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, DARLING STREET, WENTWORTH**, commencing at **5:00PM**.

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

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

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

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

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

KEN ROSS
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDINARY MEETING
AGENDA
15 OCTOBER 2025

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NEXT MEETING 465

1 OPENING OF MEETING

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

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

3 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 17 September 2025 be confirmed as circulated.

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

17 SEPTEMBER 2025

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NEXT MEETING 35

1 OPENING OF MEETING

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

2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Councillor Daniel Linklater
Councillor Jon Armstrong
Councillor Brian Beaumont
Councillor Peter Crisp
Councillor Greg Evans
Councillor Susan Nichols
Councillor Jo Rodda
Councillor Jody Starick
Councillor Michael Weeding

STAFF: Ken Ross (General Manager)
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)
Ebony Carter (Business Support Officer)

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor Weeding advised that he had a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.10 as he is a member of the same club as the applicant.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 August 2025 be confirmed as circulated.

Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 20 August 2025 be confirmed as circulated.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Resolution

That the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of

a) conducting a Public Forum. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm and that
b) Council move late items 9.13 to 9.15 to the ordinary agenda and that
c) Item 9.5 be moved into the confidential agenda due to commercial in confidence information

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

David Walker spoke in favour of item 10.1

Council Resolution

That Council reconvenes into open session. The meeting was reconvened at 5:20pm.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 STATUS REPORT ON PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

File Number: RPT/25/523

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Status Report on previous Council Resolutions provides details of actions that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 17 September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 17 September 2025.

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/492

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for September 2025.

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 15 AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/504

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary
A meeting of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee was held on 15 August 2025 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.
The Committee considered the following items of business:

- Audit Office of NSW Update
- Internal Audit Extreme & High Risk Recommendations Update
- Internal Audit Quarterly Update
- Review of Internal Audit Charter
- Review of Committee Terms of Reference
- Annual Report
- Proposed 2025-2026 Work Plan
- Quarterly Operational Plan Progress Report
- Quarterly Budget Review – 4th Quarter 2024-2025
- Quarterly Risk Report
- Work Health & Safety Report
- Quarterly Fraud Report
- Child Safe Standards Implementation Update
- Quarterly report on Legislative Updates

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2025.

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/493

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Ebony Carter - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

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

1. OLG Circulars

   Circulars 25-18 to 25-21

2. Meetings

   As listed.

3. Upcoming meetings or events

   As listed.

4. Other items of note

   - The General Manager is taking leave from 27 October 2025 to 24 November 2025. Under Council's Delegations Policy an Acting General Manager receives the General Managers Delegation by resolution of Council. As such the General Manager recommends to Council that Director Geoff Gunn be the Acting General Manager in his absence.
   - Wentworth Shire Council has won the Statewide Mutual Award – 2025 Risk Management Excellence Awards – Regional, Rural & County Council for Technological Innovation for the Wentworth Visitor Centre

Recommendation

That Council:

a) Receive and note the information contained within the September 2025 report from the General Manager

b) Appoint Director Geoff Gunn as Acting General Manager from 27 October 2025 to 23 November 2025

Council Resolution

That Council:

a) Receive and note the information contained within the September 2025 report from

the General Manager

b) Appoint Director Geoff Gunn as Acting General Manager from 27 October 2025 to 23 November 2025

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIMES

File Number: RPT/25/487

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The purpose of this report is to set the date and time for the Ordinary Meetings of Council for the next twelve months.

Recommendation

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on a day to be determined in all months excluding June
2. The May & June 2025 meeting will be held on the selected day in each month
3. The January meeting will/will not be held
4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at a time to be determined

Council Resolution

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on the third Wednesday in all months excluding May and June
2. The May meeting will be held 13 May 2026 & June meeting will be held on the 24 June 2026.
3. The January meeting will not be held
4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at 5:00pm until the February 2026 meeting and all meetings after which will commence at 4pm.

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 IN PRINCIPLE SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CARP CONTROL PLAN AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS

File Number: RPT/25/502

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

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

Summary

Council has received the following information from the Murray Darling Association. This Motion seeks Council's in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan (NCCP) and its recommendations by the Federal Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP.

The Australian Government began investigating the use of the *Cyprinid Herpesvirus 3* (the Carp Virus) in 2016, culminating after 6 years research by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) in the NCCP.

