promoting participation opportunities seeking community input Build strong partnerships with the community Ensure community engagement accurately captures the relevant views of the community Conduct community engagement opportunities in a safe environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We engage resident groups to build community partnerships. Through these forums we can unpack what the community is worried about, what it wants a project to achieve and how it might be able to satisfy its wider needs Planning team has a presence at community events such as the Small Business Expo, Annual Wentworth Show We facilitate a more formal planning education programme, targeted at industry groups that the community can access |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Community participation is easy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly set out the purpose of any engagement and how and when the community can participate in respect of a planning function Prepare information for the community that is relevant, concise, written in plain English and easy to understand Use visual representations to make it easier to understand the possible impacts of a proposed plan or development Use best practice engagement methods and techniques Ensure information is accessible and seek input from groups who may find it difficult to participate in standard engagement activities (e.g. young and older people; people with disabilities; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; people from a culturally and linguistically diverse background) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community participation opportunities are advertised through channels including mail, social media, press releases, email and our website We use a range of technology such as powerpoint presentations and digital maps to make it easier to visualise how a plan or project will look and what it will mean for a local community |
| Community participation is relevant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly establish the purpose for engagement and tailor engagement activities to match the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> context (e.g. location; type of application; stage of the assessment process; previous engagement undertaken) scale and nature of the proposal and its impacts level of community interest community's preferences about how they would like to participate Adjust engagement activities (if necessary) in response to community input | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We target information campaigns and surveys to specific audiences using paid and editorial media as well as organic and paid social media Based on community feedback we undertake additional engagement to further understand issues raised during initial consultations Consultation outcomes have helped us better understand what is important to the Wentworth community and led to the development of new policy initiatives |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Community participation is timely | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start community engagement as early as possible, and continue this engagement for an appropriate period • Ensure the community has reasonable time to provide input | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use workshops and public hearings to stimulate thought and provoke conversations about policy projects before the objectives are set • We require proponents for major projects to conduct pre-proposal and ongoing community engagement • Project updates and community participation opportunities are shared with community members that sign up for updates or on our website |
| Community participation is meaningful | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how community input was taken into consideration, and ensure the response to community input is relevant and proportionate • Give genuine and proper consideration to community input • Keep accurate records of engagement activities and community input • Regularly review the effectiveness of community engagement • Integrate community input into the evaluation process • Comply with any statutory obligations • Protect privacy and respect confidentiality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our planning team regularly engages with community groups to ensure that feedback has been understood • Provisions of our plans or the proposed development may change in response to community feedback. A building height may be amended, or a project could take an altogether different approach • Consultation reports are distributed to community members who participated in the process or signed up for updates as well as other channels such as our website, social and mainstream media |

Our approach to community participation

Council encourages open, inclusive, easy, relevant, timely and meaningful opportunities for community participation in the planning system, our planning functions and individual proposals. To achieve this, we design our engagement approach so that even where there may not be community wide consensus on the decision or outcomes, there can be acknowledgment that the process was fair with proper and genuine consideration given to community views and concerns.

To achieve the benefits of community participation in the planning system, we will tailor the community participation approaches outlined in Table 3 for all our planning functions. Examples of how these approaches will be used for our planning functions are presented in Appendix 1.

Table 3: Community participation approach

| What | When | How |
|--|--|---|
| Level 1: Inform | | |
| We notify the community of proposed plans/developments, provide accurate and relevant information on the context of the proposal and update information as proposals progress through the planning system. | During the early stages of proposed plan or on lodgement of development proposal we inform you of the intent and seek feedback to shape the plan's design or planning decision on the proposed development. We then update you on the progress of a proposal as it makes its way through the planning system | As of 1 July 2021, the main source of all planning information is the NSW ePlanning Portal. As well as the portal Council may notify the community via e-mail, letter mailouts, onsite advertisements, our website, media releases, social media announcements, information sessions & technical reports. |
| Level 2: Consult | | |
| We consult with the community and invite them to provide their views and concerns on a proposed plan or development. | During the public exhibition period, we seek your views and concerns. We welcome feedback as a submission in a formal exhibition, or at any other time | Public exhibition, workshops, drop in sessions, walking tours, one-on-one meetings, phone calls, emails or letter mail-outs |
| Level 3: Consider | | |
| We respond to the community's views by addressing concerns raised and also conduct targeted engagement. | Through submissions and feedback, we identify your key issues and concerns and conduct targeted engagement activities to find solutions to determine the way forward | Public hearings, community reference groups, feedback sessions, phone calls, emails, opportunities to speak at Council Meetings, targeted consultation NSW government agencies expert advisors |
| Determination | | |
| We notify the community of decisions on proposed plans/development and detail how their views were considered in reaching the decision | In reaching a decision we consider your views and concerns, notify you of the reasons for the decision and how community views were considered | Notice of decisions to submitters, Council provide a "Reason for the Decision" on the consent, updates to websites |

It is important to note that the planning process is only one part of an overall project lifecycle in which you can participate. Outside of this standard process, in some circumstances we also undertake post-determination, compliance and enforcement activities to ensure that planning laws and decisions are implemented correctly.

The role of exhibitions in the planning system

Exhibitions

A key technique we use to encourage community participation is formal exhibitions. During an exhibition we make available relevant documents that may include a proposed plan/development that we are seeking community input on.

In reaching decisions on proposed plans/developments that have been exhibited, the Council or Delegated Council Officers balance a wide range of factors to ensure that decisions are in the public interest. This includes considering the objects of the EP&A Act, the strategic priorities of the Government, the community's input, the land use priorities identified in strategic plans and applicable policies and guidelines.

Exhibition timeframes

Section 2.21(2) of the EP&A Act details the types of proposals that must be considered in the CPP and Schedule 1 sets a minimum exhibition timeframe for most of these proposals. We will always exhibit a proposed plan/development for this minimum timeframe and will consider an extended timeframe for exhibition based on the scale and nature of the proposal. Tables 4-6 present our exhibition timeframes.

Table 4: Plan making mandatory exhibition timeframes

| Plan | Exhibition period |
|---|---|
| Draft Community Participation Plan | 28 days |
| Draft Local Strategic Planning Statements | 28 days |
| Planning proposals for local environmental plans subject to a gateway determination | 28 days or as specified by the gateway determination which may find, due to the minor nature of the proposal, that no public exhibition is required |
| Draft Development Control Plans | 28 days |
| Draft Contribution Plans | 28 days |

Table 5: Development assessment mandatory exhibition timeframes

| Development | Exhibition period |
|--|---|
| Application for development consent (other than for complying development certificate, for designated development, for State significant development or for nominated integrated development) | 14 days |
| Application for development consent for designated development | 28 days |
| Application for nominated integrated development | 28 days |
| Application under section 4.55 (1A) or 4.56 for modification of consent involving minimal environmental impact granted by the Court on appeal, or granted or deemed to have been refused by a regional panel | Up to 14 days based on scale and nature of the proposal |

| | |
|---|--|
| Applications under sections 4.55 (2) and 4.56 for modification of consent for designated development or any other advertised development where the application was made to a consent authority other than a council | At least 14 days commencing on the day after which notice of the application for modification is first published in a local newspaper. |
| Applications under sections 4.55 (2) and 4.56 for modification of other development consents | Up to 14 days or in the same manner as the original development application was notified or advertised. |
| Application for review of modification decision | Up to 14 days based on scale and nature of the proposal |
| Environmental impact statement obtained under Division 5.1 | 28 days |
| Re-exhibition of any amended application or matter referred to above | Discretionary based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal |

Table 6: Non-mandatory exhibition timeframes

| Plan/Development | Exhibition period |
|--|--|
| Draft Legislation, regulation, policies and guidelines | 28 days based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal |
| Draft strategic plans (e.g. Structure plan, master plan, rural land use strategy) | 28 days |
| Review of Environmental Factors obtained under Division 5.1 | Discretionary based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal |
| Applications for modification of consent decisions under section 4.55 (1) involving minor error, misdescription or miscalculation, or under section 4.55 (1A) involving minimal environmental impact granted or deemed to have been refused by Council | Discretionary based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal |
| Application for review of determination of development application | Discretionary based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal |

Key points to note about public exhibitions:

- A public authority is not required to make available for public inspection any part of an environmental impact statement whose publication would, in the opinion of the public authority, be contrary to the public interest because of its confidential nature or for any other reason.
- A public authority is only required to provide extracts of a development application relating to the erection of a building sufficient to identify the applicant and the land to which the application relates and a plan of the building that indicates its height and external configuration, as erected, in relation to the site on which it is to be erected.
- Timeframes are in calendar days and include weekends.
- If the exhibition period is due to close on a weekend or a public holiday, we may extend the exhibition to finish on the first available work day.
- The period between 20 December and 10 January (inclusive) is excluded from the calculation of a period of public exhibition.

How can you get involved in a public exhibition?

Opportunities to participate in the planning system will respond to the nature, scale and likely impact of the proposed plan or development. A regular and valuable way for the community to participate in the planning system is by making a submission on a proposal during an exhibition. You can also provide us with feedback or raise questions outside of formal exhibition and we will always consider and respond to your views and concerns.

Making a submission

With the introduction of the NSW ePlanning Portal, all formal submissions for exhibited development applications must be lodged via this portal.

It is important that submissions only contain information relevant to the proposed plan or development. Council officers are required to assess proposals on planning grounds identified in relevant legislation. Issues such as a moral objection, commercial competition or personal circumstance of an applicant or objector cannot be given weight in Council's assessment. At a minimum, each submission must:

- Clearly identify the matter to which the submission relates
- State the grounds for any support or objection expressed in the submission
- Include appropriate contact numbers and e-mail addresses

Late submissions may be considered at Council's discretion until a determination has been made.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Prescribed Exhibition Methods for Certain Developments

| Development | Community Participation Approach |
|--|--|
| Application for development consent (other than for complying development certificate, for designated development, for State significant development) | |
| Application for development consent for designated development | |
| Application for development consent for nominated integrated development | |
| Application under section 4.55 (1A) or 4.56 for modification of consent involving minimal environmental impact granted by the Court on appeal, or granted or deemed to have been refused by a regional panel | |
| Applications under sections 4.55 (2) and 4.56 for modification of consent for designated development or any other advertised development where the application was made to a consent authority other than a council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW ePlanning Portal • Council's Website • E-mail where required • Letter mail-out to adjoining landowners/tenants where required |
| Applications under sections 4.55 (2) and 4.56 for modification of other development consents | |
| Application for review of modification decision | |
| Environmental Impact Statement obtained under Division 5.1 | |
| Applications for modification of consent decisions under section 4.55 (1) involving minor error, misdescription or miscalculation, or under section 4.55 (1A) involving minimal environmental impact granted or deemed to have been refused by Council | |
| Application for review of determination of development application | |
| Re-exhibition of any amended application or matter referred to above | |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10974

Council Policy No: PR008**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to set out Wentworth Shire Councils approach to compliance and supporting enforcement processes. It explains how we determine our priorities, allocate resources and make decisions to achieve reasonable and defensible regulatory outcomes for the community.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Wentworth Shire Council is committed to balancing individual and community interests to appropriately allocate resources to issues that present the highest risk. Choosing the appropriate regulatory option involves weighing up sometimes competing interests and priorities. The following principles underpin our compliance and enforcement program:

Fairness and Consistency

We will monitor and enforce the law in a fair, balanced and consistent manner, applying discretion where appropriate. Procedural fairness will be provided in all investigations and enforcement actions.

Proportionality

Our enforcement action will be proportionate to the level of harm, the risk posed, the seriousness of the breach and the culpability of the offender in the particular circumstances. Our officers will exercise regulatory discretion where appropriate.

Accountability & Transparency

We will be accountable for the efficiency and effectiveness of our compliance and enforcement activities. Our activities will aim to achieve the desired outcome with an appropriate level of resources.

Flexibility

We will be flexible in applying this policy in circumstances that require it, such as during a pandemic.

POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all of the Wentworth Shire Council

2. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-------------|--|
| Enforcement | Actions taken in response to serious or deliberate contraventions of laws. |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10974

Council Policy No: PR008**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

| | |
|------------|--|
| Regulation | Using a variety of tools and strategies to influence and change behaviour to achieve the objectives of an Act, Regulation or other statutory instrument administered by Council. |
|------------|--|

4. POLICY CONTENT**a) Risk Based Approach to Compliance**

A risk-based approach to compliance ensures our effort is focussed on activities that pose the greatest risk to the public, the environment or the integrity of our regulatory framework.

b) Proactive Compliance

Wentworth Shire Council undertakes a number of proactive inspection programs. We use a risk assessment approach and intelligence to determine which premises should be included in a program of compliance inspections. We prioritise the monitoring of premises and activities based on trends in noncompliance, feedback from the community and where the public interest is greatest.

c) Reactive Compliance

Wentworth Shire Council triages incoming reports of unlawful activity. Cases that pose a higher level of risk may be subject to varying degrees of investigation and enforcement.

Not every report will require an investigation. Based on the principles and responsibilities outlined within this policy, if a decision is made not to investigate, the decision will be recorded by the investigating officer and the reasons for that decision clearly explained to the person who reported it.

Anonymous reports will be recorded and assessed but because the complainant cannot be contacted, it may not be possible to accurately evaluate the allegation.

d) What Council expects from people who report allegations of unlawful activity:

Council expects that people who report allegations of unlawful activity will cooperate and act in good faith in respect of any investigations conducted by Council. This includes:

- providing a clear description of the problem (and the resolution sought, if relevant)
- providing a clear description/account of the impact that the alleged activity is having
- giving all available and relevant information to Council, including any new information about the alleged activity that may become known to the person following the making of their report
- not giving any information that is intentionally misleading or wrong
- cooperating with Council's inquiries and giving timely responses to questions and requests for information
- treating Council's staff with courtesy and respect

e) Anonymous Reports

Anonymous reports will be recorded and assessed. However, because it is not possible to seek clarification or additional information about a matter, it is more difficult to evaluate the allegations and therefore only high risk matters that are reported anonymously are likely to be tasked for investigation.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10974

Council Policy No: PR008**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

f) Responding to concerns about unlawful activity

Council will record every report alleging unlawful activity.

Not all reports will, can or need to be investigated. A preliminary assessment of all matters will be made to determine the priority for a response, and whether investigation or other action is required.

An investigation of alleged unlawful activity may take a significant amount of time to complete, particularly where the issues are complex. If Council decides to investigate, staff will give the person who reported the alleged unlawful activity regular feedback on the progress of the investigation, and any reasons for delay. This does not mean that the individual can expect to be given details about every aspect of the investigation or information that would compromise the integrity of the investigation.

Decisions about what action should be taken by Council are made at the Council's discretion. This means the objective is that reports alleging unlawful activity will be resolved to the satisfaction of Council, not necessarily the person raising the matter. Council will generally try to resolve matters as quickly and informally as possible so as to avoid the need to take formal action.

Council staff will endeavour to manage the expectations of people who report alleged unlawful activity, and in particular explain that in the absence of sufficient evidence of unlawful activity, Council may be unable to take further action. Council does not have unlimited resources and powers to deal with reports alleging unlawful activity.

g) Investigating alleged unlawful activity

A preliminary assessment of all requests will be made to determine whether investigation or other action is required.

When deciding whether to take enforcement action in relation to a confirmed case of unlawful activity, Council will consider the full circumstances and facts of the matter and the public interest.

The objective of the processes Council staff uses when investigating incidents of alleged unlawful activity, is to:

- determine the cause of the incident.
- determine if there has been a contravention of law, policy or standards.
- gather evidence to the required standard to support any required enforcement action.
- determine any necessary action to mitigate the possibility of reoccurrence of similar incident.

Any decision not to investigate an allegation of unlawful activity will be recorded and the reasons for that decision clearly stated.

h) When Council will not take further action

Council will take no further action if, following a preliminary assessment, it is identified that:

- the report is not supported with evidence or appears to have no substance.
- Council does not have jurisdiction to investigate or is not the appropriate authority to take - action on the issues raised. Where there is another appropriate authority or course of action, Council may bring the matter to the attention of the authority or provide information and contact details to the individual. For example, NSW WorkCover for workplace safety matters, the NSW

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10974

Council Policy No: PR008**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for possible environmental offences and Community Justice Centres NSW for personal disputes.

- the report relates substantially to a matter previously determined by Council and no new or compelling information is presented which would cause Council to change its earlier decision. In this case, staff will acknowledge the report and advise that no further action will be taken as no new information had been provided (other than where the person has previously been advised they would receive no further response).
- the allegations relate to a lawful activity (e.g. where there is an existing approval or the activity is permissible without Council approval or consent being required or it meets exempt development provisions).
- the relevant Director or the General Manager determines that investigation or other action would have an unreasonable impact on resources and/or is unlikely to achieve an outcome sufficient to justify the expenditure of resources.

i) Relevant factors guiding decisions as to whether to act or not:

In addition to the above considerations, Council staff are not limited in their use of discretion by these considerations and may decide to investigate based on these and other matters not stated in this policy:

- Is the activity permissible without any consent or approval?
- Are the conditions of a consent or approval being complied with?
- Is the complaint trivial, frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable?
- Is the activity having a significant detrimental effect on the environment or does it constitute a risk to public health, safety and amenity?
- Have there been previous complaints about the subject premises or this person or organisation?
- Does the complaint have special significance in relation to existing enforcement priorities?
- Overall, is it in the public interest to investigate the complaint?

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION*Biosecurity Act 2015**Boarding Houses Act 2012**Companion Animals Act 1998**Contaminated Land Management Act 1997**Crown Land Management Act 2016**Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979**Fines Act 1996**Food Act 2003**Impounding Act 1993**Local Government Act 1993**Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997**Public Health Act 2010*

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/10974

Council Policy No: PR008**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

*Roads Act 1993**Swimming Pools Act 1992***6. ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

7. DOCUMENT APPROVAL**For Council Policies please use the following, otherwise delete**

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: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

To inform the community of the statutory restrictions and acceptable limits which apply to the keeping of certain animals for domestic purposes.

To give guidance and advice to those inquiring about the keeping of animals for domestic purposes

To establish standards for the keeping of animals.

To publicly notify the circumstances that Council will consider in determining whether to serve an Order under Section 124 of the Local Government Act 1993 to prohibit, restrict or in some other way, require things to be done regarding the keeping of animals.

To identify which animals are prohibited within certain zones in the Wentworth Shire Council.

POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Wentworth Shire Council establishes systems which regulate and control the keeping of animals in the Wentworth Shire Local Government Area and to inform the community of responsible animal care and ownership.

1. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to the following zones within the Wentworth Shire Council:

- RU5 Village
- R5 Large Lot Residential
- B2 Local Centre
- IN1 General Industrial
- IN2 Light Industrial
- RU1 Primary Production for the keeping of domestic pets only

This policy does not apply to the keeping of animals for business, commercial or agricultural purposes.

2. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-----------------|--|
| The Act | Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) |
| Regulations | Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 |
| Urban area/land | Residential premises zoned R5 or RU5 |
| Rural area/land | Residential premises zoned RU1 |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Animal | 'Animal' includes a mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian or fish. 'Animal' does not include a human being (as defined by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979, NSW). |
| Authorised Officer | An employee of Wentworth Shire Council provided with delegated authority to act under the Local Government Act 1993 |
| DPI | NSW Department of Primary Industries |
| Prescribed premises | An adjoining dwelling, school, shop, office, factory, workshop, church or other place of public worship, public hall or premises used for the manufacture, preparation or storage of food |
| OEH | Office of Environment and Heritage |

4. POLICY CONTENT

This Policy specifies the criteria which Council must take into consideration prior to issuing an Order (Order 18) of Section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, relating to the keeping of animals within any premises.

This policy seeks to inform the community of Council's regulatory powers concerning the keeping of animals within the Wentworth Shire Local Government Area (LGA).

This Policy details criteria of reasonable limits on maximum numbers, and circumstances under which certain animals may be kept in the interest of amenity and public health when amenity impacts are verified.

The number of animals that may be kept at a premise should not exceed the number prescribed as appropriate to the kind of animal listed in Requirements for the Keeping of Animals included with this policy. The kind of animal that is suitable to be kept at any premises will be determined having regard for the size of the available yard area and the distance to the nearest dwelling or other prescribed building.

Certain statutory requirements also apply as noted in the Requirements for Keeping of Animals. It should not be assumed that animals of all kinds may be kept on premises that are part of a multiple dwelling development. Where a dwelling is owned within a Strata Plan, it will be necessary for the rules of the Body Corporate to be examined for requirements relevant to the keeping of animals. Animals should be kept in a manner which does not:

- Create unclean or unhealthy conditions for people or for the animals
- Attract or provide a harbourage for vermin
- Create offensive noise or odours
- Cause a drainage or dust nuisance
- Create waste disposal or pollution problems
- Create an unreasonable annoyance to neighbouring residents or fear for safety

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

- Cause nuisance due to proliferation of flies, lice, fleas or other insects. Animals should not be kept at premises used for the manufacture, preparation, sale or storage of food for human consumption. Suitable shelter(s) should be provided for all animals

Certain species of animals are required to be kept in cages to prevent escape or attack by predators. Generally, other animals are to be securely enclosed with adequate fencing to prevent escape.

Certain animal shelters and facilities should not be erected or located at a premise without the prior approval of Council. Animal owners wishing to erect such structures should consult the NSW 'Exempt and Complying Development Codes SEPP 2008' - to determine which structures require development approval.

4.1 COUNCILS POWER TO CONTROL AND REGULATE THE KEEPING OF ANIMALS**4.1.1**

Council's power to control and regulate the keeping of animals is provided under Section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

4.1.2

Council may, (although not limited to) issue an Order to:

- a) prohibit the keeping of various kinds of animals
- b) restrict the number of various kinds of animals
- c) require that animals are kept in a specific manner
- d) demolish animal shelters built without prior approval; and
- e) require the occupier to do or to refrain from doing such things as are specified so as to ensure that land or premises are placed or kept in a safe or healthy condition.

4.1.3

Any regulatory action relating to the enforcement of this policy will be in accordance with Council's Enforcement Policy. Council staff will consider the impact of any Policy non-compliance on community amenity before deciding to take regulatory action. A breach of the numerical standards contained within this Policy alone will not necessarily result in regulatory action being taken by Council.

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

Local Government act 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979

Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Impounding Act 1993

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

Biosecurity Act 2015

NSW State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008

DPI Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding dogs and cats

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

DPI Bee Keeping Code of Practice

DPI Bee Biosecurity Code of Practice

NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No. 4 Keeping and Trading birds

OEH Code of Practice for the Keeping of Reptiles

OEH Hygiene Protocol for the Control of Disease in Captive Snakes

CSIRO Model Code of Practice: Domestic Poultry

6. ATTACHMENTS

Requirements for Keeping of Animals

7. 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: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties****Requirements for Keeping of Animals**

The following criteria will be used by Council Authorised Officers when seeking to resolve verified complaints regarding the keeping of animals:

1. The Keeping of Bees:

- a) Beekeepers must be registered with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) and must comply with the Beekeeping and Bee Biosecurity Codes of Practice for NSW.
- b) Beehives must be identified by branding all brood boxes with their registration number.
- c) Beekeepers must notify the NSW DPI within 24 hours if they become aware that their hive/s are infected with a disease.
- d) Complaints about beehives are to be directed to the Director-General of the NSW DPI.
- e) In urban areas, the number of hives permitted to be kept on land subject to the amount of free land mass area is specified in the table below:

| Free land mass area (metres square) | Max. No. of Hives |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <400 | 1 |
| >400 and <1000 | 2 |
| >1000 | 3 |

- f) Beekeepers must obtain permission from the owners of private lands or from the authority of government-controlled lands before placing beehives on such lands.
- g) Beehives should not be located within 100m of schools, child care centres, hospitals or other public facilities.
- h) A suitable barrier must be erected close to the landing board to force flight paths above two metres.
- i) Beehives are not to be positioned in the front yard of domestic premises.
- j) Swarming must be controlled. This may be achieved by re-queening regularly with a reduced swarming strain, population control or temporarily splitting into smaller hives.
- k) A permanent water source suitable for bees is to be provided at the property storing the beehive.
- l) The beehive is not to be located within nine metres of any neighbouring swimming pool.
- m) Beehives are to be regularly monitored for signs of disease.
- n) The keeping of bees in unit and townhouse developments is not permitted.
- o) Beekeepers are encouraged to increase and update their knowledge by attending training and/or belonging to a beekeeping association.
- p) Beekeepers are required to contact their immediate adjoining neighbours prior to establishing beehives to consider any impacts that may arise from persons vulnerable to bee stings.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

Note (i): Any person having a wild beehive on their property must consult the NSW DPI for advice on controlling the beehive. A wild beehive is described as introduced bees not in a domesticated situation and not kept within a bee frame or a beekeeper's box.

2. The Keeping of Birds (other than poultry or pigeons)

- a) There is no maximum number of birds permitted however numbers kept may be required to be reduced to mitigate any nuisance or improve the amenity of neighbours.
- b) Aviaries and cages must be:
 - i) constructed of appropriate materials (new or good quality second hand materials) and maintained to these standards during their use.
 - ii) constructed to be vermin proof, well ventilated, have an impervious surface and not cause or be likely to cause injury to birds.
 - iii) maintained by the owner so as to avoid the escape of birds.
 - iv) managed to prevent excessive noise and odour.
 - v) operated in accordance with the Code of Ethics produced by the Associated Bird-Keepers of Australia Incorporated, approved by the Canary and Bird Federation of Australia and NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice No 4 - Keeping and Trading of Birds
- c) Vermin proof food storage facilities must be provided.
- d) A continuous rodent and pest control program must be in place.

3. The Keeping of Pigeons

The keeping of domestic homing, show or fancy class pigeons by hobbyists and racing enthusiasts in the LGA is permitted with the following control conditions applying:

- a) A maximum 20 pigeons except as permitted for Racing Pigeons may be kept subject to the submission and approval of a plan of management detailing how nuisances from noise, odour and pests will be managed.
- b) Pigeons must be housed in purpose-built facilities at least 15m from prescribed premises.
- c) Aviaries (Lofts) must be constructed on hard paving of a smooth surface, or with a suspended floor elevated 0.8m above the ground.
- d) Lofts must be enclosed to prevent food or waste becoming wet.
- e) Positioning of pigeon lofts must be such that the amenity of adjoining premises is preserved, with no inconvenience or nuisance resulting from the loft or from flying birds. The pigeons' owner or the occupier of those premises must control feral pigeons attracted to captive managed flocks.
- f) Keeping of pigeons is only permissible on residential properties that have single dwelling or dual occupancy development.
- g) Pigeons must be fed within the aviaries/lofts.
- h) Free lofting of pigeons (that is allowing pigeons to freely roam outside of their Aviary (loft) in a residential area is not permitted at any time, except as permitted for Racing Pigeons
- i) Pigeons are not allowed to roost on neighbouring buildings. Aviary (Loft) doors and traps must be locked at all times except as permitted for Racing Pigeons (see below).
- j) Food must be stored in sealed vermin proof containers and must not be left uncovered.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

- k) Waste material, including litter and bedding, must be disposed of via an approved waste disposal service or composted.
- l) Council is to be notified of the keeping of pigeons, construction of the loft of less than 10 sqm, and any activity not considered a hobby.

3.1 Requirements for Racing Pigeons:

- a) The maximum number of racing pigeons that may be kept on premises within a residential area is 120 birds, provided that the keeper is a certified member of a recognised pigeon racing club, federation or association, is an active member of the sport and otherwise complies with other provisions of this Policy.
- b) Racing pigeon Aviaries (lofts) are to have adequate visible landing platforms.
- c) Pigeons must have a leg band with the club name, and unique ID number.
- d) Exercising/free flight is to occur between 7:00am and 8:00am and between 4:00pm and 5:00pm give or take 15mins either side of the time restrictions at all other times the pigeons must be kept within their enclosure.
- e) All exercise should be conducted under close supervision by the owner.
- f) The exit and entry of these birds from the Aviary (loft) must be controlled by the keeper. Provision must be made for all released birds to return through a one-way entrance that will not permit uncontrolled exit.

4. The Keeping of Poultry

- a) Poultry must be kept in accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* specifically Schedule 2, Part 5, Division 2, clauses 19 and 20.
- b) Poultry must be housed in purpose-built facilities.
- c) Food must be stored in sealed vermin proof containers and must not be left uncovered.
- d) Waste material, including litter and bedding, must be disposed of via an approved waste disposal service or composted.
- e) Outside runs must be free draining, not discharge onto neighbouring properties and not be allowed to become muddy.
- f) The total numbers of poultry (excluding pigeons and other birds) kept on premises must not exceed the maximum amount specified below:

| Type | Maximum Numbers |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Fowls | 10 |
| Pheasants | 10 |
| Quails | 10 |
| Pea Fowls | 10 |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

5. The Keeping of Cats

- a) The maximum number of cats shall be limited to four (4) per premise. However, numbers kept may be required to be reduced to mitigate any nuisance or improve the amenity of neighbours.
- b) Where Council receives verified complaints regarding a roaming cat, the cat is to be prevented from leaving from the property at which it is ordinarily kept by being kept indoors (house, enclosure, shed or garage).
- c) Any enclosure used for housing cats shall be in accordance with Section 6, Table 2: Minimum Sizes for Cat Enclosures; DPI Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding dogs and cats.
- d) Owners of cats are encouraged to de-sex their cats to prevent unwanted litters and keep them contained to minimise the impact on native wildlife or nuisance to neighbouring residents.
- e) Owners of cats who do not have their cat de-sexed are required to pay an annual permit in addition to the one-off lifetime registration fee.

6. The Keeping of Dogs

- a) The maximum number of dogs shall be limited to two (2) per premise. However, numbers kept may be required to be reduced to mitigate any nuisance or improve the amenity of neighbours.
- b) Dogs will be kept in numbers and breeds appropriate to the size of the property.
- c) Owners should remain aware of any noise nuisance created by barking dogs as they are subject to noise and nuisance dog restrictions under *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.
- d) The *Companion Animals Act 1998* requires that dogs must be registered from 6 months of age and must wear a collar with a name tag displaying the dog's name and the address and/or phone number of the owner. They must also be microchipped from 12 weeks of age.
- e) A premise used for the keeping of dog/s is to be appropriately fenced to secure the dog/s within the premises in accordance with the requirements of the *Companion Animal Act 1998*.

7. The Keeping of Pigs, Goats and Sheep

- a) The maximum number shall be limited to two of each type, subject to the submission and approval of a plan of management detailing how nuisances from noise, odour and pests will be managed.
- b) Enclosures for these animals will be secure and fit for purpose for the type and behaviour of each animal
- c) All enclosures will be maintained and cleaned to mitigate any odour and pest issues such as flies and mosquitos.
- d) Pigs to be kept as pets are to be sourced from reputable dealers and are to be de-sexed.
- e) All sheep and goats in NSW must have appropriate identification per the NSW DPI National Livestock Identification System.
- f) Any sheep or goats to be kept as pets are to be subject to regular health checks by an appropriately qualified veterinarian or agent of a NSW State Government Agency.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015**Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties**

- g) Sheep and goats kept as domestic pets are prohibited from grazing outside of the property boundary.

8. The Keeping of Fish

- a) There are no specific limitations for the number of fish or species of fishes permitted however, numbers kept may be required to be reduced to mitigate any nuisance or improve the amenity of neighbours.
- b) Species listed in Schedule 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and DPI Pest Fish list, are classed as prohibited matter and must not be kept.
- c) Ponds are to comply with the NSW State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 requirements.
- d) Pond water is to be maintained to prevent the harbouring of mosquito larvae.
- e) Pond water filtration pumps must not be used in a manner that creates a noise nuisance to adjoining properties.
- f) Ponds must be provided with shade which includes aquatic plants.
- g) Food must be provided that suits the species of fish/fishes being kept.
- h) Ponds must be provided with fencing or a cover to protect fish from predation.
- i) All deceased or unwanted fish and aquatic plants must be disposed of via an approved waste disposal system. Fish and aquatic plants must not be disposed of into any type of waterway, pond or dam.

9. The Keeping of Guinea Pigs and Ferrets, Rats and Mice

- a) The maximum number shall be limited to four of each type.
- b) These animals must be kept at least 9 meters from a prescribed premise.
- c) Waste material, including litter and bedding, must be disposed of via an approved waste disposal service or composted.
- d) These animals are to be kept indoors at all times in appropriate cages which are to be kept odour free.

10. The Keeping of Rabbits

- a) No more than 4 domestic rabbits may be kept on premises.
- b) All rabbits are to be kept in accordance with the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals – Intensive Husbandry of Rabbits.
- c) Rabbits must be kept at least 9 meters from a prescribed premise.
- d) Rabbits should be de-sexed to prevent unwanted litters.
- e) Must be of a recognised domestic breed and kept in a rabbit proof enclosure.

11. The Keeping of Reptiles

- a) The *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* requires a Reptile Keeper's Licence to be held for anyone who keeps captive-bred reptiles.
- b) It is against the law to take reptiles from the wild. Reptiles must be obtained from a licensed breeder only.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/7994

Council Policy No: PR015

Keeping of Animals at Residential Properties

- c) Advice on the keeping of reptiles should be sought from the National Parks and Wildlife Service in all cases.
- d) There is no maximum number of reptiles permitted however numbers kept may be required to be reduced to mitigate any nuisance or improve the amenity of neighbours.
- e) Reptiles may only be kept if in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Private Keeping of Reptiles and Hygiene Protocol for the Control of Disease in Captive Snakes, this includes obtaining a licence to keep reptiles.

12. Animals Prohibited from being kept as domestic pets

The following animals are not permitted to be kept in RU5, R5, B2, IN1 and IN2 or residential dwellings that exist in any other zone other than RU1; due to the likely impacts on health and amenity:

- a) Roosters
- b) Peacocks
- c) Geese
- d) Swans
- e) Turkeys
- f) Horses
- g) Cattle

9.12 DA2022/002 8 LOT SUBDIVISION 92-94 WOOD STREET LOT 1 DP 1018940 GOL GOL

File Number: RPT/22/340

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Development Assessment Officer

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

Strategy: 1.2 Encourage and support population growth and resident attraction

Summary

A development application (DA2022/002) was received by Council for an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol.

Under clause 2.6 of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, subdivisions are permitted with consent.

The proposed subdivision proposes to create Lots with an area of 332sqm, significantly less than the surrounding area and not in line with the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020 (endorsed by DPE).

The application was publicly notified for 14 days as per the Council Community Participation Plan. Seven (7) submissions were received during the public notification period with a further six (6) submissions received outside the 14 days notification period. Of the thirteen (13) submissions, only eight (8) of them were unique submissions. This means five (5) of the submissions were a copy of each other.

Due to public interest identified by the number of submissions, the application must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

1. That Council give development consent subject to deferred commencement provisions for DA2021/002 being an 8 Lot subdivision to be located at 92-94 Wood Street Lot 1 DP 1018940 Gol Gol subject to conditions
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information for Council to determine Development Application DA2022/002, having consideration to the detail provided both within this report and the attachments provided

Background

A Development Application was lodged with Council on 28 January 2022 seeking consent to subdivide the land into 8 allotments.

The subject lot is located in the RU5 Village zone, which does not have a minimum Lot size. DA2022/002 was publicly notified as per Council Community Participation Plan for 14 days, with 7 submissions received during this time. The submissions received were all objections to the proposed development.

Refer to attachment 1 – Development Application

Refer to attachment 2 – Plans

Refer to attachment 3 – Statement of Environmental Effects

Matters under consideration

In determining a development application that requires consent, the consent authority must take into consideration matters prescribed in Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* as relevant to the development.

The proposed development for subdivision is permitted with consent and meets the zone objectives of the RU5 Village zone under the WLEP 2011. Land zoned RU5 does not have a minimum lot size under the WLEP 2011.

The proposed application met planning priority 6 of the Wentworth Local Strategic Planning Statement which aims to “Provide a range of housing options, including affordable housing, housing for older people, family housing and temporary worker accommodation based on an analysis of local demographics and future demand”.

The subject land is located within the Gol Gol township, and was assessed against the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020 (BGGSP) which is a DPE endorsed strategic plan. The BGGSP aims to “Promote a mixture of urban development that allows for flexibility to respond to changes in the community over time and cater for a diversity of land sizes and housing types”. The BGGSP also proposes a minimum Lot size of 600sqm for high density residential areas. The proposed development seeks to create lots that are approximately 50% of the minimum lot size recommended by the structure plan. Due to the proximity of the land to services (shops, bus stop), a smaller lot area can be accepted. A lot area of greater than 450sqm is the minimum lot size that can adequately fit the area while still meeting the BGGSP vision for the area.

During public notification 7 submissions were received and a further 6 submissions were received after the notification period had ended. The main concerns raised by the submitter and Council officer response was as follows:

- **Streetscape frontage**

Officer comments: Addressed in the 4.15 assessment report.

- **Prominent in the area (2 storey to fit site)**

Officer comments: Addressed in the 4.15 assessment report.

- **High density in medium density area**

Officer comments: The small lots can provide more flexible options for buyers which has been identified in local and state strategic documents. This has been further addressed in the 4.15 assessment report with the current subdivision plan requiring redesign.

- **No off-street parking**

Officer comments: Any future development onsite will be required to have off-street parking due to the location of the Lots. This has been further addressed in the 4.15 assessment report.

- **Parking regulations**

Officer comments: Restriction on on-street parking will be considered. However, these are matters to be considered when the new buildings are being considered on new lots.

- **Frontage size**

Officer comments: Council has no policy in place regulating the size of property frontages. The size and vehicle access has been assessed by Council's Roads and Engineering department. They have identified that road access is possible for the Lots, however, restrictions on their location and future access ways will be required.

- **Units out of character**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Although future land use is not usually considered at the subdivision stage, there is case law that provides situations where future development can be considered when assessing subdivision applications. This has been further addressed in the 4.15 assessment report.

- **Precedent for future subdivisions**

Officer comments: All future subdivisions in the area will be assessed individually on their own merits.

- **Open space for future occupants**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Any new buildings on the new Lots will be assessed considering open space requirements.

- **Privacy issues**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Any new buildings on the new Lots will be assessed taking into account privacy and overlooking.

- **Size of block**

Officer comments: The proposed blocks are smaller than the blocks in the surrounding area. An assessment for the block sizes was conducted in the 4.15 assessment report in.

- **Traffic**

Officer comments: Traffic generation will be considered for all new buildings.

Based on the assessment of the application and concerns raised by the submitters, it is determined that the proposed development is consistent with the relevant objectives of the RU5 Village Zone. However, the current proposed plan did not meet strategic vision for the Buronga Gol Gol area as per the BGGSP. This will require amendments to the proposed plan of subdivision.

Refer to attachment 4 – 4.15 Assessment Report

Refer to attachment 5 – Submissions

Refer to attachment 6 – Response to submission by applicant

Refer to attachment 7 – Response to further information request by applicant

Refer to attachment 8 – Conditions of consent

Options

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

Refuse Development Application 2022/002 based on the following reasons:

- Approve Development Application 2022/002 subject to conditions

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Should Council issue a determination to the application, the applicant has the right to submit a request for review of the determination to Council under Section 8.2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

The applicant also has the right to appeal the decision made by Council to the Land and Environment Court pursuant to Section 8.7 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

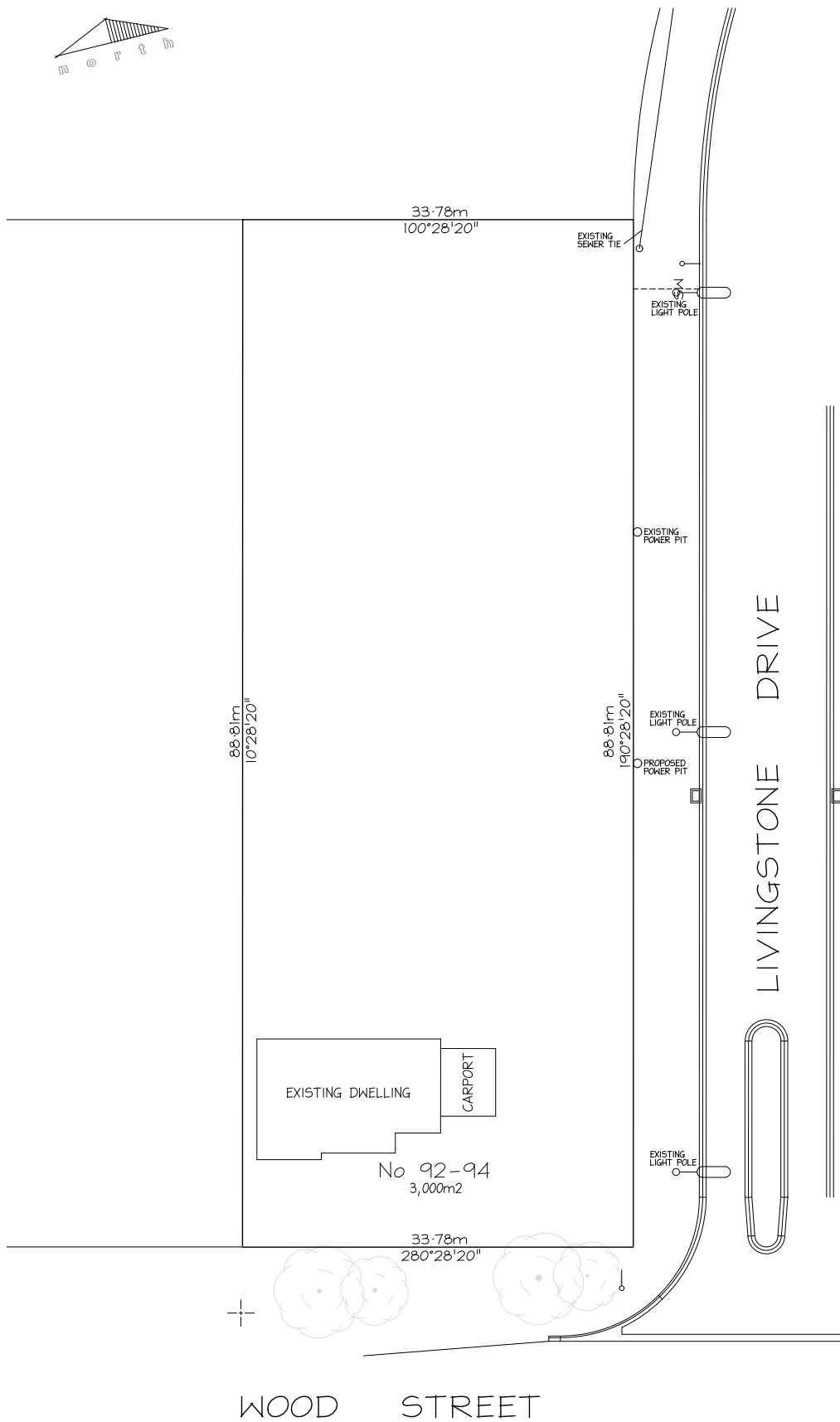
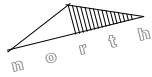
Conclusion