European Carp contribute to environmental degradation in the Basin and impact native fish species. Through their feeding habits, Carp impact aquatic plant, native fish eggs, small fish, and zooplankton populations in our waterways. The end result of one or a combination of these impacts is reduced water quality and/or reduced abundance and diversity of native plant and fish species.
In response to concerns raised by Councils and Local Government Areas (LGA's) across the Basin regarding European Carp and water quality, the Murray Darling Association Inc. (MDA) has prepared correspondence to the Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP.
The letter outlines the impact of the invasive European Carp in the Murray-Darling Basin's Waterways and advises of the in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and all of its recommendations by the Councils and LGA's of the Basin.

Recommendation

That Council:

a) Council supports, in principle, the Murray Darling Association's urgent call for the Federal Government to fund and implement the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.
b) Council endorse the Letter to the Minister as attached to this report.
c) The attached Letter to the Minister be signed by Council and sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, with a copy to be sent to the MDA for their records.

Council Resolution

That Council:

a) Council supports, in principle, the Murray Darling Association's urgent call for

the Federal Government to fund and implement the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.

b) Council endorse the Letter to the Minister as attached to this report.

c) The attached Letter to the Minister be signed by Council and sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, with a copy to be sent to the MDA for their records.

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED

For the Motion :	***Clr.s Armstrong, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.***
Against the Motion:	***Clr.s Beaumont and Nichols.***

9.4 REQUEST FOR DONATION - RFDS ROWATHON

File Number: RPT/25/538

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

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

Summary

Council is in receipt of a request for a donation for the RFDS Rowathon. Council has supported this event through Donations, Contributions and Grants previously.

Recommendation

That Council approve a donation of $5,000 plus GST to the RFDS Rowathon.

Council Resolution

That Council approve a donation of $5,000 plus GST to the RFDS Rowathon.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 BURONGA GOL GOL SPORTING MASTERPLAN LAND ACQUISITION PROGRESS

File Number: RPT/25/536

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Item moved into Confidential agenda by resolution of Council on page 2 of these minutes

Council Resolution

That the Ordinary Council meeting be adjourned for the purpose of

a) conducting a Public Forum. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm and that
b) Council move late items 9.13 to 9.15 to the ordinary agenda and that
c) Item 9.5 be moved into the confidential agenda due to commercial in confidence information

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/497

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.1 A well engaged and informed community

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of August 2025 were $3,072,073.96. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 32.52%. For comparison purposes 32.91% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2024. Council currently has $44,143,240.58 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for August 2025.

Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr. Starick

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/498

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Ned Lamond - Financial Services Coordinator

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibily and efficiently for the benefit of the community

Summary

As of 31 August 2025, Council had $36 million invested in term deposits and $8,143,240.58 in other cash investments. Council received $232,467.41 from its investments for the month of August 2025.

In August 2025 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 3.93% and it currently has $6,522,314.93 of internal restrictions and $31,621,844.63 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for August 2025.

Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/25/507

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) is established under section 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and in accordance with the guidelines for *risk management and internal audit for local councils in NSW.*

The ARIC provides independent assurance and advice to Council on governance, risk management and internal control, financial reporting, service reviews, continuous improvement and compliance.

This Annual Report provides an overview of the Committee's activities during 2024-2025 and demonstrates compliance with the Guidelines.

Matters under consideration

Committee Membership

- Independent Chair: Rosanne Kava
- Independent Member: Dianne Schmidt
- Independent Member: Caroline Smith
- Councillor Representative: Cr Brian Beaumont – until August 2024 and Cr Jody Starick from October 2024

The Committee met 5 times during the reporting year. All meetings were conducted in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference.

- 7 August 2024
- 4 October 2024 (standalone meeting to review the Annual Financial Statements)
- 7 November 2024
- 14 February 2025
- 9 May 2025

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report for the year end 30 June 2025

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Annual Report for the year end 30 June 2025

Moved Cr. Starick, Seconded Cr. Weeding

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.9 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATION REPORT - AUGUST 2025

File Number: RPT/25/528

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.1 An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place

Summary

For the month of August 2025, a total of seven (7) Development Applications and one (1) Modification Application were determined.

The estimated value of the determined developments was $1,779,643.00. This brings the year to date total to 19 Development Applications with an estimated development value of $5,803,746.77 and 3 Modification Applications.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of August 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of August 2025.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Crisp

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.10 DA2025/084 DEFERRED COMMENCMENT (DWELLING) 119B LAGOON ROAD LOT 119 DP 756994 WENTWORTH

File Number: RPT/25/522

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.1 An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place

Summary

A development application (DA2025/084) was received by Council on 08 May 2025 for deferred commencement of a dwelling at 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 756994 Wentworth, on a lot below the minimum lot size within the RU1 Primary Production zone.