Having consideration to the content of this report it is concluded that the appropriate course of action is to:

- Approve DA2022/002 subject to conditions within the report

Attachments

1. Development application (Under separate cover)⇒
2. Plan↓
3. Statement of Environmental Effects↓
4. 4.15 Assessment Report↓
5. Submissions (Under separate cover)⇒
6. Response to submission by applicant (Under separate cover)⇒
7. Response to further information request by applicant (Under separate cover)⇒
8. Conditions of Consent↓



(D.A. APPROVAL ONLY)

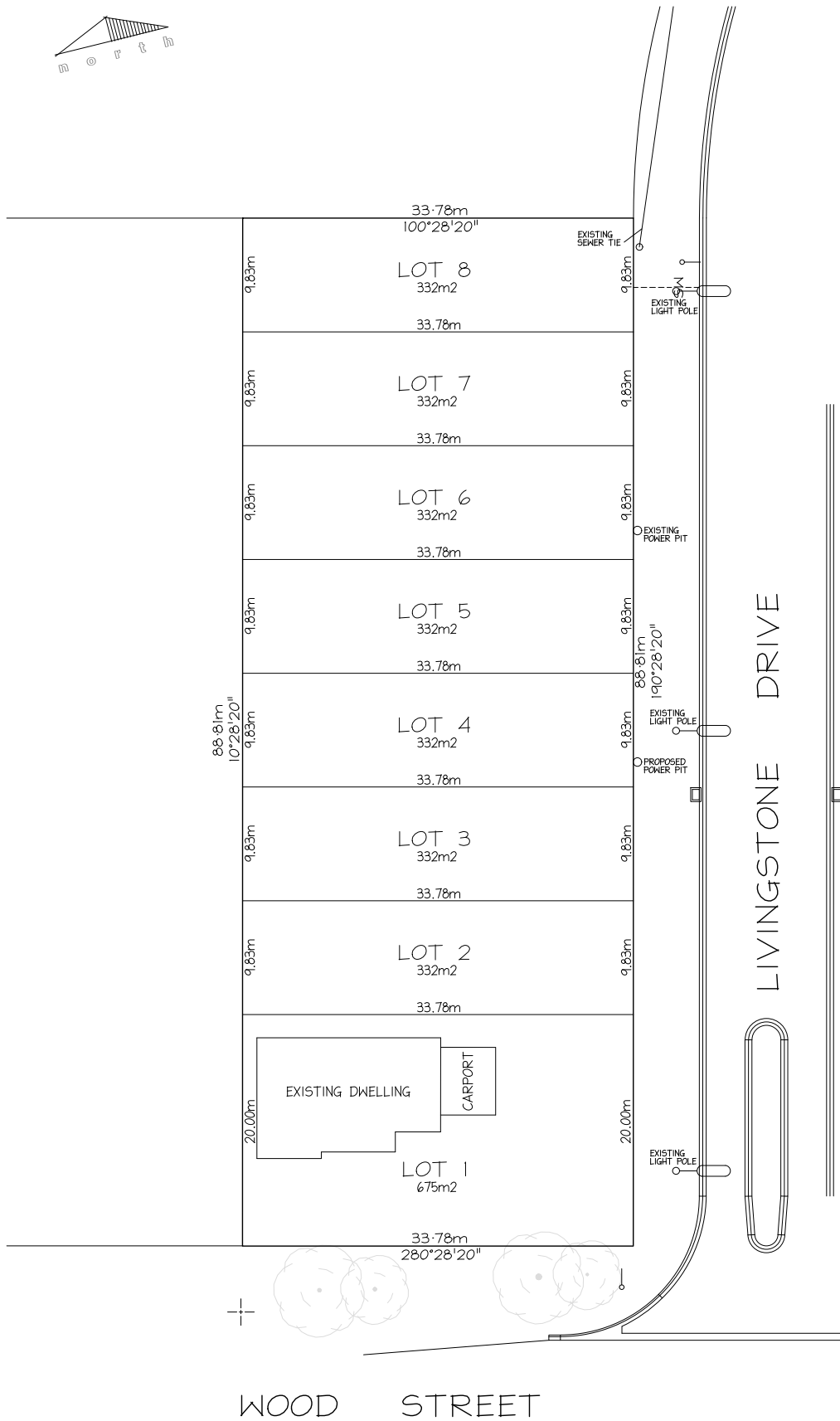
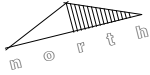
| | |
|--|----------------------|
| SHEET NO: 1 OF 2 | DRG NO: - |
| PROJECT: PROPOSED 7 LOT SUBDIVISION | |
| CLIENT: D. JAMES | |
| ADDRESS: No. 92-94, WOOD STREET, GOL GOL, NSW. | |
| SCALE: AS SHOWN | DATE: JAN '22 |

B2



mark@mh2.com.au mick@mh2.com.au
0438 210 139 0427 237 668
No. 5 Burns Street, Gol Gol, N.S.W. 2738
ABN: 43 634 027 464 DP No: AD 26770

EXISTING PROPERTY LAYOUT PLAN 1:200



(D.A. APPROVAL ONLY)

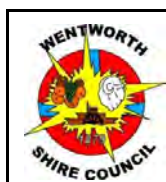
| | |
|--|----------------------|
| SHEET NO: 2 OF 2 | DRG NO: - |
| PROJECT: PROPOSED 7 LOT SUBDIVISION | |
| CLIENT: D. JAMES | |
| ADDRESS: No. 92-94, WOOD STREET, GOL GOL, NSW. | |
| SCALE: AS SHOWN | DATE: JAN '22 |

B2



ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES
 mark@mh2.com.au mick@mh2.com.au
 0438 210 139 0427 237 668
 No. 5 Burns Street, Gol Gol, N.S.W. 2738
 ABN: 43 634 027 464 DP No: AD 26770

PROPOSED SUBDIVISION PLAN 1:200



Health & Planning Division
 26-28 Adelaide Street
 PO Box 81
 WENTWORTH NSW 2648
 Tel: 03 5027 5027
council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Statement of Environmental Effects

Attachment C to the Development Application

made under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000

INTRODUCTION

To assist Council in assessing your development application, in accordance with relevant legislative requirements, it is necessary for you to answer the following questions and provide justification of your responses. These questions relate to common matters that need to be addressed in order to mitigate potential impacts resulting from your development.

Please note: Incomplete or insufficient information may lead to your application be delayed or rejected.

PERMISSIBILITY

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| • Is your proposal permissible in the zone? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is your proposal consistent with the zone objectives? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is your proposal in accordance with the relevant development control plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If you answered "No" to any of the above, you should make an appointment to discuss your proposal with a member of the Health & Planning Division before lodging a development application.

Please justify your answers below:

The site of the proposed development is located in Zone RU5 - Village and is permissible within this zone.

The proposal meets the objectives of the zone in particular:

- Promote development in existing towns and villages in a manner that is compatible with their urban function.
- To encourage well-serviced sustainable development.
- To deliver new residential and employment growth in Buronga and Gol Gol.

DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT

This needs to include where applicable a description of matters such as proposed buildings, proposed building materials, nominated colour scheme, nature of use, staging of the development details of any demolition and other works etc.

The development will be comprise of an 8 lot subdivision with the existing dwelling to remain on Lot 1.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE

1. Describe the site including any physical features of the site such as shape, slope, vegetation, any waterways. Also describe the current use/s on the site.

The land slopes from Wood Street down to the northern boundary.

Part of the land has a residential dwelling in situ. The remainder of the parcel is vacant.

There no other constraints to the use of the land for this development.

2. What is the present use and previous uses of the site?

The site has been used for residential purposes for some time as the existing dwelling has been in situ for some time.

3. Is the development site subject to any of the following natural hazards: (e.g. bushfire prone, salinity, flooding or stormwater inundation etc.)

No.

4. What other constraints exist on the site? (e.g. vegetation, easements, sloping land, drainage lines contamination, etc.)

There are no constraints to the development of this land.

5. What types of land use and development exist on surrounding land?

The surrounding land is also identified as Zone RU5 - Village.

CONTEXT AND SETTING

- Will the development be:

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| ○ Visually prominent in the surrounding area? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| ○ Inconsistent with the existing streetscape? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| ○ Out of character with the surrounding area? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| ○ Inconsistent with surrounding land uses? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

Please justify your answers below:

The proposal is consistent with the use and appearance of surrounding area.

PRIVACY, VIEWS AND OVERSHADOWING

- Will the development result in any privacy issues between adjoining properties as a result of the placement of windows, decks, pergolas, private open space, etc.?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- Will the development result in the overshadowing of adjoining properties resulting in an adverse impact on solar access?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- Will the development result in any acoustic issues between adjoining properties as a result of the placement of active use outdoor areas, vehicular movement areas, air conditioners and pumps, bedroom and living room windows, etc.?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- Will the development impact on views enjoyed from adjoining or nearby properties and public places such as parks roads and footpaths?
☐ Yes ☒ No

Please justify your answers below:

The development will have 7 lots of land for the purpose of constructing residential dwellings, one on each lot which is consistent with the layout of the homes along Wood Street.

ACCESS, TRAFFIC AND UTILITIES

- Is legal and practical access available to the development?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- Will the development increase local traffic movements / volumes?
If yes, by how much?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- Are additional access points to a road network required?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- Has vehicle manoeuvring and onsite parking been addressed in the design?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- Are power, water, sewer and telecommunication services readily available to the site?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Please justify your answers below:

The site is conveniently located on the corner of Livingstone Drive and Wood Street.

No additional access points will be required. Each lot will have driveway access from Livingstone Dr.

Livingstone Dr already contains several residences, the creation of 7 additional lots will have a minimal, if not negligible, impact.

Power, water, sewer and communication services are available to the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| • Is the development likely to result in any form of air pollution (smoke, dust, odour etc.)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Does the development have the potential to result in any form of water pollution (eg. sediment run-off)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Will the development have any noise impacts above background noise levels (eg. swimming pool pumps)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Does the development involve any significant excavation or filling? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Could the development cause erosion or sediment run-off (including during the construction period)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is there any likelihood in the development resulting in soil contamination? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is the development considered to be environmentally sustainable (including provision of BASIX certificate where required)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is the development situated in a heritage area or likely to have an impact on any heritage item or item of cultural significance? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is the development likely to disturb any aboriginal artefacts or relics? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

Please justify your answers below:

The proposed development is contained within an established residential area.

FLORA AND FAUNA IMPACTS

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| • Will the development result in the removal of any native vegetation from the site? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| • Is the development likely to have any impact on threatened species or native habitat? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

For further information on threatened species, visit www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au

Please justify your answers below:

The land has been cleared initially to build the existing dwelling and create large open space.

WASTE AND STORMWATER DISPOSAL

- How will effluent be disposed of?
☒ To Sewer ☐ Onsite
- How will stormwater (from roof and hard standing) be disposed of:
☒ Council Drainage System ☐ Other (please provide details)
- Will liquid trade waste be discharged to Council's sewer? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Will the development result in any hazardous waste or other waste disposal issue? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Does the development propose to have rainwater tanks? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Have all potential overland stormwater risks been considered in the design of the development? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Please justify your answers below:

All services are well established at the site location and can be adapted to extend those services to meet the new additional lots.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Will the proposal have any economic or social consequences in the area? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Has the development addressed any safety, security or crime prevention issues? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Please justify your answers below:

The proposed development is contained within an established residential area within Gol Gol.

The location is ideal for residential purposes and having more housing available in the area will only add value to the real estate in the area.

Appropriate fencing to secure boundaries will be installed.

CONCLUSION

Cumulative effects of all factors.

This proposed development is a small and fits well into this location.

It will provide modern, accessible residences for any demographic wishing to settle in Gol Gol.

This type of residential development will accommodate the needs of young families, couples, singles, and older people.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  <p>WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL WORTH THE DRIVE</p> | <p>Health & Planning Department 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</p> | <p>DA Assessment Report Section 4.15 Evaluation</p> <p>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 as amended</p> |
|---|--|---|

File Reference: DA2022/002
Property Title & Address: Lot 1 DP 1018940 & 92-94 Wood Street Gol Gol
Applicant(s): Yeshni Purchase (MH2)
Proposal: 8 Lot Subdivision
Previous DAs: n/a
Cost of proposed development: \$120,000.00

SITE AND SURROUNDING DEVELOPMENT

The subject site comprises of Lot 1 DP 1018940 located in Gol Gol, Wentworth NSW. The subject site has a total area of 3000sqm ha and fronts Livingstone Drive from east and Wood Street from the south, linking it to the surrounding area.

The subject site is zoned RU5 Village under the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011). The subject site is currently used for residential while the adjoining lands are residential with associated buildings and structures. The site does not contain a heritage item or is located within the Heritage Conservation Area. The subject land is not within a bushfire or flood impacted mapping.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

The proposal seeks development consent to subdivide the subject land into 8 new Allotments. Lots 2 to 8 will have an area of 332 sqm. Lot 1 with an existing dwelling will have an area of 675 sqm.

HISTORY RELEVANT TO THE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

n/a.

SECTION 4.15-MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

(1) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument and development control plan

State Environmental Planning Policies (Transport and Infrastructure) 2007

The application was referred to Essential energy as per clause 2.48 of this SEPP. Comments received from Essential energy will be included in the conditions of consent.

The SEPP did not trigger the requirement for other referrals.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021

The land has been used predominantly for residential purposes based on council historical documents and imagery. A septic system has been in use on the land for an extended period of time which may have contaminated the land. As part of the subdivision, the septic system would need to be decommissioned and land checked for any contamination. If contamination is discovered, appropriate remediation measures will need to be taken. A condition will be put in place should any contamination be identified during works.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

The proposed is on a residential block of land less than 1 ha in size. No vegetation removal is proposed as part of the development, as such no impacts on biodiversity is anticipated and no further assessment against this SEPP is required.

Far West Regional Plan

Incorporated into the Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement.

Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011

The proposed subdivision is permitted with consent in the RU5 Village zone under Clause 2.6 and meets the zone objectives.

4.1 Minimum subdivision lot size

The subject land has no minimum Lot size.

5.21 Flood planning

Not in flood affected areas based on council flood mapping.

7.1 Earthworks

Any earthworks will form part of this approval and will be ancillary to the main approval for a subdivision. However, standards will still need to be followed during any earthworks.

7.2 Essential services

The main infrastructure services are available and must be provided to the new allotments.

Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011

The proposed development is acceptable against the objectives of the DCP. The DCP does not have a specific section addressing residential subdivision. However, the DCP does support flexible housing provision for the Buronga Gol Gol urban areas.

Wentworth Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)

The proposed development was checked against the relevant planning priority (PP6: Sustainable settlements).

The land is located within a primary settlement area with one of the strategies for these areas being: "Provide a range of housing options, including affordable housing, housing for older people, family housing and temporary worker accommodation based on an analysis of local demographics and future demand"

Based on the size of the blocks and the potential development to go on those blocks, a range of housing options can be made available for the area. As identified in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan, the demography and future vision for the area supports the need for diversified housing and land options.

Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020

Under chapter 3 of the BGGSP, one of the land use principles for residential area is to "Promote a mixture of urban development that allows for flexibility to respond to changes in the community over time and cater for a diversity of land sizes and housing types"

The current predominant average land size for residential subdivision in the area is approx. 800sqm. This provides a reasonable sized residential block fitting with the surrounding area.

However, there is little diversity in land sizes which does not provide the flexibility identified as being required for the area.

The demography for the area is showing an increase in aged population, and demands for more affordable housing including for first home buyers. This is due to the increasing housing price and a lesser need for big backyards and gardens due to maintenance restrictions. This requirement for diverse residential land has identified in a number of housing strategies including the NSW housing Strategy: Housing 2041 produced by DPIE.

The proposed lot sizes provide a very different type of development to the surrounding area. The smaller size does provide the flexible development option, with the main question being if the proposed divergence is adequate in size for where it is being proposed.

Section 4.2.1 of the plan encourages an average lot size starting from 600sqm and higher for the higher density residential land. These smaller lots are encouraged to be located near community facilities such as shops, community centres to cater for aged communities and small families.

The proposed lots are 332sqm, which is approximately half of the envisioned size for high density development. The blocks are also located 30m walking distance from the nearest community centre (Midway centre) and shop (midway market place).

A bus shelter is located a 2 minutes' walk from the site in Wood Street, however, there is a limited number of bus trips that pass through this bus stop.

Positive things about the proposed development are:

1. Provides diverse and flexible housing options

The factors above identify a number of issue with the development in its current form:

1. Lot size significantly below those recommended for high density living (55% of 600sqm)

An option to mitigate the issue of the Lot sizes is to re-design the subdivision to create Lots above 450sqm. Although the area will be below that recommended by the structure plan, a divergence of 25% can be accepted in this case. The main reason being the requirement and demand for diverse housing in the area.

(2) The provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument

There is no Division 3.4 draft environmental planning instrument that affect the proposed development. (Post 1 July 2009 LEP amendments).

(3) Any matters prescribed by regulations

There are no further matters prescribed by regulations.

(4) The likely impacts of the development

There are no likely impacts from the proposal as discussed in the table below.

| Impact item (insert an 'x' in the relevant section) | Acceptable | Not acceptable | Not relevant | Comment |
|--|------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| Context and setting | X | | | Area is experiencing growth, and proposed subdivision will match the growth. The size of the proposed blocks in the location proposed raises concerns. |
| Public domain & Streetscape | | | X | Not relevant for this application |
| Landscaping | X | | | Will be addressed in conditions and subdivision certificate |
| Stormwater | X | | | Council stormwater available for connection. Specific details will be addressed during the subdivision works certification |
| Heritage | X | | | None located on the subject site |
| Soils & Soils Erosion | X | | | No significant impact is expected |
| Air and microclimate | X | | | There are no foreseen adverse impact on air quality and microclimate from the proposal. The future Lots are expected to be used for residential purposes. Dust prevention measures to be put into place during subdivision works are addressed in the conditions |
| Water Resources | X | | | The proposal is unlikely to impact on water resources as the subject land is not located in or near a watercourse. |
| Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna) | X | | | The subject site currently used for residential, no native vegetation onsite. |
| Land Resources | X | | | There are no known land resources beneath the subject land that would prevent the proposal proceeding. |
| Utilities | X | | | Will be made available for connection to new proposed Lots |
| Access & Parking | X | | | Access will be through Livingstone Drive. Parking is available onsite. The matters for whether enough space is available for entranceways to be addressed by R&E as part of the referral process. |
| Roads & Traffic | X | | | No new Roads are proposed to provide access to proposed Lots. An increase in traffic is anticipated from the new allotments subsequent uses. |
| Solar Access and Energy Efficiency | | | X | Not relevant to this application |
| Overshadowing | | | X | Not relevant to this application |
| Privacy & Overlooking | | | X | Not relevant to this application |
| Flooding | X | | | Not in flood affected land |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Bushfire Prone Area | X | | | Not in bushfire affected area |
| Noise | X | | | Noise expected during subdivision works, and the construction of subsequent buildings on the new Lots. |
| Technological hazards | X | | | The proposed development will not create or be subject to technological hazards. |
| Safety, Security & Crime Prevention | X | | | The proposal will not alter the existing level of safety or security of the locality. |
| Social and Economic Impacts | X | | | The proposed subdivision is expected to provide residential land in the Buronga/Gol Gol area, with potential positive future economic impacts. |

(5) The suitability of the site for development

The site is suitable for the proposed subdivision as it will not have any adverse impact on the locality. The proposed development is permitted by the RU5 Village zoning of the area under the Wentworth LEP 2011. The character and use of the proposed subdivision is consistent with council strategic vision for the area. Utilities will need to be made available for connection to the proposed Lots.

However, the proposed Lot sizes are not similar to those in the surrounding area, and do not fully comply with Councils vision for the Buronga/Gol Gol area.

(6) Any submissions made in accordance with this Act or Regulation

The application was notified for 14 days as per council Community Participation Plan. 7 submissions were received during the notification period with a further 6 submissions received after the notification period. Of the total 13 submission, five of the submissions were a copy of each other as such will be counted as one unique submission. Based on this, a total number of unique submissions received was 8.

The applicant was sent a FIR to respond to the 7 submissions received during the notification period. The applicant provided a response to the submission which will be considered when going through the submissions and assessing the application.

The main concerns raised by the 8 unique submitters were summarised below with officer comments:

- **Streetscape frontage**
Officer comments: Addressed in this assessment report.
- **Prominent in the area (2 storey to fit site)**
Officer comments: Addressed in this assessment report.
- **High density in medium density area**
Officer comments: The small lots can provide more flexible options for buyers which has been identified in local and state strategic documents. This has been further addressed in this assessment report include possible redesign.
- **No off-street parking**

Officer comments: Any future development onsite will be required to have off-street parking due to the location of the Lots. These matters are further addressed in this assessment report.

- **Parking regulations**

Officer comments: Restriction on on-street parking will be considered. However, these matters to be considered when the new buildings are being considered on new lots.

- **Frontage size**

Officer comments: Council has no policy in place regulating the size of property frontages. The size and vehicle access has been assessed by councils road and engineering department. They have identified that road access is possible for the Lots, however, restrictions on their location and future access ways will be required.

- **Units out of character**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Any new buildings on the new Lots will be assessed on their merits on a case by case basis.

- **Town water coping**

Officer comments: Noted.

- **Sewer system issue**

Officer comments: Noted.

- **Precedent for future subdivisions**

Officer comments: All future subdivisions in the area will be assessed individually on their own merits.

- **Open space for future occupants**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Any new buildings on the new Lots will be assessed considering open space requirements.

- **Privacy issues**

Officer comments: The proposed development is for subdivision only. Any new buildings on the new Lots will be assessed taking into account privacy and overlooking.

- **Size of block**

Officer comments: The proposed blocks are smaller than the blocks in the surrounding area. An assessment for the block sizes was conducted in this assessment report. These matters are further addressed in this assessment report.

- **Traffic**

Officer comments: Traffic generation will be considered for all new buildings.

(7) The public interest

The proposed development is partially consistent with public interest as it will have some detrimental effect on the surrounding area. One measure to mitigate this, is to redesign the subdivision and have all new Lots have a minimum area of 450 sqm.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL INTERNAL DEPARTMENTS

| Department | Referred Y/N | Comments |
|----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Building | N | |
| Subdivision Officer | Y | Comments included in the assessment and formulation of conditions of consent |
| Roads & Engineering | N | |
| Finance & Policy | N | |
| Heritage Advisor | N | |
| Environmental Health | N | |
| Local Laws | N | |
| Floodplain Mgt Committee | N | |
| Sustainable Infrastructure | N | |

COMMENTS FROM REFERRALS

- **Essential Energy:** Provided general comments that will form part of the condition of consent if approved.

ASSESSMENT

Usually, as part of subdivision applications, future developments on the proposed allotments is not required. The Planning Principle assessment process was used to determine whether proposed developments on the new allotments would need some consideration as part of the assessment process for the subdivision.

Assessment was done using the process set by Roseth CS in *Parrot v Kiama* [2004] NSWLEC 77 is as follows:

- Smaller than usual – The new Lots are smaller than usual, as such some consideration and restrictions to future land uses on the land may need to be considered.
- Environmentally sensitive – Not environmentally sensitive because there is no flora/fauna, the land has no significant steepness and is not located in a flood or bushfire prone area.
- Significant impact on neighbours and needs careful design to minimise impacts – There is enough space in the proposed Lots for future development to occur without infringing on the existing allotments through shadowing and privacy.

Based on the assessment, the applicant is required to provide some details regarding proposed development on the new allotments and how they will fit. The applicant has provided an illustration which shows the type of development that can be erected on the new allotments.

Council have no policy in place in regards to solar access considerations for subdivision application and assessment. The Planning Principle assessment process was used to determine whether the subdivision had been accurately designed in terms of solar access for future developments on these allotments.

Assessment done using the process set by Watts C in *Wallis & Moore Pty Limited v Sutherland Shire Council v Kiama* [2006] NSWLEC 713 is as follows:

- Sid boundaries on or near a north-south axis: The proposed Lots all have a north-south axis, which provides adequate solar access to the lots and future buildings on the land.

However, due to the proximity of the of the Lots to each other, any residential development will need to be appropriately designed in terms of overshadowing and solar access. The illustration provided do not clearly identified how solar access to the units will be addressed.

The current subdivision application was okay in terms of the following:

- North-south axis to allow for good solar access
- Rectangular standard shape
- Legal access to a public road
- Potentially provide different property types and flexibility for the area

The following concerns were identified with the current subdivision application:

- The proposed submission proposed Lots are well below the average lot size for the surrounding area. The proposed lot size does not meet the Lot size envisioned for the area.
- The illustration provided does not show how the proposed developments on the Lots will have solar access as they will be in very close proximity to each other. Although not part of this development, these are matters for consideration as identified by planning principles.

The options available to mitigate the concerns with the application are to:

- Amend the subdivision plan by increasing the Lot sizes to approx. 450sqm, which means the Lot yield will decrease. This can be a condition of consent requiring a redesign to create Lot 450 sqm and above.
- As part of the conditions of consent, development illustrations provided by applicant can be used to restrict future developments on the allotments including requirements for solar sensitive designs

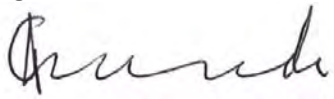
CONCLUSIONS


1. **General comments:**
2. **The proposal satisfies the points for consideration listed under Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.**
3. **The proposal occurs on land zoned RU5 Village. The current design of the proposal is considered to have some detrimental impact on the site and surrounds. (Sec 4.15 (a))**
4. **The proposal is consistent with the Wentworth Shire Development Control Plan (Dec 2011). The proposal is consistent with the development controls in Chapter 3 and 8 of the Wentworth Shire Development Control Plan 2011. (Sec 4.15 (a))**
5. **The current proposed lot area is not consistent with the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020.**
6. **The proposed subdivision accords with the relevant objectives and provisions of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 and State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.**

7. There is no draft local environmental plan affecting the proposed development.

Recommendation:

Approve the development application subject to deferred commencement conditions

| Delegate report author | Delegated approval and endorsement |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Signature:  | |
| George Kenende Development Assessment Officer | |
| Date: 6/05/2022 | |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|  <p>WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL WORTH THE DRIVE</p> | <p>Health & Planning Department 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648</p> <p>Tel: 03 5027 5027 council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</p> | <p>TEMPLATE CONDITIONS</p> |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|

DA2022/02 8 LOT SUBDIVISION 92-94 WOOD STREET LOT 1 DP 1018940 GOL GOL

SCHEDULE 1

DEFERRED COMMENCEMENT CONDITIONS

The following is a Deferred Commencement condition imposed pursuant to Section 4.16(3) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and clause 76(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*. This Consent will not operate and will not be acted upon until the Council is satisfied as to the following matter(s):

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | <p>Prior to issue of an Operational Notice of Determination, the following additional information and plans shall be submitted to Councils satisfaction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An amended subdivision plan with all proposed Lots having a minimum area of 450 square metres A Construction Agreement is to be formalised between the respective land owners of Lot 1 DP 1018940 and Lot 193 DP 756946 for provision of sewerage reticulation burdening Lot 193 DP 756946, ultimately benefiting the beneficiary and Lot 1 DP 1018940. The Construction Agreement is to include detail for the creation of an easement by way Transfer Granting Easement, and compensation to be paid by the beneficiary. The said Construction Agreement is to be formalised, endorsed, and dated prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate Approval for subdivision works. <p>Evidence of the above matter(s) must be submitted to Council within 5 years otherwise the Consent will not operate.</p> |
|----|---|

PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS

| | |
|----|--|
| P1 | <p>The development must adhere to the prescribed conditions in Part 4, Division 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i>.</p> |
|----|--|

PART A – GENERAL CONDITIONS

| | |
|----|--|
| A1 | <p>Development Description</p> <p>Planning Approval is granted for the following works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subdivision of the site into 8 Lots; Associated bulk earthworks; |
|----|--|

| | |
|-----------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure works including, drainage works and utility services provision; • Landscaping works. <p>The development hereby authorised shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the conditions of this approval.</p> |
| A2 | <p><i>Lapsing of Approval</i></p> <p>Without the further consent of the Wentworth Shire Council, in writing, this permit shall lapse and have no force or effect unless the use or development hereby permitted is physically commenced within 5 years of the date of this permit.</p> |
| A3 | <p><i>Development in Accordance with Plans and Documentation</i></p> <p>The development shall be in accordance with the following plans, documentation and recommendations made therein:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing Property Layout Plan by Mh2 Engineering & Architectural Services; Sheet No: 1 of 2; Date: Jan '22 |
| A4 | <p><i>Inconsistency between plans and documentation</i></p> <p>In the event of any inconsistency between the conditions of this development approval and the endorsed plans referred to above, the conditions of this development approval prevail.</p> |
| A5 | <p><i>Staging</i></p> <p>This consent does not provide for any staging. Any future staging will require separate consent or an amendment to this consent.</p> |
| A6 | <p><i>Compliance with Relevant Legislation and Australian Standards</i></p> <p>The proponent shall comply with all relevant Australian Standards and Codes (including Building Code of Australia) and obtain all necessary approvals required by State and Commonwealth legislation in undertaking a development described in condition A1 of this approval.</p> |
| A7 | <p><i>Mediation</i></p> <p>Where this approval requires further consent from Council or another Authority, the parties shall not act unreasonably, preventing an agreement from being reached. In the event that an agreement is unable to be reached within 3 months or a timeframe otherwise agreed to by the General manager, the matter is to be referred to the General Manager for resolution. All areas of disagreement and the position of each party are to be clearly stated to facilitate resolution.</p> |
| A8 | <p><i>Disability access and facilities</i></p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | This approval does not provide any indemnity to the owner or beneficiary of this consent under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 in respect to the provision of access and facilities for people with disabilities. |
|--|--|

PART B – PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

| | |
|-----------|---|
| B1 | <p><i>Subdivision Works Certificate</i></p> <p>A Subdivision Works Certificate is to be issued by the Principle Certifying Authority prior to the commencement of any works related to this subdivision approval. The application for this certificate is to satisfy all of the requirements of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i>.</p> <p>A priced schedule of quantities, program of construction works, and a list of principal representatives (bulk earthworks, civil, plumbing, road works and electrical) is to be submitted to the Principal Certifying Authority with the application for a Subdivision Works Certificate.</p> |
| B2 | <p><i>Certificates / Engineering Details – General</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, the proponent must apply under section 305 of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> to Council as the Water Supply Authority for any works and contributions required for the obtaining of a section 307 Certificate of Compliance. 2. Prior to preparation of any engineering design plans, the consultant preparing the design plans shall consult Council's Roads & Engineering Division to discuss the extent and scope of all works and details required on the design plans to meet the requirements of Council. |
| B3 | <p><i>Construction Management Plan</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved by the Principal Certifying Authority. The Plan shall address, but not be limited to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hours of work; b. Nominated site supervisor c. Contact details of site manager; d. Written notice to the Principle Certifying Authority and Council if Council is not the PCA prior to commencement of works on site; e. Induction procedures for all site workers on measures to protect aboriginal heritage; f. Integration of the following management plans: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction traffic management ii. Waste management iii. Environmental Management Plan iv. Stormwater Management Plan |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| | <p>2. The Construction Management Plan shall document the proposed method of work within the construction site boundaries with regard to the health and safety of the public and the effect on the road reserve must be submitted to and approved by the Principal Certifying Authority prior to the issue of the Subdivision Works Certificate. If any part of the road reserve or public land is proposed for long term (exceeding 24 hours) inclusion in the construction site boundaries, this area must be identified in the Construction Management Plan. The proponent shall submit a copy to Council.</p> |
| B4 | <p>Construction Traffic Management Plan</p> <p>1. Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) prepared in consultation with Council by a suitably qualified person shall be submitted to and approved by the Principal Certifying Authority. The Plan shall address, but not be limited to, the following matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for reducing any impact of the construction site on the adjacent traffic network; Dayworks Dayworks with traffic control After care traffic control plans Traffic management of short term activities such as delivery of materials; Accessing, exiting and parking in and near the work site by trucks, tradesmen work vehicles and the like; Mitigation measures to ensure that delivery trucks and trade vehicles do not deposit any spoil on public roadways; Loading and unloading, including construction zones; Pedestrian and traffic management methods; Public consultation procedures – procedures to be put in place for notification of surrounding residents of the relevant details of the CTMP and details of complaint handling procedures. <p>The traffic control Plans shall be prepared in accordance with Traffic for NSW (TfNSW) "Traffic Control at Worksites Technical Manual" as current.</p> <p>2. The proponent shall submit a copy to Council.</p> |
| B5 | <p>Construction Waste Management</p> <p>1. Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, the proponent shall submit a Waste Management Plan prepared by a suitably qualified person to the Principal Certifying Authority for approval. An onsite storage area for reuse, recycling and disposal of materials is to be provided during construction.</p> <p>2. During construction, materials must be reused, recycled or disposed of in accordance with the Waste Management Plan.</p> |
| B6 | <p>Environmental Management Plan</p> <p>Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, the proponent is to submit an Environmental Management Plan to the Principal Certifying Authority for approval. The plan is to include the following management plans to ensure their implementation will complement each other and maximise the environmental outcomes of their performance.</p> |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Stormwater Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The provision of a stormwater system with water quality control facilities required to treat stormwater runoff from the development site in accordance with Australian Runoff Quality Guidelines. • Erosion and Sediment Control plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Design Plans for the control of soil erosion on the site and the prevention of silt discharge into drainage systems during subdivision works. |
| B7 | <p>Landscaping Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A detailed landscape plan for the entire subdivision area prepared by a suitably qualified person is to be submitted to the Principal Certifying Authority for approval as part of the subdivision works certificate application. The plan is to include, but not limited to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The provision of street trees, including the variety as per Council's Street Tree Policy. A minimum allocation of 2 trees per allotment, or 4 trees per corner allotment, is required; b. Details on weed control; c. Details of on-going maintenance requirements including irrigation; and d. Management of stormwater runoff to minimise impact on vegetated areas. 2. The proponent shall maintain all hard and soft landscaping works in areas to be dedicated to Council for a 12-month period after completion to ensure all maintenance and repairs required are carried out during the maintenance period. |
| B8 | <p>Roads</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Separate approval from Wentworth Shire Council must be obtained under the Roads Act 1993 (Road opening permit) prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate for any works within the council road reserve. Design plans must be submitted to and approved by Council prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate. b. The provision of additional civil works necessary to ensure satisfactory transitions to existing work or a result of work condition for the development at no cost to Council. Design plans are to be approved by the roads authority prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate. c. Double residential vehicle crossings are to be constructed in accordance to Council's Standard SD4-3 to proposed allotments 2 to 7. Double residential crossings are to be constructed to the shared boundary of the new allotments to support the 9.83m frontages proposed. Proposed allotments 1 and 8 will require the construction of a Single Residential Vehicle Crossing in accordance to Council Standard SD4-1. Existing infrastructure including side entry pits; electricity; and street lights are to be considered when undertaking construction of the said crossings. |
| B9 | <p>Dilapidation</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <p>A dilapidation report must be submitted to Council, being the roads authority, prior to the commencement of any works. The report must document and provide photographs that clearly depict any existing damage to the road, kerb and gutter, footpath, driveways, water supply, sewer works, street trees, street signs or any other council assets in the vicinity of the development.</p> |
| B10 | <p><i>Water and Sewer Services / Infrastructure</i></p> <p>All water and sewer works impacting on water and sewer assets are to be designed and constructed to the requirements of Wentworth Shire Council being the water supply authority under the Water Management Act 2000. The requirements of section 306 of the Water Management Act 2000 apply to this development, and all requirements by Council in this regard must be shown on the design plans. The design plans for filtered and unfiltered water as well as sewer services must be submitted to and be approved by Council prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate.</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to design a water reticulation to supply raw and filtered water to all lots created by the proposed subdivision. The design is to be approved by the Council prior to any work takes place on the site, drawn by a suitably qualified person meeting the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) and Water Supply Code of Australia and Council standards. All work as detailed by the approved design is to be constructed by the beneficiary of this consent under the supervision of the Council. All work is to be carried out at the beneficiary of this consent's expense.</p> <p>The Principal Certifier is to be provided with plans and specifications for all sewerage works required to service all lots created within the subdivision, drawn by a suitably qualified person. These plans are to be submitted with the Subdivision Works Certificate application for approval prior to any works commencing on site and meet the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) and Gravity Sewerage Code of Australia and Council standards.</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to prepare a full services layout with offsets approved by relevant authorities prior to issue of the Subdivision Works Certificate.</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to construct all sewerage, filtered water, unfiltered water mains and other works required to service all lots created in accordance with previously approved plans to the satisfaction Principal Certifier. All work is at the beneficiary of this consent's expense.</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is required to obtain and pay costs associated with the creation of any easement required for services associated with the development. Service easement shall be a minimum of three metres wide.</p> <p>Note:</p> <p><i>Existing filtered and unfiltered water mains are available within Livingstone Drive. Individual filtered and unfiltered property connections are required in accordance to Council Standard 127-101 and 127-102. A Water Connections Approval Application is to be submitted to Council's Roads and Engineering Department for relevant property connections, together with</i></p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | <p><i>a Product Specification outlining materials proposed including class and colour, fittings, and nominated sand for backfill.</i></p> <p><i>An existing gravity sewerage network is located within vicinity to the subject land. The applicant will be required to submit a design plan for sewerage reticulation to Council's Roads and Engineering Department for review prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Approval. Plans are to include a system overview depicting reticulated mains; maintenance structures proposed including dimension, channel and drop details, and property junctions (connections). Connection to Council's existing sewerage network may facilitate the need for infrastructure upgrades to support the applicant's sewage flows.</i></p> |
| B11 | <p>Hydraulic Strategy</p> <p>A hydraulic strategy and plans are required from a hydraulic consultant for the whole of the development on the site. Water service sizing is then to be determined by the hydraulic consultant to suit the proposed residential components of the development, as well as addressing fire service requirements to AS 2419. The local water supply reticulation mains are to loop within the subdivision to minimise dead ends and connect to the existing reticulation wherever possible.</p> |
| B12 | <p>Stormwater Management Plan</p> <p>Infrastructure is to be constructed for the drainage of stormwater, ultimately discharging within the existing Livingstone Drive Drainage Reserve. House and drain connections are to be installed within existing kerb and channel in accordance to Council's Standard SD6-4.</p> <p>A Stormwater Management Plan, inclusive of design documentation, is required for approval with the subdivision works certificate for the development.</p> |
| B13 | <p>Drainage (Stormwater)</p> <p>An appropriately qualified and practising consultant is required to furnish a Compliance Certificate to the Principal Certifying Authority confirming:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All drainage lines have been located within the respective easements; Any other drainage structures are located in accordance with the Subdivision Works Certificate; All stormwater has been directed to a council approved drainage system; All conditions of consent / Subdivision Works Certificate approval have been complied with; Any on site detention system will function hydraulically in accordance with the approved Subdivision Works Certificate. |
| B14 | <p>Plumbing and Drainage</p> <p>A Plumbing and Drainage Approvals Application under Section 68 of the <i>Local Government Act NSW 1993</i> is to be submitted to and approved by Council's Roads and Engineering Division prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate for the proposed plumbing and drainage works.</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| B15 | <p>Septic System Decommissioning</p> <p>Before issue of the subdivision works certificate, the beneficiary of this consent is to submit a Decommissioning Plan for the septic system servicing the existing dwelling prepared by a suitably qualified person to the Principal Certifying Authority for approval. The Plan shall address, but not be limited to, the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any contamination caused by the septic system operation and remediation work required for the land to reach levels that will allow sensitive land uses (HIL A, B & C), as per National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs). b. The septic system removal process c. Fill material to be used for backfilling after the septic system is removed from the ground |
| B16 | <p>Earthworks Plan</p> <p>An Earthworks Plan is to be submitted to Council's Roads and Engineering Department for approval prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Approval outlining areas within the site where cut and fill activities may be proposed. A height table depicting proposed volume and elevations, existing surface levels, and designed surface levels, is required.</p> |
| B17 | <p>Contact Person</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to nominate a person (with technical experience acceptable to Council) to be the point of contact for all construction works prior to any start of the development.</p> |
| B18 | <p>Performance Bond</p> <p>A Performance Bond for the sum of \$5,000.00 must be submitted to Council by the beneficiary of this consent prior to the commencement of subdivision works, to be held in Trust by Council.</p> <p>50% of the performance bond will be released at practical completion of the works. The remaining 50% will be released on completion of the 12 month maintenance period.</p> |
| B19 | <p>Contract Agreement</p> <p>A Contract Agreement for the performance of Certification Work must be completed and returned to Wentworth Shire Council prior to lodgement of the Subdivision Work Certification Application.</p> |
| B20 | <p>Pre-construction Meeting</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of any works, a pre-construction meeting shall be coordinated by the beneficiary of this consent. This meeting is to be attended by the beneficiary of this consent or consultants representing the owners, principal contractor and Council's Director Roads and Engineering or his representative.</p> |
| B21 | <p>Security Fencing</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | An adequate security fence is to be erected around the perimeter of the site prior to commencement of any excavation or construction works, and this fence is to be maintained in a state of good repair and condition until completion of the building project. |
| B22 | <p><i>Heritage Due Diligence</i></p> <p>The results of a recent search of the NSW Government - Department of Environment and Heritage, Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS), is to be submitted to Council prior to the commencement of subdivision works.</p> |