Under the RU1 Primary Production zoning of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011* (*WLEP 2011*), the proposed development (deferred commencement of a dwelling) is permitted with consent if requirements under relevant clauses of the WLEP2011 are met. This application has been assessed against relevant criteria and is non-compliant with the objectives of clause 4.2B.

The proposed development is to be located on a lot measuring 8.7ha, while the minimum lot size for a dwelling on land under the RU1 Primary Production zone is 10,000ha. The proposed deferred commencement of a dwelling on the site does not meet the standard under clause 4.2B of the WLEP 2011, as the lot is below the minimum lot size allowable for a dwelling house. As part of the application, a request for a variation to this standard (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation) has been supplied.

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

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve subject to conditions DA2025/084 for deferred commencement of a dwelling 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 7569944, Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. Approve subject to conditions DA2025/084 for deferred commencement of a dwelling 119B Lagoon Road Lot 119 DP 7569944, Wentworth.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

For the Motion :	***Clr.s Armstrong, Beaumont, Crisp, Evans, Linklater, Nichols, Rodda, Starick and Weeding.***
Against the Motion:	***Nil.***

9.11 INTEGRATED TRANSPORT COMBINED ACTION STATUS REPORT

File Number: RPT/25/537

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

Summary

This report provides the final item of information as requested by Mayoral Minute at the May 2025 Council meeting regarding transport related matters to enable Council to review, plan, prioritise and advocate effectively for necessary infrastructure

Recommendation

That Council notes the contents of this report.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the contents of this report.

Moved Cr. Weeding, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.12 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/501

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Megan Jackson - Roads & Engineering Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the months of August 2025 and the planned activities for September 2025.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in August 2025 and the scheduled works for September 2025.

Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in August 2025 and the scheduled works for September 2025.

Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Beaumont

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.13 REVIEW OF INTERNAL COMMITTEES

File Number: RPT/25/544

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

The Statutory meeting of Council is an opportunity for Council to review the committee structure that it requires for the upcoming 12 month period. Council is able to determine the number and type of committees that it wishes to establish and the functions of each committee.

Recommendation

That Council considers the list of Internal Committees and determines appropriate representation.

Council Resolution

That Council approves the list of Internal Committees and representation as listed below.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Listing of Internal Committees and User Groups

Advisory Committees	Meeting Frequency	Council Delegate(s)	Other Advisory Officers
Floodplain Risk Management Committee	When required	Mayor, Cr Weeding, Cr Nichols and Cr Evans	General Manager, Director Health and Planning, Robert Rigby, David Buck, SES
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee	Min Quarterly	Cr Starick	General Manager, Director Corporate Services, Roseanne Kava (Chair) Diane Schmidt, Caroline Smith

Heritage and History Advisory Committee	Min Biannually	Cr Nichols, Cr Evans and Cr Weeding (Alternate)	Greg Harrison, Russell James, Robert Hannaford, Nikita Vanderbyl, Tony Bruce-Mullins & Staff
General Managers Performance Review Committee	When Required	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Council Representative Cr Starick, General Manager Representative Cr Nichols	
User Groups	**Meeting Frequency**	**Delegate(s)**	**Alternate Councillor(s)**
Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group	When required	Mayor, Cr Armstrong, Cr Rodda	N/A
George Gordon Oval User Group	When required	Cr Crisp, Cr Beaumont and Cr Weeding	N/A
James King Park User Group	When required	Cr Rodda, Cr Starick	N/A
Wentworth Showgrounds User Group	When required	Cr Nichols and Cr Evans	N/A
Wentworth Sporting Precinct User Group	When required	Cr Weeding, Cr Evans and Cr Beaumont	N/A
Pooncarie Sporting Reserve User Group	When required	Cr Rodda, Cr Armstrong and Cr Beaumont	N/A

9.14 REVIEW OF EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

File Number: RPT/25/549

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

In order to respond to the needs of its community, Council annually reviews the External Committees to which it has appointed representatives. Representation on these committees is important in our community engagement obligations.

Recommendation

That Council considers the list of External Committees and determines appropriate representation.