PART C – DURING CONSTRUCTION

| | |
|-----------|---|
| C1 | <p><i>Approved Plans</i></p> <p>A copy of the stamped approved and certified plans, specifications and documents incorporating conditions of approval and certification must be kept on site for the duration of site works and be made available upon request to either the Council or other Government Agencies</p> |
| C2 | <p><i>Uncovering relics or Aboriginal objects</i></p> <p>While subdivision work is being carried out, all such works must cease immediately if a relic or Aboriginal object is unexpectedly discovered. The beneficiary of this consent must notify the Heritage Council of NSW in respect of a relic and notify the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Heritage Council of NSW in respect of an Aboriginal object. Building work may recommence at a time confirmed by either the Heritage Council of NSW or the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.</p> <p>In this condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “relic” means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that: (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance; and • “Aboriginal object” means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction and includes Aboriginal remains. <p>Reason: To ensure the protection of objects of potential significance during works</p> |
| C3 | <p><i>Emission Management</i></p> <p>Any noise, vibrations and dust emanating from the subject land during subdivision works must meet the relevant EPA guidelines, <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act</i> and any other relevant guidelines, standards, Acts and Regulations.</p> |
| C4 | <p><i>Dust Control</i></p> |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| | <p>Adequate measures shall be taken to prevent dust from affecting the amenity of the neighbourhood during construction. In particular, the following measures must be adopted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Physical barriers shall be erected at right angles to the prevailing wind direction or shall be placed around or over dust sources to prevent wind or activity from directly generating dust emissions; 2. Earthworks and scheduling activities shall be managed to minimise the amount of time the site is left clear or exposed; 3. The surfaces should be damp to prevent dust from becoming airborne but should not be wet to the extent that run-off occurs; 4. All vehicles carrying spoil or rubble to or from the site shall at all times be covered to prevent the escape of dust or other material and wheels washed before leaving the site; 5. Truck gates to be securely closed between vehicle movements and shall be fitted with shade cloth; and cleaning footpath and roadways shall be carried out regularly. |
| C5 | <p><i>Hours of Work</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The hours of construction of the project, including the delivery of materials to and from site shall be restricted as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Between 7 AM and 6 PM, Monday to Fridays inclusive; b. Between 8 AM and 1 PM, Saturday; c. No work on Sundays or public holidays. 2. Works may be undertaken outside these hours where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The delivery of materials is required outside these hours by the police or other authorities; b. Is required in emergency to avoid the loss of life, damage to property and/or to prevent environmental harm; c. The work is approved through the construction management plan; and d. Residents likely to be affected by the works are notified in the timing and duration of these works at least 48 hours prior to commencement of the works. |
| C6 | <p><i>Construction Noise Management</i></p> <p>The proponent shall:</p> <p>Schedule impact noise making activities between the following hours unless approved in a construction management plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9 AM to 12 PM Monday to Friday; 2. 2 PM to 5 PM, Monday to Friday; 3. 9 AM to 12 PM, Saturday. |
| C7 | <p><i>Erosion and Sedimentation Control.</i></p> <p>The provision of soil erosion and sediment controls on the site in accordance with Council's requirements and the approved development plans prior to any work commencing on the site.</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| C8 | <p>Notice of Work Commencing</p> <p>A minimum of one (1) weeks' notice in writing of the intention to commence works on public land is required to be given to Council together with the name of the principal contractor and any major subcontractors engaged to carry out works.</p> |
| C9 | <p>Septic System Disconnection</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to disconnect the septic system servicing the existing dwelling that will be located on Lot 1. The existing dwelling must be connected to the sewerage reticulated system. This works is to be approved under the section 68 plumbing and drainage approval identified in condition B14 of this consent.</p> |
| C10 | <p>Septic System Decommissioning works</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is to decommission the septic system on the land as per the approved decommissioning plan.</p> |
| C11 | <p>Infrastructure Inspection Hold Points</p> <p>Development works on public property or works to be accepted by Council as an infrastructure asset are not to proceed past hold points specified within the Subdivision Works Certificate, without inspection and approval of Council. Notice to Council of the required inspection must be given 48 hours prior to the inspection.</p> <p>Please contact Council's Roads and Engineering Division on (03) 5027 5027 to arrange an inspection. You must quote your Subdivision Works Certificate number and property description to ensure your inspection is confirmed.</p> <p>All works at each hold point shall be certified as compliant in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standards for provision of public infrastructure and any other Council approval, prior to proceeding to the next hold point.</p> |
| C12 | <p>Existing Drainage</p> <p>Any existing agricultural water mains and drainage lines are to be located and if required, removed or redirected to Council's satisfaction.</p> |
| C13 | <p>Work Costs</p> <p>All road works and associated works are to be constructed at beneficiary of this consent's costs as per approved design plan to Council's requirements.</p> |
| C14 | <p>TREES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The beneficiary of this consent shall plant trees as per approved landscaping plan before the issuance of the subdivision certificate. Tree plantings are to be maintained for the 12 month maintenance period. <p>Or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to issue of a Subdivision Certificate, the beneficiary of this consent shall pay to Council a Street Tree Planting Bond of \$100.00 per tree to be held in Trust for the provision of street trees, as per the approved landscaping plan. Council will facilitate planting of street trees when development commences on the new lots. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| C15 | <p>Contamination discovered during works</p> <p>1) If during works on the land comprising the lot, the land is found to be contaminated, within the meaning of the <i>Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> all works must stop immediately, and the Environment Protection Authority and the council must be notified of the contamination. <p>2) Land is found to be contaminated for the purposes of this clause if the person having the benefit of the complying development certificate or the principal certifying authority knows or should reasonably suspect the land is contaminated.</p> <p>Note: Depending on the nature and level of the contamination, remediation of the land may be required before further work can continue.</p> |
|------------|---|

PART D - POST CONSTRUCTION CONDITIONS

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|---------|---|---------|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| D1 | Beneficiary of this consent to supply (at completion of works) "as constructed" plans for Council records, in both digital AutoCAD and hard copy form. This is to include finished level checking by a licensed surveyor and shown on plan. | | | | | | |
| D2 | <p>"As Constructed" data indicates the surveyed locations of infrastructure installed as a part of the physical works to be taken over by the receiving entity. Final "As Constructed" data should accurately reflect material types, specifications and other asset specific information.</p> <p>Prior to the approval of the Subdivision Certificate, or any other time to which the responsible authority agrees, the following must be provided to the responsible authority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of the "As Constructed" engineering drawings in both PDF and DWG format. Copies of constructed features in a GIS ready format (either shapefile or MapInfo TAB file). Data must contain relevant attribute information regarding each item, e.g. pipe size, pipe material. Location of any permanent survey marks. As Constructed Survey is to be submitted to Council by a licensed surveyor CCTV inspection of all newly constructed sewer mains and drainage lines within the subdivision to verify quality, grades and deflection (ovality). Data supplied must be accompanied by a readme.txt file with relevant metadata. See below for minimum data example: <p>Readme.txt</p> <table> <tr> <td>COMPANY</td><td>Company name taking responsibility for the data</td></tr> <tr> <td>CONTACT</td><td>Contact person for this project</td></tr> <tr> <td>TELEPHONE</td><td>Contact phone number</td></tr> </table> | COMPANY | Company name taking responsibility for the data | CONTACT | Contact person for this project | TELEPHONE | Contact phone number |
| COMPANY | Company name taking responsibility for the data | | | | | | |
| CONTACT | Contact person for this project | | | | | | |
| TELEPHONE | Contact phone number | | | | | | |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| FACSIMILE | If applicable |
| EMAIL | Contact email address |
| MAILING ADDRESS | Regular postal address |
| PHYSICAL ADDRESS | Physical business address (or 'as above') |
| A-SPEC MEMBER | Participating Authority |
| DATE SUBMITTED | Date the digital data submitted |
| DOCUMENT VERSION | Version of the standard document used |
| SOFTWARE | The software/version used to create the digital data |
| PROJECT | Project or Subdivision name |
| STAGE | Subdivision Stage Name |
| DESIGN COMPANY | Design Company Name |
| PLAN NUMBER | As Constructed Plan Number |
| CONSTRUCTION COMPANY | Construction Company Name |
| CONSTRUCTION DATE | Date the asset was constructed |
| COORDINATES/DATUM | Must be GDA94 MGA Zone 54 |
| DATUM | e.g. AHD |
| SOURCE OF DATA | The type of capture used (e.g. RTK GPS) |
| NOTES/COMMENTS | Important notes or information to be included here. |

PART E - PRIOR TO ISSUE OF SUBDIVISON CERTIFICATE

| | |
|-----------|--|
| E1 | <p><i>Subdivision Certificate</i></p> <p>An application for a Subdivision Certificate, complying with the conditions of this Development Approval is to be lodged (and issued) before the Council of the Shire of Wentworth will sign the subdivision plans that are to be lodged with the Titles Office for registration,</p> <p>Or</p> <p>An application for a Subdivision Certificate, complying with the requirements of the <i>Building Code of Australia</i>, the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, and the conditions of this approval is to be obtained from the Principal Certifier before the Shire of Wentworth will sign the Subdivision Plan to permit the plan of subdivision to be registered.</p> |
|-----------|--|

| | |
|-----------|--|
| E2 | <p><i>Subdivision certificate application documentation</i></p> <p>The application for a Subdivision Certificate for Council official endorsement shall be accompanied by all relevant documentation.</p> |
| E3 | <p><i>Fulfilment of Conditions</i></p> <p>All conditions set out in this application are to be fulfilled prior to Council releasing the subdivision plans and the issuance of the subdivision certificate.</p> |
| E4 | <p><i>Services</i></p> <p>Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate the proponent shall provide to each lot an underground connection to the following reticulated services in accordance with their respective requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Telecommunications 2. Electricity Supply 3. National Broadband Network |
| E5 | <p><i>Notice of Arrangement</i></p> <p>Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, written advice (Notice of Arrangement) is to be submitted to Wentworth Shire Council from Essential Energy that its requirements for the provisions of electricity services have been satisfied.</p> |
| E6 | <p><i>Sewerage Headwork fees</i></p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is required to pay sewerage head works fees prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate of \$ 7943 per new allotment. 8 Lots * \$7943 = \$ 63,544.00.</p> <p>Note: Lot 1 was included in calculating the sewerage headworks fees because the existing dwelling onsite is using an onsite septic system but will be connecting to the reticulated sewerage as part of the subdivision.</p> |
| E7 | <p><i>Unfiltered Water Headwork fees</i></p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is required to pay unfiltered water head works fees prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate of \$1646 per new allotment. 7 Lots * \$1646 = \$ 11,522.00.</p> |
| E8 | <p><i>Filtered Water Headwork fees</i></p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent is required to pay filtered water head works fees prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate of \$ 1519 per new allotment. 7 Lots * \$1519 = \$ 10,633.00.</p> |
| E9 | <p><i>Stormwater Headwork fees</i></p> <p>The total stormwater head works fees for the development are \$0.96 per square metre of original area to be subdivided. \$0.96 * 3,000 square metres = \$ 2,880.00. The fees are to be paid prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate.</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| E10 | <p><i>Payment of Contributions</i></p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent contributions (conditions E6 to E9) will apply for 12 months from the date of this development consent. Contributions not received by Council within 12 months of the date of this notice will be adjusted in accordance with the adopted schedule of fees and charges current at the time of payment.</p> |
| E11 | <p><i>Permanent High Security Water</i></p> <p>The applicant is to transfer to the Shire of Wentworth 1.75 mega litres of permanent high security water entitlement to provide for the ongoing water that will be used by the occupants of the lots created by the proposed subdivision. The cost of the water at the time of the transfer to Council will be credited to the Water head works account. The transfer is to be paid prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate.</p> |
| E12 | <p><i>Section 88B</i></p> <p>Prior to the issue of the Subdivision Certificate, a restriction is to be created on all allotments by way of a Positive Covenant pursuant to <i>Section 88E(3) of the Conveyancing Act 1919</i> depicting that existing crossings cannot be widened nor can additional crossovers be constructed.</p> |
| E13 | <p><i>Development Contribution Levy</i></p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent may be required to pay the Development Contribution Levy based on the total costs of the Civil Works before the issuance of the Subdivision Certificate.</p> <p>The beneficiary of this consent must provide Council with a cost summary report of the Civil Works, before the issuance of the Subdivision Certificate, for Council to determine if the Development Contribution Plan is applicable.</p> |

PART F - POST SUBDIVISION CERTIFICATE CONDITIONS

| | |
|-----------|---|
| F1 | <p><i>Maintenance Period</i></p> <p>A maintenance period of twelve (12) months shall apply from the time of practical completion, when a statement of approval by the Principal Certifier is issued. The twelve (12) month period provides time for the beneficiary of this consent to maintain the development.</p> |
|-----------|---|

CONDITIONS FROM AGENCIES

Essential Energy

| | |
|-------------|--|
| EE 1 | Any existing encumbrances in favour of Essential Energy (or its predecessors) noted on the title of the above property should be complied with. |
| EE 2 | As part of the subdivision, an easement/s are/is created for any existing electrical infrastructure (located within the property or adjoining the property as required). The easement/s is/are to be created using Essential Energy's standard easement terms current at |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| | the time of registration of the plan of subdivision. Refer Essential Energy's Contestable Works Team for requirements via email contestableworks@essentialenergy.com.au . |
| EE 3 | . In addition, Essential Energy's records indicate there is electricity infrastructure located within close proximity to the property. Any activities within this location must be undertaken in accordance with the latest industry guideline currently known as <i>ISSC 20 Guideline for the Management of Activities within Electricity Easements and Close to Infrastructure</i> . Approval may be required from Essential Energy should activities within the property encroach on the electricity infrastructure. |

REASONS FOR CONDITIONS

- a) To ensure compliance with the terms of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- b) To ensure work is sustainable and that an appropriate level of provision of amenities and services occurs within the Shire and to occupants of lots.
- c) To minimise environmental impact and impact on public assets, degradation of natural resources and to enhance amenity.
- d) To provide for a quality environment, safe and efficient movement of people and to ensure public safety and interest.

SCHEDULE 2

ADVISORY NOTES

Advisory Note from Essential Energy

1. Prior to carrying out any works, a "Dial Before You Dig" enquiry should be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Part 5E (Protection of Underground Electricity Power Lines) of the *Electricity Supply Act 1995 (NSW)*.
2. Given there is electricity infrastructure in the area, it is the responsibility of the person/s completing any works around powerlines to understand their safety responsibilities. SafeWork NSW (www.safework.nsw.gov.au) has publications that provide guidance when working close to electricity infrastructure. These include the *Code of Practice – Work near Overhead Power Lines* and *Code of Practice – Work near Underground Assets*.

9.13 DA2022/021 DWELLING WITH GARAGE 75-77 WENTWORTH STREET LOT 58 DP 756994 WENTWORTH

File Number: RPT/22/316

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning
 Responsible Division: Health and Planning
 Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Development Assessment Officer

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

Summary

A development application (DA2022/021) was received by Council for a new dwelling with garage to be located at 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth in close proximity to the river.

The location of the proposed development is a linear distance of 7.87m from the high bank. Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, the required river setback is 30m from the high bank.

The applicant is seeking a variation of 73.77% to the 30m setback. As this variation is greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. That Council approve DA2022/021 being a dwelling with garage located at 75-77 Wentworth Street Lot 58 DP 756994 Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information for Council to determine Development Application DA2022/021, having consideration to the detail provided both within this report and the attachments provided.

Background

A Development Application was lodged with Council on 3 March 2022 seeking consent to construct a dwelling with garage on the subject Lots.

The subject lot is located in the RU5 Village zone, and is located 7.87 metres from the high bank of the Darling River. Under clause 7.6 of the WLEP 2011, dwellings are not permitted within the river front area.

The definition of river front within the WLEP 2011 is as follows:

“river front area means the land between the river front building line and the highest bank of the Murray River or, if there is no river front building line, the land within 30 metres of the highest bank of the River.”

The definition of the Murray River in the WLEP2011 is as follows:

“Murray River includes the Darling River and the Great Darling Anabranch.”

Based on the definition of river front above, the proposed dwelling with garage did not meet the river front setback standard.

Where an application cannot achieve development standards required by a Local Environmental Plan, the applicant may apply to vary the development standards.

An application to vary a development standard is made under clause 4.6 of the WLEP 2011.

Such applications are also subject to Assumed Concurrence provisions set down by the NSW Planning Secretary.

There are specific development standards where Council cannot assume Secretary's concurrence, however the Standard pertaining to riverfront setbacks can still be assessed under assumed concurrence.

The NSW Planning Circular PS 20-002 'Variations to Development Standards' states: “the Secretary's concurrence may not be assumed by a delegate of Council if the development contravenes a numerical standard by greater than 10%”

The WLEP2011 provides a 30m riverfront setback. The application proposes a setback of 7.87m thus creating a variation of 73.77%. As this is greater than 10% this application cannot be determined under delegated authority and is presented to Council for consideration.

Refer to attachment 1 – Development Application

Refer to attachment 2 – 4.6 Variation Request

Refer to attachment 3 – Plans

Matters under consideration

In determining a development application that requires consent, the consent authority must take into consideration matters prescribed in Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* as relevant to the development.

The proposed development was assessed against and met the relevant principles of Chapter 5 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021*.

The proposed development for dwelling with garage is permitted with consent and meets the zone objectives of the RU5 Village zone under the WLEP 2011.

The dwelling with garage does not meet the setback standard under clauses 7.6, and the Clause 4.6 variation request provided by the applicant did not provide adequate justification for the contravening of development standards contained in Clause 7.6.

Due to the WLEP 2011 mapping impacting the land, the development application was assessed against clauses 5.21, 7.6 and 7.7. The development application was able to satisfy the matters of consideration of these Clauses.

Due to the nature of the proposed development, it was assessed against Chapter 2 of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011. The proposed development did not meet all relevant provisions of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011.

Based on the assessment of the application and no submissions received as part of the notification process, it is determined that the proposed development is consistent with the relevant objectives of the RU5 Village Zone and is inconsistent with planning matters for consideration of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011*. However, did not meet relevant provisions of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011 which could be addressed by conditions of consent.

Refer to attachment 4 – 4.15 Assessment Report

Refer to attachment 5 – 4.6 Variation request assessment

Refer to attachment 6 – Conditions of consent

Options

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

Approve Development Application 2022/021 subject to conditions

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Should Council issue a determination to the application, the applicant has the right to submit a request for review of the determination to Council under Section 8.2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

The applicant also has the right to appeal the decision made by Council to the Land and Environment Court pursuant to Section 8.7 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

Conclusion

Having consideration to the content of this report it is concluded that the appropriate course of action is to approve DA2022/021 subject to conditions.

Attachments

1. Development Application (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
2. 4.6 Variation Request (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
3. 4.6 Variation Assessment [↓](#)
4. Plans (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
5. 4.15 Assessment Report [↓](#)
6. Conditions of Consent [↓](#)

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL WORTH THE DRIVE</p> <p>Health & Planning Department 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</p> | <p>Clause 4.6 Assessment</p> <p>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 as amended</p> |
|---|--|

4.6 VARIATION ASSESSMENT

4.6 Exceptions to development standards

Application written request – clause 4.6(3)(a) and (b)

The applicant seeks to justify the contravention of the development standard on the following basis:

a. That compliance with the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in these circumstances because:

- i. Land adjacent to the subject site have dwellings closer to the high bank than the proposed development which does not comply with the setback requirement
- ii. The proposed setback will be in line with the surrounding area
- iii. Complies with the EP&A Act objectives
- iv. Proposed development meets the objectives of the zone

b. That there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify contravening the standard:

- i. The dwelling will not cause any environmental impacts on the Darling River

Consideration of Applicants Written Request - Clause 4.6(4) (a) (i) and (ii) (b)

Does the written request adequately address those issues at Clause 4.6(4)(a)(i)

1. The applicant's written request has adequately demonstrated that compliance with the 7.6 river front area restriction is unreasonable and unnecessary in this case based on the following:
 - a. The adjoining lands within the building riverfront area to the south (71-73 and 67-69) were approved under the 1993 WLEP 2011 before the 2011 WLEP commenced. The means they were approved before the WLEP 2011 came into effect including clause 7.6 requirements. It can also be seen that the property to the North (79-81) was built outside the river front area. However, as the bank is already disturbed and the proposed will fit with the character of the surrounding lands, variation can be accepted in this case.



Does the written request adequately address those issues at Clause 4.6(4)(a)(ii)

- a. Although the development is cognisant with the zone objectives, the proposal is consistent with the objectives of clause 7.6 being varied.

| Objectives of Clause 4.2B | |
|---|--|
| to support natural riverine processes, including the migration of the Murray River's channels, | Not on the bed of the river. |
| to protect and improve the bed and bank stability of the Murray River, | Works will not impact the bank stability of the river |
| to maintain and improve the water quality of the Murray River | Not applicable |
| to protect the amenity, scenic landscape values and cultural heritage of the Murray River and to protect public access to its riverine corridors, | won't significantly impact amenity and landscape as no native vegetation removal is proposed |
| to conserve and protect the riverine corridors of the Murray River, including wildlife habitat. | No wildlife impacted, as land were dwelling is proposed is disturbed. |

Has the planning secretary's concurrence been sought as per Clause 4.6(4)(b)

- b. Under the planning circular PS20-002, the concurrence of the Planning Secretary will not be required for this variation. However, due to the size of the variation, council staff do not have the delegated authority to determine the development. As such, the development will be determined by Council.

5 part test

- The objectives of the standard are achieved notwithstanding noncompliance with the standard:
The assessment of the application against the objective of the 7.6 is located within the assessment report.
The proposed dwelling with garage meets the objectives of the clause.
- The underlying objective or purpose of the standard is not relevant to the development and therefore compliance is unnecessary:

The underlying objective of this clause is to protect Murray River bank and bed. The proposed development will be located 7.87m from the high bank. There is potential risk to the bank of the river due to the building works. However, due to the existing disturbances of the bank and condition of consent, additional protection will be put in place for the River.

3. The underlying object of purpose would be defeated or thwarted if compliance was required and therefore compliance is unreasonable:

The underlying objective will be thwarted if compliance was required as it will create a dwelling out of character with the area.

4. The development standard has been virtually abandoned or destroyed by the council's own actions in granting consents departing from the standard and hence compliance with the standard is unnecessary and unreasonable:

Council have approved dwellings within the riverfront area only after adequate justification to vary the standard had been provided. This has been done on a case by case basis. This application has provided enough justification to support varying the standard.

5. The compliance with development standard is unreasonable or inappropriate due to existing use of land and current environmental character of the particular parcel of land. That is, the particular parcel of land should not have been included in the zone:

The zoning of the land is appropriate as dwelling houses are permitted with consent under the current zoning.

The proposed variation is supported based on the results of the five (5) part test above.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
|  <p>WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL WORTH <small>THE</small> DRIVE</p> | <p>Health & Planning Department 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</p> | <p>DA Assessment Report Section 4.15 Evaluation</p> <p>Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 as amended</p> |
|--|--|---|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| File Reference: | DA2022/021 – PAN-180304 |
| Property Title & Address: | Lot 58 DP 756994 & 75-77 Wentworth Street Wentworth |
| Property owner(s): | Darren William Pascoe & Debra Lee Baillie |
| Applicant(s): | Warrick Fisher (Fisher Planning) |
| Proposal: | Dwelling with garage |
| Previous DAs: | DA2021/033: Storage shed |
| Cost of proposed development: | \$625 83.00 |

SITE AND SURROUNDING DEVELOPMENT

The subject site comprises of Lot 58 DP 756994 located in Wentworth NSW. The Lot has an area of 8821 sqm and has road frontage to Wentworth Street from east linking it to the surrounding area. The subject land fronts the Darling River to the west and residential blocks to the south and north.

The subject site is zoned RU5 Village under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011* (WLEP 2011). The subject site is a slightly irregular shaped Lot used for residential purposes. Adjoining Lots are also residential with associated buildings. The site does not contain a heritage item and is not located within the heritage conservation area. The site is not located within the bushfire mapped areas. However, the land is within flood planning, terrestrial biodiversity and wetlands mapped area.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

The proposal seeks development consent to construct a new dwelling with a garage on the subject land. The dwelling and garage will have an area of 376.93 sqm and a floor height of 2.59m.

HISTORY RELEVANT TO THE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

n/a

SECTION 4.15-MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

(1) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument and development control plan

State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004

The proposed development meets the requirements of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004 as demonstrated by the BASIX certificate

State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

The proposed development is located on land below 1 ha in size with no vegetation removal proposed. As such, Chapter 4 of the SEPP is not applicable for this DA.

An assessment against Chapter 5, **clause 5.9** principles of the SEPP are as follows:

1. Access
Land is freehold with no existing public access to the river. The development will not change access to the river.
2. Bank disturbance
The development will be conducted close to the high bank (7.87m) and approx. 34.35m from the waters edge. Additional bank protection measures may be required to protect the bank from disturbances caused by the development.
3. Flooding
The land is located on flood liable land. An assessment against these principle are as follows:
 - a. The land is already disturbed, no disturbances or benefits to riverine ecosystems
 - b. The land is flood liable with risks of flooding during flood events. This is especially relevant due to the increase in extreme weather events caused by Climate change.
 - c. The proposed dwelling is on stilts which will allow certain amount of flood water to pass under the dwelling in a flood event. Condition of consent can be put in place to ensure the space below the dwelling can easily be opened to allow the flow of flood water if required. The dwelling height above ground can also be conditioned to protect habitable areas during flood events.
 - d. The whole Lot is flood liable, so whichever section of the land is built upon will be flood liable. However, the closer the dwelling is to the river the greater chance of impact in minor flood events that may not impact the whole Lot.
 - e. Services are available to the site, however the land including the accessway and public road are all within flood liable land. However, land located approx. 50m from the site is within a levee bank and outside flood affected area. This allows access from the site to non-flood affected land during flood events. The accessway for the property may be require to be built up to allow access during flood event.
 - f. The land is expected to be used for residential purposes. Minimal risk of pollution during a flood event.
 - g. The dwelling will be on stilts and required to be raised about the 1 in 100 year flood event.
 - h. Noted
4. Land Degradation
Development application will be conditioned to minimise impacts of the development on the land if required.
5. Landscape
No tree removal is proposed as part of the development. Any tree planting on the land will need to match with the vegetation currently on the land.
6. River related use
The proposed development does not have a demonstrated essential relationship with the river, as such will need to be located a reasonable distance from the river.
7. Settlement
The proposed development is for a single residential dwelling and does not propose creating a residential settlement.
8. Water Quality
Any work and subsequent uses of the land must be managed and designed to not cause any pollution of the waterway. If approved, the determination will be conditioned to ensure water quality measures are in place before occupation of the dwelling.

9. Wetlands

The land is located in wetland area as per WSC mapping. However, the land where the dwelling will be located has already been disturbed.

An assessment against **clause 5.13** principles of the SEPP are as follows:

- **Building setback:** The proposed development does not meet the WLEP 2011 setback requirement, and a 4.6 variation has been provided requesting the varying of this standard.
- **Matters to be considered**
 - o **Effluent disposal:** There is no reticulated sewer to the property. The wastewater system will need to be located 120m from the river (outside wetland area). The wastewater system may also need to be built 750mm above the 1 in 100 flood level.
 - o **Landscaping:** Existing landscaping, with lawn area proposed/existing

The proposed development does not fully comply with the principles within the SEPP. The significant non-compliance is that the development is not a river related use and the setback being too close to the river. The 4.6 variation provided does provide some justification as to why the dwelling can be located 7.87m from the high bank.

Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011

Zone objectives and permissibility

The proposed dwelling with garage is Permitted with consent and meet the zone objectives of the RU5 Village zone under which the subject site is located.

Standard being varied

The dwelling with garage will be located 7.87m from the river high bank. Under clause 7.6 of the WLEP 2011, only a certain list of uses are permitted within the river front area (30m from the high bank).

Only the following land uses are permitted within the river front area as per clause 7.6:

- a) *boat building and repair facilities, boat launching ramps, boat sheds, charter and tourism boating facilities or marinas,*
- b) *the extension or alteration of an existing building that is wholly or partly in the river front area, but only if the extension or alteration is to be located no closer to the river bank than the existing building,*
- c) *environmental protection works,*
- d) *extensive agriculture and intensive plant agriculture,*
- e) *walking trails, cycleways, picnic facilities, recreation facilities and recreation facilities (outdoors),*
- f) *water recreation structures.*

River front area is defined as:

“river front area means the land between the river front building line and the highest bank of the Murray River or, if there is no river front building line, the land within 30 metres of the highest bank of the River.”

A dwelling is not one of the listed uses permitted within the river front area. However, a 4.6 variation application was provided by the applicant to vary this development standard to allow a dwelling within the river front area.

Approving 4.6 variations

Under clause 55 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*, a consent authority (Council) may assume concurrence if the concurrence authority has given notice to the consent authority.

The notice identifies which concurrence has been given to council and can specify qualifications or conditions for the assumed concurrence.

Under the planning circular PS20-002 (notice), Councils were given assumed concurrence to approve 4.6 variation applications based on a number of conditions. These conditions can be summarised as following:

1. Council cannot assume concurrence for varying a standard regarding dwelling entitlement in regards to MLS less than 90% for lands zoned RU1 to RU4, RU6, R5, E2 (now C2) to E4 (now C4) and equivalent land uses.
2. Non-numerical standard and standard variations greater than 10% cannot be approved by a Council delegate i.e Director. These need to be approved by Council to ensure greater public scrutiny and transparency.

The proposed variation is not regarding MLS as such Council has assumed concurrence and do not need to refer the DA to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for concurrence. However, the variation proposed is greater than 10%, as such, will need to be presented to Council for approval.

4.6 Exceptions to development standards

Located within the 4.6 variation assessment report.

5.21 Flood Planning

The proposed dwelling is located on land within flood mapped area.

An assessment against 5.21(2) is as follows:

- a. The whole land is flood mapped with the proposed development being on stilts. This will go towards preventing the dwelling from disturbing the flood water behavior.
- b. The whole land is flood mapped with the proposed development being on stilts. This will prevent the dwelling from disturbing the flood water behavior.
- c. The land including the accessway and public road are all within flood liable land. However, land located approx. 50m from the site is within a levee bank and outside flood affected area. This allows access from the site to non-flood affected land during flood events. The accessway may be required to be raised to allow evacuation in flood events.
- d. The height of the development from the ground and nearby land outside the flood mapped area provide appropriate measure to manage risk of life in the event of a flood.
- e. The proposed location of the building being close to the high bank can potentially lead to bank destabilisation in time of flood events. This can be addressed in conditions of consent.

An assessment against 5.21(3) is as follows:

- a. Minimal flood impacts on flood behaviour
- b. The scale of the development is adequate for the land irrespective of the flooding
- c. The application can allow safe evacuation of people due to the nearby land protected by a levee bank and not flood impacted. Condition of consent can ensure the accessway allows for safe evacuation of the land in times of flooding.
- d. The dwelling being close to the high bank of the river puts it at risk of being impacted by flood erosion.

The proposed development does not fully meet matters for considerations under clause 5.21. This can be addressed in conditions of consent.

7.1 Earthworks

Any earthworks will form part of this approval and will be ancillary to the main approval for a dwelling. However, standards will still need to be followed during any earthworks.

7.2 Essential services

All necessary services can be made available to the new dwelling. As there is no reticulated sewer to the subject land, a alternative sewerage management system will be required. The type and siting of the sewer management system is to consider the flood planning impacting the land.

7.4 Terrestrial biodiversity

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.4(3) is as follows:

- a. The proposed development is unlikely to have adverse impacts on the condition, ecological value and significance of the fauna and flora on the land. This is because the proposed development is for a residential dwelling with domestic uses anticipated on the dwelling. Potential impacts will most likely be from the construction of the dwelling. No vegetation clearing will be conducted as part of the construction and tree preservation measures must be installed during construction.
- b. The proposed development is unlikely to have adverse impacts on the importance of the vegetation on the land to the habitat and survival of native fauna. This is because the proposed development is for a residential dwelling with domestic uses anticipated on the dwelling. Potential impacts will most likely be from the construction of the dwelling. No vegetation clearing will be conducted as part of the construction and flora/fauna preservation measures must be installed during construction.
- c. The proposed development is unlikely to have any potential to fragment, disturb or diminish the biodiversity structure, function and composition of the land. This is because the proposed development is for a residential dwelling with domestic uses anticipated on the dwelling. The section of the land where the development will be located has no vegetation.
- d. The proposed development is unlikely to have adverse impacts on the habitat elements providing connectivity on the land. The site where the development is located has no vegetation that can form habitat connections. As such no connection between the river bank and rest of the land currently exists.

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.4(4) is as follows:

- a. The dwelling is designed and managed to avoid any environmental damage.
- b. Noted
- c. Noted

7.5 Wetlands

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.5(3) is as follows:

- a. Not affect growth and survival of flora and fauna. Measures can be put in place to protect flora and fauna on the site during construction and use of the site.
- b. No vegetation to be removed as part of the construction. Tree protection measures to form part of the conditions of consent if approved.
- c. No vegetation to be removed as such no impacts on provision and quality of habitats for indigenous and migratory species
- d. Conditions of consent may be put in place to ensure that surface and groundwater characteristics of the site, including water quality and natural water flows are protected.
- e. The development location is located in a wetland mapped area. However, the land has been historically disturbed.

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.5(4) is as follows:

- The plans of the dwelling provided adequately show that the development is designed and managed to avoid potential adverse environmental impacts in relation to wetlands. Conditions of consent will provide

further protection measures.

7.6 Development in River Front Areas

The proposed development does not meet the permitted use in the riverfront area as identified under clause 7.6(2).

An assessment of the proposed dwelling and garage against clause 7.6(3) is as follows:

- f. The development will be compatible with surrounding area as seen by surrounding dwelling design and vegetation screening
- g. The development may potentially cause pollution through bank destabilisation due to the disturbance of the bank of the river. This can be addressed in condition of consent.
- h. No vegetation to be removed as such no impacts on existing landscape
- i. The proposed dwelling will not change current access arrangement to the river
- j. There are no historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic significance of the land to be impacted by the development

Based on the above assessment, the development does not fully comply with the clause. This can be addressed in condition of consent.

7.7 Riparian land and Murray River and other watercourses—general principles

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.7(3) is as follows:

- a. Adverse impact of the proposed:
 - i. The structure is not located within the waterway and is not anticipated to impact the flow
 - ii. No impacts on aquatic and riparian species, habitats and ecosystem. The use of the land will be residential with no emissions likely to impact the environment anticipated from the development
 - iii. Works may potentially impact the bank stability as they are located close to the high bank of the river. This can be addressed in condition of consent.
 - iv. No impacts to the watercourse movement of aquatic fauna anticipated as no works proposed with the watercourse
 - v. Not impact any future rehabilitation of a watercourse and riparian areas .
- b. Reticulated water is available to the site, and will need to be connected to the dwelling.

An assessment of the proposed dwelling against clause 7.7(4) is as follows:

- a. The dwelling is not adequately sited to avoid any significant adverse environmental impact
- b. This can be managed by managed by condition of consent.
- c. noted

Based on the above assessment, the development does comply with the clause.

Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011

The proposed development is not fully acceptable against Chapter 2 provisions but acceptable against chapter 4 provisions of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011.

Chapter 2: Section 2.2 Erosion control

The location of the proposed development and associated works have the potentially to increase erosion along the river bank. This can be addressed in condition of consent.

Chapter 2: Section 4 Flood affected land

The development complies by having the building on piers and beams. Cut and fill will need to be restricted to the minimum required for the construction. The proposed dwelling will require a finished floor level to be 750 above the 1 in 100 yr flood level.

The wastewater management system will need to be located so as to not impact the waterway and designed to not pollute waterway in flood events.

Chapter 4

The proposed development complies with the standards of this chapter.

(2) The provisions of any draft environmental planning instrument

There is no Division 3.4 draft environmental planning instrument that affect the proposed development. (Post 1 July 2009 LEP amendments).

(3) Any matters prescribed by regulations

There are no further matters prescribed by regulations relevant to the proposed development.

(4) The likely impacts of the development

There are no likely impacts from the proposal as discussed in the table below.

| Impact item (insert an 'x' in the relevant section) | Acceptable | Not acceptable | Not relevant | Comment |
|--|------------|----------------|--------------|---|
| Context and setting | X | | | The site is surrounded by similar land uses (residential). |
| Public domain & Streetscape | X | | | Enough distance between the street and development. No work is expected to be done on the street. |
| Landscaping | X | | | Appropriate for the area |
| Stormwater | X | | | Will be dealt with onsite |
| Heritage | X | | | No heritage item onsite. |
| Soils & Soils Erosion | X | | | Potentially erosion due to the proximity of the site to the high bank. This can be addressed in condition of consent. |
| Air and microclimate | X | | | Proposed development not anticipated to affect the air or microclimate. |
| Water Resources | X | | | None located on land, with potential indirect impacts to the waterway. Addressed in conditions of consent |
| Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna) | X | | | No native vegetation to be cleared for the development |
| Land Resources | X | | | None located on the site expected to impact the proposed development. |
| Utilities | X | | | Utilities to be made available to the extension |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Access & Parking | X | | | Direct access to site available, space for parking available on site |
| Roads & Traffic | X | | | No new road proposed, traffic will not be impacted by proposal |
| Solar Access and Energy Efficiency | X | | | Meets BASIX |
| Overshadowing | | | X | Not relevant. Enough distance between proposed extension and nearest adjoining dwelling |
| Privacy & Overlooking | | | X | Not relevant. Enough distance between proposed extension and nearest adjoining dwelling |
| Flooding | X | | | Flood affected. Assessed within this report. |
| Bushfire Prone Area | X | | | Not in bushfire prone area |
| Noise | X | | | Possible significant noise only expected during construction, residential noises anticipated after |
| Technological hazards | X | | | None anticipated from the development, only residential activities anticipated from the site |
| Safety, Security & Crime Prevention | X | | | Development will not affect the safety of the area. |
| Social and Economic Impacts | X | | | No negative social and economic impacts anticipated from the proposed development. |

(5) The suitability of the site for development

A site visit to the subject site was conducted on 1 April 2022. The following images were taken during the site visit. Image 1 shows the surveyors peg showing where the dwelling will start. Image 2 and 3 shows the high bank where the land starts falling towards the river.



Image 1

Image 2



Image 3

The subject land is suitable for the proposed dwelling, however, the siting of the dwelling on the subject land may not be suitable due to its proximity to the Rivers' high bank. This can be seen by the slope from the high bank to the river. However, condition of consent can be put in place to address these concerns.

The proposed development is permitted by the RU5 Village zoning of the area under the Wentworth LEP 2011. The character and use of the proposed dwelling is consistent with existing developments in the surrounding area.

(6) Any submissions made in accordance with this Act or Regulation

The application was notified for 14 days as per the Wentworth Community Participation Plan. No submissions were received.

(7) The public interest

The proposed development is consistent with public interest as it will have no detrimental effect on the surrounding area. Moreover, no objections were made by the surrounding neighbours.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL INTERNAL DEPARTMENTS

| Department | Referred Y/N | Comments |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Building | N | |
| Subdivision Engineer | N | |
| Roads & Engineering | N | |
| Finance & Policy | N | |
| Heritage Advisor | N | |
| Environmental Health | N | |
| Local Laws | N | |
| Floodplain Mgt Committee | N | |
| Sustainable Infrastructure | N | |

COMMENTS FROM EXTERNAL REFERRALS

Essential Energy: No objections and provided comments

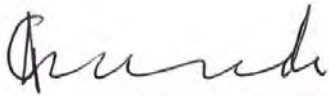
CONCLUSIONS


1. General comments:
2. The proposal does not satisfy the points for consideration listed under Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.
3. The proposal occurs on land zoned RU5 Village. The proposal has potential detrimental impact on the site and surrounds. These can be addressed in condition of consent.
4. The proposal is not consistent with the Wentworth Shire Development Control Plan (Dec 2011).
The proposal is not consistent with the development controls in Chapter 2 but is consistent with Chapter 4 of the Wentworth Shire Development Control Plan (Dec 2011).

- | |
|---|
| <p>5. The proposed dwelling accords with the relevant objectives, provisions and principles of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004</p> <p>6. There is no draft local environmental plan affecting the proposed development.</p> |
|---|

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the development application subject to conditions

| Delegate report author | Delegated approval and endorsement |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Signature:  | Signature: |
| George Kenende Development Assessment Officer | |
| Date: 3/05/2022 | Date: |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|  <p>WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL WORTH THE DRIVE</p> | <p>Health & Planning Department 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</p> | <p>TEMPLATE CONDITIONS</p> |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|

DA2022/021 DWELLING WITH GARAGE 75-77 WENTWORTH STREET LOT 58 DP 756994 WENTWORTH

SCHEDULE 1

PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | The development must adhere to the prescribed conditions in Part 4, Division 2 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i> . |
|----|--|

GENERAL CONDITIONS

| | |
|----|--|
| 2. | <p>The development hereby authorised shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the conditions of this approval and stamped approved plans listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site Plan by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 1 of 10; Date: 8 July 2021 • Landscaping Plan by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 1 of 10; Date: 21 September 2021 • Floor Plan by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 2 of 10; Date: 8 July 2021 • Floor Plan by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 3 of 10; Date: 8 July 2021 • Elevation Plan (South & East) by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 4 of 10; Date: 8 July 2021 • Elevation Plan (North & West) by G.J Gardner Homes; DWG No: 210411; Sheet: 5 of 10; Date: 8 July 2021 • Survey Plan by Danson and Blaby; Survey Ref: 21m0240; Sheet number: 1 of 1; Date: 03/12/21 • BASIX Certificate number 1240604S, Date: 23 November 2021 <p>In the event of any inconsistency between the approved plans and the supporting documentation, the approved plans prevail. In the event of any inconsistency between the approved plans and a condition of this consent, the condition prevails.</p> <p>Note: an inconsistency occurs between an approved plan and supporting documentation or between an approved plan and a condition when it is not possible to comply with both at the relevant time.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure all parties are aware of the approved plans and supporting documentation that applies to the development</p> |
| 3. | Approval is for a dwelling with garage. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|------------|---|----------|
| 4. | This consent shall lapse and have no force or effect unless the use or development hereby permitted is physically commenced within 5 years of the date of this consent. | | | | |
| 5. | <p>Payment of bonds / securities</p> <p><i>This condition applies to all construction works \$25,001 and above.</i></p> <p>Before the commencement of any works on the site or the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant must make all of the following payments to Council and provide written evidence of these payments to the certifier:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Infrastructure Bond (Security Deposit)</td><td>\$3,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Infrastructure Protection Permit Fee (includes inspections)</td><td>\$200.00</td></tr> </table> <p>The payments will be used for the cost of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making good any damage caused to any council property (including street trees, kerb, road etc) as a consequence of carrying out the works to which the consent relates, • completing any public work such as roadwork, kerbing and guttering, footway construction, stormwater drainage and environmental controls, required in connection with this consent, and • any inspection carried out by Council in connection with the completion of public work or the making good any damage to council property. <p>The Infrastructure Bond will be returned on completion of the construction of the proposed development, subject to no damage being done to any council property (including street trees, kerb, road etc) as a consequence of carrying out the works to which the consent relates. The owner / developer is to arrange an inspection with an Officer of Wentworth Shire Council before any work commences on site. Any damage incurred to Council infrastructure will be repaired at the owner's / developer's expense and the balance of the Infrastructure Bond will be returned to the owner / developer on completion of the construction.</p> <p>Note: The inspection fee includes Council's fees and charges and includes the Public Road and Footpath Infrastructure Inspection Fee (under the Roads Act 1993). The amount payable must be in accordance with council's fees and charges at the payment date.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure any damage to public infrastructure is rectified and public works can be completed.</p> | Infrastructure Bond (Security Deposit) | \$3,000.00 | Infrastructure Protection Permit Fee (includes inspections) | \$200.00 |
| Infrastructure Bond (Security Deposit) | \$3,000.00 | | | | |
| Infrastructure Protection Permit Fee (includes inspections) | \$200.00 | | | | |
| 6. | <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant is to ensure that the person liable pays the long service levy as calculated at the operational date of this consent to the Long Service Corporation or Council under section 34 of the Building and Construction Industry Long Service Payments Act 1986 and provides proof of this payment to the certifier.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure the long service levy is paid.</p> | | | | |

| | |
|----|---|
| 7. | <p>Payment of section 7.12 contributions</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant must pay a total contribution of \$6,257.83 as calculated at the date of this consent to Council under section 7.12 of the EP&A Act in accordance with Wentworth Shire Council Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan. The total amount payable may be adjusted at the time the payment is made, in accordance with the provisions of the Wentworth Shire Council Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan (3.10).</p> <p>A copy of the development contributions plan is available on council website or for inspection at Wentworth Shire Council offices.</p> |
|----|---|