Council Resolution

That Council approves the list of External Committees and determines appropriate representation as listed below.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee	Meeting Frequency	Nominated Representative(s)
Australian Inland Botanic Gardens	Monthly	Cr Starick, Cr Rodda
Barkandji Indigenous Land Use Agreement Working Group	As required	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Nichols and General Manager
Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager (Minister appt ex officio)	Monthly	Cr Armstrong, Cr Beaumont (Alternate)
Bush Fire Management Committee	Twice per annum	Cr Armstrong, Cr Weeding (Alternate)
ClubGRANTS Category One (1) Funding Committee	Twice per annum	Mayor and the General Manager
Country Mayor's Association of NSW	As required	Mayor
Community Safety Precinct Meeting	As required	Mayor, Cr Evans (Alternate)
Far West Joint Organisation – Broken Hill, Wentworth, Balranald, Central Darling	As required	Mayor and Deputy Mayor
Joint Regional Planning Panel (3 year appt)	As required	Cr Crisp, Cr Nichols

Menindee Lakes SDLAM Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	As required	Cr Nichols, Cr Weeding and Cr Armstrong
Murray Darling Association (Region 4)	Min. 4 times per annum	Mayor, Cr Nichols and Cr Evans
Public Libraries NSW	Twice per annum	Cr Starick
Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.	Monthly	Cr Rodda, Cr Weeding (Alternate)
Wentworth Shire Health Interagency Group (WSIG)	Monthly	Cr Rodda, Cr Beaumont
Wentworth Shire Liquor Accord Committee	As required	Cr Nichols, Cr Armstrong (Alternate)
Western Division Group of Councils	Min. 3 times per annum	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Starick and Cr Evans
Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee	Min. 3 times per annum	TBC

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 SECOND OVAL AT CARRAMAR DRIVE SPORTING COMPLEX

File Number: RPT/25/486

Motion

That Council undertake an investigation on the potential for a second smaller oval at the Reserve as per the club's suggestion to determine if possible with installed infrastructure and provide a scope and costing of clearing and levelling the land, and establishment of an oval to the south west of the current oval as a short term option to meet immediate needs of the clubs.

Council Resolution

That Council undertake an investigation on the potential for a second smaller oval at the Reserve as per the club's suggestion to determine if possible with installed infrastructure and provide a scope and costing of clearing and levelling the land, and establishment of an oval to the south west of the current oval as a short term option to meet immediate needs of the clubs.

Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Armstrong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 ADVOCACY SECOND BRIDGE AT MONAK

File Number: RPT/25/548

Motion

That Council note the Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy document adopted by Mildura Rural City Council on 24 April 2025, and their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and commence advocacy in support of the Heavy Vehicle Bypass, including representation to State and Federal members, Transport ministers, and Transport for NSW.

Council Resolution

That Council note the Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy document adopted by Mildura Rural City Council on 24 April 2025, and their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and commence advocacy in support of the Heavy Vehicle Bypass, including representation to State and Federal members, Transport ministers, and Transport for NSW.

Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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 Legal Costs - Ms Vanessa Field. (RPT/25/488)

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.

12.2 Buronga Landfill - Cell Capping Planting & Maintenance - PT2526/01. (RPT/25/496)

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

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

12.3 Buronga Landfill Expansion Project. (RPT/25/500)

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:-

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Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Rodda

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

9.5 BURONGA GOL GOL SPORTING MASTERPLAN LAND ACQUISITION PROGRESS

File Number: RPT/25/536

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council authorised the General Manager to investigate alternate sites within the Buronga Gol Gol area that would satisfy the intent of the original resolution of Council at the May 2025 meeting, being that the land identified should be suitable to satisfy the intent and spirit of the masterplan, and further any alternate sites should exclude crown land and any land that impinges residential development.

12.1 LEGAL COSTS - MS VANESSA FIELD

File Number: RPT/25/488

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the item outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making.

The General Manager advised that Council approved the continuation of the engagement of Ms Vanessa Field to:

(a) Review, advise and act for Council, as instructed by the General Manager, in relation to the disputed land acquisition matters, and

(b) Authorise the General Manager to make payment for the services provided in "(a)", should those costs exceed the General Manager's delegated payment limit of $250,000.00 up to an amount of $500,000.00 and

(c) That Ms Field's engagement is exempt from the tendering requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* under s. 55(3)(i) due to the extenuating circumstances requiring the provision of specialised legal services and further due to Ms Fields specialist expertise in regards to property and native title law.

12.2 BURONGA LANDFILL - CELL CAPPING PLANTING & MAINTENANCE - PT2526/01

File Number: RPT/25/496

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

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

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Section 178(1) (a) accepted the tender from Oasis Unmatched P/L and subsequently authorised the Mayor and General Manager to sign the contract documentation and affix the seal for the recommended contractor to carry out all works as specified for PT2526/01 for $734,184.00 GST Inclusive.