BEFORE THE ISSUE OF A CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

| | |
|----|---|
| 8. | <p>Construction site management plan</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant must ensure a construction site management plan is prepared before it is provided to and approved by the certifier. The plan must include the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location and materials for protective fencing and hoardings to the perimeter on the site • provisions for public safety • pedestrian and vehicular site access points and construction activity zones • details of construction traffic management, including proposed truck movements to and from the site and estimated frequency of those movements, and measures to preserve pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the site • protective measures for on-site tree preservation (including in accordance with AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites) and trees in adjoining public domain (arborist report) • details of any bulk earthworks to be carried out • location of site storage areas and sheds • equipment used to carry out all works • a garbage container with a tight-fitting lid • dust, noise and vibration control measures • location of temporary toilets. <p>The applicant must ensure a copy of the approved construction site management plan is kept on-site at all times during construction.</p> <p>Reason: To require details of measures that will protect the public, and the surrounding environment, during site works and construction</p> |
| 9. | <p>Erosion and sediment control plan</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant is to ensure that an erosion and sediment control plan is prepared in accordance with the following documents before it is provided to and approved by the certifier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the guidelines set out in the NSW Department of Housing manual 'Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Certificate' (the Blue Book), and |

| | |
|-----|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the 'Do it Right On-Site, Soil and Water Management for the Construction Industry' (Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils and the Natural Heritage Trust). <p>The plan is to include measures to protect the bank and bed of the Darling River.</p> <p>The applicant must ensure the erosion and sediment control plan is kept onsite at all times during site works and construction.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure no substance other than rainwater enters the stormwater system and waterways</p> |
| 10. | <p>Stormwater Management Plan</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate the beneficiary of this consent is to design and submit to Council for approval a stormwater Management Plan for the dwelling. The design is to be approved by Council before any work takes place on this site. All work detailed by the approved design is to be constructed by the beneficiary of this consent under supervision of the Principal Certifying Authority. All work is to be carried out at the beneficiary of this consent's expense.</p> <p>The plan is to include treatment measures for the water if it is to be discharged into the river.</p> |
| 11. | <p>Waste management plan</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant is to ensure that a waste management plan is prepared in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines and the following requirements before it is provided to and approved by the certifier:</p> <p>Details the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the contact details of the person(s) removing the waste an estimate of the waste (type and quantity) and whether the waste is expected to be reused, recycled or go to landfill the address of the disposal location(s) where the waste is to be taken <p>The applicant must ensure the waste management plan is referred to in the construction site management plan and kept on-site at all times during construction.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure resource recovery is promoted and local amenity protected during construction.</p> |
| 12. | <p>Geotechnical Report</p> <p>Before the issue of a Construction Certificate, the following additional information is to be included in the Geotechnical Report prepared by a suitable qualified person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How proposed work will impact the bank and bed of the Darling River and any stabilisation work required |
| 13. | <p>Utilities and services</p> <p>Raw water and filtered water are available and are to be connected to Councils services. Dual water supply lines are to be provided from the front boundary of the property. One line is to convey filtered water to all fittings within the house and the other line to convey unfiltered water to all fittings outside the house i.e. garden taps, etc. A separate application is to be made to</p> |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <p>Council for approval to connect to Council's water mains and sewer prior to commencing any plumbing and drainage work.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure relevant utility and service providers requirements are provided to the certifier</p> |
| 14. | <p>Access points</p> <p>Before issuance of the Construction Certificate, the beneficiary of this consent must build a driveway crossing for the subject land (if one doesn't exist) to Council standards.</p> <p>Access during construction shall only be through the driveway crossing of the subject land.</p> |
| 15. | <p>Works in Road Reserve</p> <p>A Road Opening Permit is required from the Wentworth Shire Council prior to any works / excavation within the road reserve ie water tapping, sewer, driveway crossings, tree planting or removal etc. Please contact Councils Roads & Engineering Department on Tel: (03) 5027 5027 to arrange a permit.</p> |
| 16. | <p>Plumbing and Drainage</p> <p>A Plumbing and Drainage Approval Application under Section 68 of the <i>Local Government Act NSW 1993</i> is to be submitted to Council for approval before carrying out any plumbing & drainage work (stormwater, water and sewerage).</p> <p>Reticulated sewerage is not available to the site. The wastewater disposal system is to be a treatment type approved by NSW Health. The wastewater disposal system is to be located a minimum of 100m from the bank of the Darling River.</p> |
| 17. | <p>Footing system</p> <p>Before the issue of a construction certificate, the applicant is to ensure that a certificate from a qualified structural engineer shall be supplied to the Principal Certifying Authority certifying:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the structural stability of any fill in accordance with paragraph "b" of Council's Mound Policy; the design and structural adequacy of the footing system to withstand the effects of inundation/flooding of the foundation in the event of a flood. |

BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF BUILDING WORK

| | |
|-----|--|
| 18. | <p>Construction Certificate</p> <p>An application for a construction certificate is to be made under Section 4.12 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and construction certificate(s) issued under Sections 6.3, 6.4(a) and 6.7 of the Environmental; Planning and Assessment Act 1979 prior to any work commencing on the building. All work in relation to plans for the construction certificate(s) shall comply with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia, the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, and regulations, SEPP (Building Sustainability Index) BASIX 2004 and the Local Government Act and Regulations thereunder.</p> |
|-----|--|

| | |
|-----|---|
| 19. | <p>Erosion and sediment controls in place</p> <p>Before the commencement of any site or building work, the principal certifier must be satisfied the erosion and sediment controls in the erosion and sediment control plan, (as approved by the principal certifier) are in place until the site is rectified (at least 70% ground cover achieved over any bare ground on site).</p> <p>Reason: To ensure runoff and site debris do not impact local stormwater systems and waterways</p> |
| 20. | <p>Toilet facilities</p> <p>Toilet facilities are to be provided on or in the vicinity of the building site. The toilet must be connected to a public sewer, or if connection to a public sewer is not practicable, an approved chemical closet. The toilet facility must be installed on-site prior to the commencement of any other work.</p> |
| 21. | <p>Tree protection measures</p> <p>Before the commencement of any site or building work, the principal certifier must ensure the measures for tree protection detailed in the construction site management plan are in place.</p> <p>Reason: To protect and retain trees</p> |
| 22. | <p>Subject to approval to commence works two days before any site works, building or demolition begins, the beneficiary of this consent must:</p> <p>(a) Forward to Council notice of commencement of work and appointment of Principal Certifying Authority.</p> <p>(b) Notify the adjoining owners that work will commence.</p> |
| 23. | <p>(a) Before the work is commenced, the Council must be informed in writing of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name and contractor licence number of the licensee who has been contracted to do the work; or • The name and permit number of the owner/builder who intends to do the work. <p>(b) The Council is to be immediately informed in writing of similar details required in the above if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contract is entered into for the work to be undertaken by a different licensee; or • Arrangements for the completion of the work are otherwise changed. |
| 24. | <p>No materials (e.g. timber framework, timber lining, plasterboard etc) likely to be damaged or affected by flooding are to be used in the construction of the floors, walls, stairs etc.</p> |

WHILE BUILDING WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 25. | Hours of work |
|-----|----------------------|

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <p>The principal certifier must ensure that building work, demolition or vegetation removal is only carried out between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.00am to 6.00pm on Monday to Friday • 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays <p>The principal certifier must ensure building work, demolition or vegetation removal is not carried out on Sundays and public holidays, except where there is an emergency.</p> <p>Unless otherwise approved within a construction site management plan, construction vehicles, machinery, goods or materials must not be delivered to the site outside the approved hours of site works.</p> <p>Note: Any variation to the hours of work requires Council's approval.</p> <p>Reason: To protect the amenity of the surrounding area</p> |
| 26. | <p>Procedure for critical stage inspections</p> <p>While building work is being carried out, any such work must not continue after each critical stage inspection unless the principal certifier is satisfied the work may proceed in accordance with this consent and the relevant construction certificate.</p> <p>Reason: To require approval to proceed with building work following each critical stage inspection</p> |
| 27. | <p>Implementation of the site management plans</p> <p>While vegetation removal, demolition and/or building work is being carried out, the applicant must ensure the measures required by the approved construction site management plan and the erosion and sediment control plan are implemented at all times. The applicant must ensure a copy of these approved plans is kept on site at all times and made available to Council officers upon request.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure the required site management measures are implemented during construction</p> |
| 28. | <p>Implementation of BASIX commitments</p> <p>While building work is being carried out, the applicant must undertake the development strictly in accordance with the commitments listed in the BASIX certificate(s) approved by this consent, for the development to which the consent applies.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure BASIX commitments are fulfilled in accordance with the BASIX certificate (prescribed condition under clause 97A(2) EP&A Regulation)</p> |
| 29. | <p>Construction noise</p> <p>While building work is being carried out and where no noise and vibration management plan is approved under this consent, the applicant is to ensure that any noise caused by demolition, vegetation removal or construction does not exceed an LAeq (15 min) of 5dB(A) above background noise, when measured at any lot boundary of the property where the construction is being carried out.</p> |

| | |
|-----|---|
| | Reason: To protect the amenity of the neighbourhood |
| 30. | <p>Tree protection</p> <p>While site or building work is being carried out, the applicant must maintain all required tree protection measures in good condition in accordance with the construction site management plan required under this consent, the relevant requirements of AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites and any arborist's report approved under this consent. This includes maintaining adequate soil grades and ensuring all machinery, builders refuse, spoil and materials remain outside tree protection zones.</p> <p>Reason: To protect trees during construction</p> |
| 31. | <p>Responsibility for changes to public infrastructure</p> <p>While building work is being carried out, the applicant must pay any costs incurred as a result of the approved removal, relocation or reconstruction of infrastructure (including ramps, footpaths, kerb and gutter, light poles, kerb inlet pits, service provider pits, street trees or any other infrastructure in the street footpath area).</p> <p>Reason: To ensure payment of approved changes to public infrastructure</p> |
| 32. | <p>Uncovering relics or Aboriginal objects</p> <p>While demolition or building work is being carried out, all such works must cease immediately if a relic or Aboriginal object is unexpectedly discovered. The applicant must notify the Heritage Council of NSW in respect of a relic and notify the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Heritage Council of NSW in respect of an Aboriginal object. Building work may recommence at a time confirmed by either the Heritage Council of NSW or the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.</p> <p>In this condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "relic" means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that: (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance; and • "Aboriginal object" means any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction and includes Aboriginal remains. <p>Reason: To ensure the protection of objects of potential significance during works</p> |
| 33. | <p>Cut and fill (if applicable)</p> <p>While building work is being carried out, the principal certifier must be satisfied all soil removed from or imported to the site is managed in accordance with the following requirements:</p> <p>a) All excavated material removed from the site must be classified in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines before it is disposed of at an approved waste management facility and the classification and the volume of material removed must be reported to the principal certifier.</p> |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | b) All fill material imported to the site must be Virgin Excavated Natural Material as defined in Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 or a material identified as being subject to a resource recovery exemption by the NSW EPA. |
| 34. | <p>Waste management</p> <p>While building work, demolition or vegetation removal is being carried out, the principal certifier must be satisfied all waste management is undertaken in accordance with the approved waste management plan.</p> <p>Upon disposal of waste, the applicant is to compile and provide records of the disposal to the principal certifier, detailing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contact details of the person(s) who removed the waste • The waste carrier vehicle registration • The date and time of waste collection • A description of the waste (type of waste and estimated quantity) and whether the waste is expected to be reused, recycled or go to landfill • The address of the disposal location(s) where the waste was taken • The corresponding tip docket/receipt from the site(s) to which the waste is transferred, noting date and time of delivery, description (type and quantity) of waste. <p>Note: If waste has been removed from the site under an EPA Resource Recovery Order or Exemption, the applicant is to maintain all records in relation to that Order or Exemption and provide the records to the principal certifier and Council.</p> <p>Reason: To require records to be provided, during construction, documenting that waste is appropriately handled</p> |
| 35. | All plumbing and drainage work is to be carried out by a plumber and drainer, or other authorised person, licensed with the New South Wales Department of Fair Trading. |
| 36. | No building works are to encroach over any easements. |
| 37. | The floor level of the dwelling is to be not less than 750 mm above the 1956 flood level i.e. 35.55m A.H.D. |
| 38. | This permit does not authorise any filling on the floodplain other than filling required to raise the floor of the proposed dwelling to 750 mm above the 1% A.E.P. flood level. |

BEFORE THE ISSUE OF AN OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

| | |
|-----|--|
| 39. | <p>Occupation Certificate</p> <p>The building shall not be occupied or used until an Occupation Certificate is issued either by council or by an accredited certifier.</p> |
| 40. | <p>Completion of public utility services</p> <p>Before the issue of the relevant occupation certificate, the principal certifier must ensure any adjustment or augmentation of any public utility services including gas, water, sewer, electricity, street lighting and telecommunications, required as a result of the development, is completed to the satisfaction of the relevant authority. Before the issue of the occupation certificate, the</p> |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <p>certifier must request written confirmation from the relevant authority that the relevant services have been completed.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure required changes to public utility services are completed, in accordance with the relevant agency requirements, before occupation</p> |
| 41. | <p>Repair of infrastructure</p> <p>Before the issue of an occupation certificate, the applicant must ensure any public infrastructure damaged as a result of the carrying out of building works (including damage caused by, but not limited to, delivery vehicles, waste collection, contractors, sub-contractors, concreting vehicles) is fully repaired to the written satisfaction of Council, and at no cost to Council.</p> <p>Note: If the council is not satisfied, the whole or part of the bond submitted will be used to cover the rectification work.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure any damage to public infrastructure is rectified</p> |
| 42. | <p>Removal of waste upon completion</p> <p>Before the issue of an occupation certificate, the principal certifier must ensure all refuse, spoil and material unsuitable for use on-site is removed from the site and disposed of in accordance with the approved waste management plan. Written evidence of the removal must be supplied to the satisfaction of the principal certifier.</p> <p>Before the issue of a partial occupation certificate, the applicant must ensure the temporary storage of any waste is carried out in accordance with the approved waste management plan to the principal certifier's satisfaction.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure waste material is appropriately disposed or satisfactorily stored</p> |
| 43. | <p>Completion of landscape and tree works</p> <p>Before the issue of an occupation certificate, the principal certifier must be satisfied that all landscape and tree-works, including pruning in accordance with AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees and the removal of all noxious weed species, have been completed in accordance with the approved plans and any relevant conditions of this consent.</p> <p>Reason: To ensure the approved landscaping works have been completed before occupation, in accordance with the approved landscaping plan(s)</p> |

OCCUPATION AND ONGOING USE

| | |
|-----|--|
| 44. | <p>Release of securities / bonds</p> <p>When Council receives an occupation certificate from the principal certifier, the applicant may lodge an application to release the securities held. Council may use part, or all of the securities held to complete the works to its satisfaction if the works do not meet Council's requirements.</p> |
|-----|--|

| | |
|-----|--|
| | Reason: To allow release of securities and authorise Council to use the security deposit to complete works to its satisfaction |
| 45. | <p>Maintenance of wastewater and stormwater treatment device</p> <p>During occupation and ongoing use of the building, the applicant must ensure all wastewater and stormwater treatment devices (including drainage systems, sumps and traps, and on-site detention) are regularly maintained, to remain effective.</p> <p>Reason: To protect sewerage and stormwater systems</p> |
| 46. | <p>Amenity of the neighbourhood</p> <p>The operation of this development shall not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood or interfere unreasonably with the comfort or repose of a person who is outside the premises by reason of the emission or discharge of noise, fumes, vapour, odour, steam, soot, dust, waste water, waste products, grit, oil or other harmful products.</p> |
| 47. | <p>Ongoing Use</p> <p>The proposed garage cannot be used for habitation.</p> <p>The garage is to be used for domestic purposes only, and any other activities proposed to be undertaken inside the garage shall be subject to a further development application.</p> |

REASONS FOR CONDITIONS

- a) To ensure compliance with the terms of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- b) To ensure work is sustainable and that an appropriate level of provision of amenities and services occurs within the Shire and to occupants of lots.
- c) To minimise environmental impact and impact on public assets, degradation of natural resources and to enhance amenity.
- d) To provide for a quality environment, safe and efficient movement of people and to ensure public safety and interest.

SCHEDULE 2

ADVISORY NOTE

- **Dial before you dig**

Contact "Dial Prior to You Dig" prior to commencing any building activity on the site.

- **Flood planning area**

1. As the dwelling is to be erected on a flood liable land, Council cannot and will not take responsibility should the dwelling be inundated in a flood event.

2. As the dwelling is to be erected on flood liable land, Council cannot and will not guarantee access in times of high rivers.

9.14 DELEGATED AUTHORITY APPROVALS AS AT END OF MAY 2022

File Number: RPT/22/361

Responsible Officer: Matthew Carlin - Director Health and Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Administration Officer

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

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

Summary

For the month of May 2022, a total of nine (9) Development Applications and four (4) S4.55 Modification Applications were determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning.

The estimated value of the determined developments was \$271,549.06. This brings the year to date total to forty-five (45) Development Applications and sixteen (16) S4.55 Applications approved, with an estimated development value of \$5,464,518.36

Recommendation

- a) That Council receives and notes the report for the month of May 2022.
- b) That Council publicly notifies, for the purposes of Schedule 1 Division 4 Section 20 (2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the applications as listed in the attachment on the Wentworth Shire Council website.
- c) That a division be called in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Detailed Report**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a list of Development Applications as tabled in the Attachment, determined under delegated authority by the Director Health and Planning for the month of May 2022, 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 \$271,449.06 for the month of May 2022. The average determination time was 33 days.

Attachments

1. Delegate Authority Approvals May 2022 [↓](#)

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2022

| FILE NUMBER | OWNER | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | VALUE (EX GST) | DETERMINATION DATE | ACTIVE DAYS |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| DA2022/033 PAN 168698 | Skye Hayden & Daniel Thake | 3 / 58 Hendy Road Lot 4 DP 286830 Buronga | Colorbond fence & retaining wall | \$36,384.06 | 02/05/2022 | 24 |
| DA2022/034 PAN 210579 | Trevor & Anne Draper | Waratah Court Lot 7 DP 1248641 Gol Gol | Storage shed | \$53,000.00 | 03/05/2022 | 26 |
| DA2022/004 PAN 153422 | OzFish Unlimited Ltd | Adjacent to Sturt Highway Lot 63 DP 822044 Monak | Environmental protection works (Fish Habitat) 20 rock reefs in Murray River | \$43,700.00 | 04/05/2022 | 103 |
| DA2022/029 PAN 156827 | OzFish Unlimited Ltd | Adjacent to 61 Pooncarie Road Lot 2 DP 1193385 Wentworth | Fish Habitat Restoration – Darling River | \$41,450.00 | 04/05/2022 | 44 |
| DA2022/036 PAN 202693 | Simon & Anita Dale | 29 Lee Court Lot 50 DP 1259103 Gol Gol | Pool Pavilion | \$41,015.00 | 05/05/2022 | 26 |
| S4-55/2022/012 PAN 209411 | Fiona Zambelli | 5669 Sturt Highway Lot 2 DP 1267317 Monak | Modify DA2021/182 Deferred commencement dwelling - amend dwelling location on site | \$0.00 | 09/05/2022 | 28 |
| DA2022/037 PAN 209721 | Frank Marciano | 2 Carbone Court Lot 1 DP 1107552 Buronga | Extension to existing storage shed | \$25,000.00 | 09/05/2022 | 31 |
| DA2022/039 PAN 214702 | Simon & Vanessa Lock | 11 Abbotsford Road Lot 2 DP 1224990 Curlwaa | Carport | \$6,000.00 | 11/05/2022 | 27 |
| DA2022/038 PAN 211703 | Danny & Vicky Riordan | 17 Kari Drive Lot 22 DP 1242927 Gol Gol | Storage shed & outdoor area | \$25,000.00 | 11/05/2022 | 27 |

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2022

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--------|------------|----|
| S4-55/2022/013 PAN 206249 | Aaryn Venter | 25 Mitchell Court Lot 23 DP 1229757 Gol Gol | Modify DA2021/072 Dwelling with garage storage shed & boundary fencing - decreased storage shed footprint | \$0.00 | 11/05/2022 | 27 |
| DA2022/035 PAN 203362 | Rick Kelly, Todd Kelly, Marg Kelly, John Kelly, Jeffrey Browne, Lindsay Anderson, Glenys Anderson, Daniel Riordan | Pooncarie Road Lots 1 2 3 & 4 DP 756969 Wentworth | 2 lot boundary adjustment & 2 lot subdivision | \$0.00 | 17/05/2022 | 39 |
| S4-55/2022/014 PAN 215090 | Joshua Stokes | 173 Boronia Crescent Lot 1 DP 1077464 Coomealla | Modify DA2021/160 Storage shed - amended site plan | \$0.00 | 17/05/2022 | 30 |
| S4-55/2022/018 PAN 226158 | Thomas & Concetta Modica | 57-59 William Street Lot 6 Section 11 DP 758456 Gol Gol | Modify DA2018/150 amend lot dimensions | \$0.00 | 24/05/2022 | 1 |
| | | | | | | |

9.15 POLICY REVIEW - DEPARTMENT ROADS & ENGINEERING

File Number: RPT/22/354

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Chanelle Pilling - Administration Officer

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

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

Summary

After each general election of Councillors, the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 8 are the responsibility of the Roads & Engineering Department.

For this Council meeting the department has reviewed two policies and are presenting them to Council for adopting.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the following revised policies:

- a) AF016 – Asset Management Policy
- b) PR012 – Fencing and Grids Policy

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the process of reviewing Council policies that has begun following the general election of all Councillors.

Background

After each general election of Councillors, the Act requires Council to review all official policies of Council. There are currently 74 policies in place of which 8 are the responsibility of the Roads & Engineering Department.

Report Detail

For this report staff within the Roads & Engineering Department have reviewed the following policies:

- a) AF016 – Asset Management Policy
- b) PR012 – Fencing and Grids Policy

As part of ongoing continuous improvement, a new template for both Council and Operational policies has been developed to ensure consistency and ease of use. As part of the review process all existing policies will be updated using the new policy template.

While reviewing the policies it has been determined that these policies are still a required policy of Council and that the current scope and intent of the policies are still relevant, therefore only minor formatting and administrative updates in order to reflect best practice have been made to these policies. It is therefore recommended that these policies be adopted.

Conclusion

It is recommended that council approve and adopt the two policies presented.

Attachments

1. AF016 Asset Management Policy [↓](#)
2. PR012 - Fencing & Grids Policy [↓](#)

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/5384

Council Policy No: AF016**ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This official Council policy documents a framework for managing Council assets in structured and coordinated way.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Wentworth Shire Council establishes systems which enables a coordinated approach to optimally manage Council assets.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all areas of Council including assets owned, controlled and managed by the organisation. The policy will provide direction regarding the measurable service levels, management, maintenance and operation of assets.

This policy together with the Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plan will provide the framework for asset management practices and processes for all assets.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

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

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Council | Wentworth Shire Council |
| Asset | A resource owned/or controlled by Council for which future economic benefits are expected to flow to Council. Typically, these are physical (tangible) in nature such as roads, footpaths, water/sewer/drainage, buildings etc. |
| Life Cycle Cost | The total cost of an asset throughout its life including planning, design, construction, acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal & disposal costs. |
| Asset Management | The systematic and coordinated activities and practices of an organisation to optimally and sustainably deliver on its objectives through the cost-effective lifecycle management of assets. |
| Asset Management Strategy | Document that enables Council to show how its asset portfolio will meet the service delivery needs of its community into the future, enable Councils' asset management policies to be achieved, and ensure the integration of Councils' asset management practices with its long-term strategic plan |
| Asset Management Plan | Document that details information about infrastructure assets with actions required to provide an agreed level of service in the most cost-effective manner while outlining |

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/5384

Council Policy No: AF016**ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| | associated risks. The plan defines the services to be provided, how the services are provided and what funds are required to provide over a typical 10-year planning period. |
| Service Level (Level of Service) | The defined service quality for a particular activity (i.e. roading) or service area (i.e. streetlighting) against which service performance may be measured. Service levels usually relate to quality, quantity, reliability, responsiveness, environmental acceptability and cost. |

5. POLICY CONTENT

Council is committed to implementing a systematic asset management methodology in order to apply appropriate asset management best practices across all areas of the organisation. This includes ensuring that assets are planned, created, operated, maintained, renewed and disposed of in accordance with Councils priorities for service delivery.

Asset management practices impact directly on the core business of the organisation and appropriate asset management is required to achieve our strategic service delivery objectives.

Adopting asset management principals will assist Council in achieving its strategic longer-term planning and its long-term financial objectives and to manage the risk to Council from public liability under the Civil Liability Act 2002.

A strategic approach to asset management principals will ensure that the Council delivers the highest appropriate service level through its assets. This will provide a positive impact on:

- Members of the Public & Council Staff
- Council's financial position
- The ability of Council to deliver appropriate levels of service and infrastructure including safeguarding services against a changing climate
- The political environment in which Council operates
- The legal liabilities of Council

It is the policy of this Council that:

5.1 Adequate provision is made for the long-term replacement of major assets by:

- Ensuring that Councils services and infrastructure are provided in a sustainable manner, with the appropriate service levels to residents, visitors and the environment.
- Safeguarding Council assets including physical assets and employees by implementing appropriate asset management strategies and appropriate financial resources for those assets.
- Creating an environment where all Council employees take an integral part in overall management of Council assets by creating and sustaining an asset

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/5384

Council Policy No: AF016**ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

management awareness throughout the organisation by training and development.

- Meeting legislative requirements for asset management.
- Ensuring resources and operational capabilities are identified and responsibility for asset management across the organisation is allocated.
- Demonstrating transparent and responsible asset management processes that align with demonstrated best practice.

5.2 Asset management Principals –

The following principals for Asset Management are established within this policy

- The asset management strategy is to also outline the risk management strategies for Council assets.
- The establishment of a consistent Asset Management Strategy to implement systematic asset management and appropriate asset management best-practice standards for asset management throughout all Departments of Council.
- the adherence to relevant legislative requirements together with consideration of the quadruple bottom line (political, social, economic and environment) are to be taken into account in asset management.
- the integration of asset management planning with the resourcing strategy, the delivery program and the operational plan.
- the development of asset management plans for major service/asset categories. The plans will be informed by community consultation, financial planning and the development of current and agreed services levels.
- the development of an inspection regime will be used as part of asset management to ensure agreed service levels are maintained and to identify asset renewal priorities.
- The renewal of assets required to meet agreed service levels as identified in the adopted asset management plans and long term financial plans will form the basis of
- annual budget estimates with the service and risk consequences of variations in defined asset renewals and budget resources documented in budget documentation.
- the development of asset renewal plans which are to be prioritised and implemented progressively based on agreed service levels and the effectiveness of the current assets to provide that level of service.
- the systematic and cyclic reviews for all asset classes to ensure that the assets are managed, valued and depreciated in accordance with appropriate best practice and applicable Australian Standards.
- the development of lifecycle costing whereby the future life cycle costs will be reported and considered in all decisions relating to new services and assets and upgrading of existing services and assets.
- the development of future service levels will be determined in consultation with the community.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/5384

Council Policy No: AF016**ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY**

- the delivery of training in asset and financial management for Councilors and relevant staff.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

- ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL
- ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN – WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL
- ASSET ACCOUNTING POLICY
- ASSET DISPOSAL POLICY
- COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN
- LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993
- CIVIL LIABILITY ACT 2002
- INTERNATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT MANUAL (6TH EDITION 2020)
- ISO55000 ASSET MANAGEMENT SUITE OF STANDARDS

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

8. DOCUMENT APPROVAL**For Council Policies please use the following, otherwise delete**

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: DOC/22/5404

Council Policy No: PR012**FENCING AND GRIDS POLICY****POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This Official Council Policy deals with the replacement, maintenance, removal and fencing of grids within the Shire of Wentworth.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure clear guidelines for the replacement and/or maintenance of grids, including the removal of grids and the fencing of adjacent property.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to grid access gates and associated fencing.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

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

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| Term/Word | Definition |
|-------------|---|
| Grid | A framework of spaced bars that are parallel to or cross each other – a grating. May also be known as a “Stock Grid” to prevent stock from passing onto a road. |

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that:-

- 5.1 Council will consider an application for the installation of a replacement grid only when the identified grid has a Road Safety and/or Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) related concerns.
- 5.2 Grid replacement will be at Council's cost.
- 5.3 Council's responsibility for grid maintenance will be confined to Road Safety and/or WHS related issues for the maintenance of the grid and attached wings. Maintenance of grid access gates, associated fencing and cleaning out of the grid and temporary traffic management during such maintenance works in accordance with relevant legislation and regulations will be the responsibility of the adjoining land holders.
- 5.4 Council will consider the application for the removal of grids only upon receipt of a signed written agreement from all adjoining land holder/s to supply, erect and adequately fence out all adjacent property boundaries, within 12 months of acceptance by Council.

Removal of identified grids will be carried out upon the completion of all agreed fencing. Grid removal and road reconstruction will be carried out by and at Council's cost.
- 5.5 Council will provide a financial contribution to boundary fencing only when combined with the removal of a grid from Council's asset base.

Wentworth Shire Council

Word Document Reference: DOC/22/5404

Council Policy No: PR012**FENCING AND GRIDS POLICY**

- 5.6 Council will provide a financial contribution when Council's grid removal policy has been agreed to in writing and the agreed fencing works has been completed.
- 5.7 The following matters are to be taken into consideration before granting an approval under this policy: -
- Relative condition and maintenance costs of the grid/s.
 - Consequence of failure of the grid/s
 - Length of fencing and cost to Council to enable removal of the grid/s
 - Traffic volume and type on the road concerned
 - Level of maintenance of the road and difficulty caused by the grid/s
 - Location of the grid/s regarding road alignment.
 - The availability of Council budgeted funds.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION

Nil.

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:

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council[Click here to enter a date.](#)**Date**

9.16 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT UPDATE - JUNE 2022

File Number: RPT/22/355

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Chanelle Pilling - Administration Officer

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

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

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the month of May 2022 and the planned activities for June 2022.

Recommendation

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

Detailed Report

Refer below for updates of the works completed in May and the planned activities scheduled for June 2022.

Projects and Works Update for May 2022

Roads

- As part of the capital works reseal program, works commenced on 32 local, rural and regional roads throughout the Shire for the second coat of line marking applied to complete upgrade works. These works were completed in early May.
- A Review of Environmental Factors assessment is currently being undertaken for Old Wentworth and Log Bridge Roads. Works will commence on these sections of road once the relevant approvals from the Review of Environmental Factors have been received.
- Old Wentworth Road is currently having the first layer of road base added to main section of unsealed road. Road is currently scheduled for bitumen sealing in late October 2022.
- George Gordon oval carpark & access road sealing completed.

Pooncarie – Menindee Road Reconstruction

- Tenders for Hire of specialised Plant & Equipment – Council has awarded contractor Purchase Orders for various Plant and Equipment with start dates to be confirmed in the coming weeks.
- Site establishment & water access point construction delayed, awaiting Department approval of Review of Environmental Factors and Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit.

Maintenance Grading

- Planned maintenance grading was undertaken on the following roads throughout May; Nulla Road, Springwood Road and Renmark Road.

**Road
Safety
Officer
Projects**

School Infrastructure Project

- All seven projects completed across 5 sites at Palinyewah, Wentworth, Dareton, Buronga, Gol Gol Public Schools

Local Traffic Projects

- Midway IGA footpath project almost complete
- Gyndarna Pedestrian and Bus access project under construction
- Moontongue Dr Gol Gol road safety improvements nearing completion
- Mitchell Street Dareton intersection with Avoca St realignment of pavement marking
- Alcheringa Dr Gol Gol footpath and bus stop under construction
- Pitman Avenue Bus Shelter at design stage for sloping nature strip
- Gol Gol North Bus Turnaround at design stage

Local Government Road Safety Projects

- Free Cuppa for the Driver Fatigue campaign completed 31 May 2022 with 11 cafes and bistros participating.
- Field Day / Heavy Vehicle forum completed 15 May 2022 with 25 schools and hundreds of community members participating in the interactive demonstrations and simulations
- National Road Safety Week 15-22 May with Bridge Flags, Photo Campaign, Radio spotlight and yellow ribbons for awareness and remembrance.

Projects

Dareton Travellers Rest

Stage 1 – completion end of June 2022

- Remaining acrylic panels to be installed by end of June.

Stage 2

- Scope of works created.
- Quotes have been received and are being reviewed.

Gol Gol Heights Culvert Headwalls

- Works have commenced.
- Approximately 1/3 of existing driveways have headwalls fitted.

Gol Gol East Raw Water System

- Hydraulic analysis and design works continue via Public Works
- Tank manufacturers and liner installers advised liner option is not available due to tank construction and degraded condition to enable tank to be reconnected back into reticulation system. Replacement option to be assessed with Public Works NSW at 24th June site meeting.

Gol Gol Cemetery Shed

- Shed slab has been completed.

Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy

- Final package of additional data for Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant to be provided to Public works by end of June.

James King Park beach retaining wall & footpath to highway

- Preparing concept designs.

Junction Island Bridge

- Construction of bridge span completed.
- Bridge span delivered to Wentworth.
- Draft REF and Aboriginal cultural heritage due diligence documents have been completed and are being reviewed.
- Ramp and abutment plans currently being updated.

Junction Island Footpath

- Draft REF and Aboriginal cultural heritage due diligence documents have been completed and are being reviewed.

Pink Lake

- Council have received the final stormwater modelling from Tonkin Consulting. The report details the pipe sizes required between interconnecting basins to cater for large rainfall events out through to Pink Lake.

Sewerage Rationalisation Scheme – Wentworth

- Cleaning of the Wentworth West sewer plant commenced with specialist cleaning & asbestos removal contractors engaged.

Wentworth Astronomy Park – completion 2023

- Outerspace Landscape Architects provided a proposed staged concept plan with budget estimates for council consideration.
- HAZCON has completed a detailed asbestos assessment. Council are waiting on the report.
- Crown Land Landscape Services has been contacted to apply for contaminated land funding.

Wentworth EDS

- Council undertook a meeting with the EDS user group to discuss the alternative pontoon arrangement and pile locations for the Wentworth EDS.
- The user group provided feedback that the alternative pontoon arrangement was suitable and additional feedback on the location of the piles and other items in general.
- The user group requested that Council consider Willow Bend Caravan Park as a potential site for relocating the EDS facility. A cross section of the Caravan Park site was prepared for user group feedback.

Wentworth Long Day Care Centre

- Roof and gutter fully placed
- Shop drawings for all joinery items received and reviewed by the Long Day Care Centre Committee.

Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Upgrade – completion September 2022

- Pump station switchboard drawings have been approved.
- All subsidence that occurred will be rectified. Manholes and maintenance shafts will be fixed by end of June.

Wentworth Showgrounds - Female Jockey Change Rooms – June 2023

- Aspire Architects were awarded the work for the building plans. Design will commence beginning of July.

Wentworth Showgrounds Tower & Shade Structures

- Tower construction has been completed.
- Drainage works have been completed and lightning protection has been

installed to the tower.

Wentworth Rowing Club Extension

- Two tenders have been received from the four commercial builders that applied.
- Tenders have been evaluated and a report has been prepared for Council approval.

Projects and Works scheduled for June 2022

Roads

- Construction works on 8.5 km of Old Wentworth Road continuing with delivery of road base throughout June & July. Project scheduled for completion late October.
- Continuation of Little Manly Road – Straightening and re-alignment of pavement past end of seal for 400 metres.
- George Gordon Oval road and carpark line marking to be undertaken during July.

Pooncarie – Menindee Road Reconstruction

- Anticipated commencement on site is September subject to Department approval of Review of Environmental Factors and Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit.

Maintenance Grading

- Planned maintenance grading will be undertaken on the following roads throughout June; Belvedere Road, Old Broken Hill Road, Nob Road and Woodlands Road.

Road Safety Officer Projects

Local Traffic Projects

- Rothbury Run (formerly Chase the Steam) scheduled for October, currently reviewing Special Event Road Occupancy (SERO)

Projects

Dareton Travellers Rest

Stage one

- Completed

Stage 2

- Works to be awarded.

Dareton Pool Changeroom Repairs

- Repair works to commence mid-July.

Gol Gol Heights Culvert Headwalls

- Installation of headwalls is expected to be completed by end of June.

Gol Gol Cemetery Shed

- Shed construction to commence.

Gol Gol East Raw Water System

- Final scope for the project design & specification from Public Works NSW to be finalised by 15th July.

Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWMS)

- WSC continuing to meet with public works and DPI Water representatives in relation to finalisation of issues paper
- WSC staff provided part of gap analysis measure for collecting data in May, this work requires partial shutdown of pump stations or plants to gather

details, this work will continue throughout June due to current staff shortages.

James King Park beach retaining wall & footpath to highway

- Finalising concept designs.
- Preparing draft procurement documents.

Junction Island Bridge

- Finalising draft designs for ramps and abutments.
- Proceeding with procurement for demolition, ramps and abutments.

Junction Island Footpath

- Finalise REF and cultural heritage documents.
- Begin preparing procurement documentation.

Wentworth Astronomy Park

- Detailed design of concept to on hold pending. HAZCON asbestos assessment. Council are waiting on the report.

Wentworth Long Day Care Centre

- Power reconnection and change-over programmed for July 2022

Wentworth EDS

- Council plan to provide the EDS user group a revised cross section of the facility at Willow Bend for comment.
- A user group meeting will be organised for late June.
- The EDS design for the pontoon arrangement and on-shore components is progressing, however, the pile arrangement will be finalised once the final site location is determined.

Wentworth Showgrounds Tower & Shade Structure

- Electrical reinstatement works to commence.

Wentworth Showgrounds Community Pavilion – External Verandah Flashing

- Completion date 30th June 2022
- Concrete concourse under verandah will be pressure washed to remove bird faeces at the completion of flashing works.

Sewerage Rationalisation Scheme – Wentworth

- Flow meter SPS 1 pit has been installed.
- Cleaning of west sewer plant continuing throughout June with final demolition works to commence start of July.

Wentworth Showgrounds Sewer Upgrade

- Pump station and switchboard builds in production.
- Ezipit subsidence to be rectified.

Pink Lake

- Council to develop the final report details into a detailed design package for tender within the new financial year.
- Tender package to consider two methods of construction, pipe jacking or open excavation where suitable.

Attachments

1. Project & Works Report Photos [↓](#)

Projects and Works – project photos

Bridge Road



Projects and Works – project photos

Wentworth Showgrounds Tower



Wentworth Long Day Care Centre



Projects and Works – project photos

Junction Island Bridge



10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 UPGRADE OF ACCESS ROAD AND WALKING TRACK AT THE COOMEALLA GOLF CLUB WETLANDS

File Number: RPT/22/401

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

Motion

That Council makes provision in the 22/23 budget for the upgrade of the access road and walking track at the Coomealla Golf Club Wet Lands, and inform the Murray Darling Wet Lands Working Group of Councils commitment to the project.

Attachments

1. Letter Murray Darling Wet Lands Working Group [📄](#)

Background

The wet lands are the former Dareton sewerage ponds which were decommissioned some years ago. Prior to decommissioning the Coomealla Golf Club used the surplus water to irrigate a number of fairways.

Post decommissioning the Golf Club has reversed the plumbing to allow river water to be used to maintain the wet lands under the guidance of the Murray Darling Wet Lands Working Group (WDWLWG).

The Coomealla Golf Club and the WDWLWG now would like to promote visitor access to the site. (see attached letter)

Report.

The attached letter has nominated that Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group are supporting this project with an allocation of \$20,000. This commitment came with the statement that it is to be used by 30 June 2022. This cannot be achieved and attempts have been made as to if the money has been carried over or has it been lost. This factor is yet to be established.

The notice of motion calls for an allowance to be made in our budget to support this project without a monetary figure being entered.

The proposed scope of works for the project is set out below.

300m gravel vehicle access track upgrade

Provision for two or three car parks

900m walking track upgrade

Two bench seats

Interpretative signage



ABN 50 137 010 658
ACN 137 010 658

25 May 2022

Subject: up to ~\$20000 (committed by June 30th, 2022) available via Western LLS to beautify and improve community access to Coomy Golf Course Lagoons, Kookaburra Drive, Dareton. WSC commitment required

The Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group (MDWWG) has secured up to ~\$20000 ex GST, to be used by June 30th, 2022, from the Western Local Land Services aimed at improving access to and showcasing the Coomy Golf Course Lagoons, Kookaburra Drive, Dareton.

Funds will be allocated to three main items:

- The installation of an all-weather track for pedestrians around the perimeter of lagoons (~900m)
- The installation of two bench seats made from recycled plastics
- The installation of interpretative and informative signage at key locations around lagoons

The MDWWG and the Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club (CMSC) are committed to improving the Lagoons and surrounds. Since 2020, we have delivered ~80ML of environmental water to the lagoons to maintain water levels, improve water quality and support the waterbirds and frogs that use the lagoons. This is in keeping with recommendations outlined in the associated Biodiversity Assessment commissioned by the Wentworth Shire Council (WSC) in 2017.

The MDWWG has previously worked with WSC and other agencies to help conserve, rehabilitate and showcase wetlands in the Wentworth government area and we look forward to continuing this partnership. We seek support from the WSC to deliver the project by undertaking the necessary work (at an agreed cost) or by providing staff to obtain quotes and engage contractors on our behalf to ensure work is completed by the June 30th deadline.

If you have any queries, please contact me via phone 0437 402 518 or email: sascha.healy@mdwwg.com.au

Kind regards

Sascha Healy

Senior Environmental Water Manager – Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group

Chair: Ian Davidson
22 Weir St
Wangaratta Vic 2676
Email: ian@regeneration.solutions.com.au
Phone: 0429 662 759

CEO: Dr Deborah Nias
PO Box 7016
East Albury NSW 2640
Email: dnias@iprimus.com.au
Phone: 0417 287 651

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 Extension to Wentworth Rowing Club - PT2122/16. (RPT/22/373)

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 Tronox Agreement. (RPT/22/381)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional

privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 EXTENSION TO WENTWORTH ROWING CLUB - PT2122/16

File Number: RPT/22/373

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
 Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
 Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration
 Ivan McKenzie - Infrastructure Projects Officer

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

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

12.2 TRONOX AGREEMENT

File Number: RPT/22/381

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

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

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

20 July 2022