12.3 BURONGA LANDFILL EXPANSION PROJECT

File Number: RPT/25/500

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

The General Manager advised that Council approved an extension of $668,845.93 inc GST to the contract for the Buronga Landfill Expansion Project Tender No. PT2324/14 with Waters Excavations Pty Ltd.

13 Conclusion of the meeting

The meeting concluded at 7:48pm

NEXT MEETING

15 October 2025

.....
CHAIR

6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 STATUS REPORT ON PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AS 15 OCTOBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/554

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

The Status Report on previous Council Resolutions provides details of actions that remain outstanding.

Officer Recommendation

That Council notes the list of outstanding action items for Council Resolutions as at 15 October 2025.

Attachments

1. Status Report on Previous Council Resolutions as at 15 October 2025⇩

Division:
Committee: Ordinary Council
Officer:

Date From:
Date To:

Outstanding Action Items Report

Printed: Tuesday, 7 October 2025 11:35:48 AM

Meeting	Item	Title	Item	Action Record (latest first)
Ordinary Council 19/03/2025	9.18	*FOGO & Recycling introduction*	**Council Resolution** That Council: a) Approves the introduction of Food Organics & Garden Organics (FOGO) and Recycling kerbside waste collection services in conjunction with general kerbside waste collection as part of a new kerbside contract to commence in July 2026 following the expiry of the current contract end June 2026 b) as per Section 55(3)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) that Council enter into direct negotiations with Council's existing contractor with the intention of entering into a contract for waste collection services as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders as other tenderers are likely to be uncompetitive and there is a likelihood of an unavailability of other reliable tenders. c) Approves a community education process to be facilitated by the Riverina & Murray Joint Organisation for a three bin system rollout **Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**30 Sep 2025 3:46pm Wall, Samantha** Ongoing
Ordinary Council 23/06/2025	10.1	*Notice Of Motion - Audit of Playground Equipment Within Wentworth Shire Council*	**Council Resolution** That Council undertake an audit of playground equipment in the shire and actively seek grant funding to upgrade facilities as identified in said audit as required **Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Weeding** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**30 Sep 2025 3:46pm Wall, Samantha** Ongoing

Division:
Committee: Ordinary Council
Officer:

Date From:
Date To:

Outstanding Action Items Report

Printed: Tuesday, 7 October 2025 11:35:48 AM

Ordinary Council 17/09/2025	9.2	*Council Meeting Dates and Times*	**Council Resolution** That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council: 1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on the third Wednesday in all months excluding May and June 2. The May meeting will be held 13 May 2026 & June meeting will be held on the 24 June 2026. 3. The January meeting will not be held 4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at 5:00pm until the February 2026 meeting and all meetings after which will commence at 4pm. **Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr. Armstrong** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**19 Sep 2025 12:49pm Marsden, Gayle** Meeting dates updated in Councillors calendars Complete
Ordinary Council 17/09/2025	9.3	*In principle support for the implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations*	**Council Resolution** That Council: a) Council supports, in principle, the Murray Darling Association's urgent call for the Federal Government to fund and implement the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations. b) Council endorse the Letter to the Minister as attached to this report. c) The attached Letter to the Minister be signed by Council and sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, with a copy to be sent to the MDA for their records. **Moved Cr. Evans, Seconded Cr. Rodda** **CARRIED**	**19 Sep 2025 4:55pm Marsden, Gayle** Letter sent to Minister Collins Complete

Division:
Committee: Ordinary Council
Officer:

Date From:
Date To:

Outstanding Action Items Report

Printed: Tuesday, 7 October 2025 11:35:48 AM

Ordinary Council 17/09/2025	9.4	*Request for Donation - RFDS Rowathon*	**Council Resolution** That Council approve a donation of $5,000 plus GST to the RFDS Rowathon. **Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Rodda** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**19 Sep 2025 1:15pm Marsden, Gayle** Letter sent advising of resolution. Complete
Ordinary Council 17/09/2025	10.1	*Second Oval At Carramar Drive Sporting Complex*	**Council Resolution** That Council undertake an investigation on the potential for a second smaller oval at the Reserve as per the club's suggestion to determine if possible with installed infrastructure and provide a scope and costing of clearing and levelling the land, and establishment of an oval to the south west of the current oval as a short term option to meet immediate needs of the clubs. **Moved Cr. Rodda, Seconded Cr. Armstrong** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**07 Oct 2025 10:10am Wall, Samantha** Investigation and detailed project scoping currently underway along with overall project estimate. Awaiting specific cost estimates for irrigation/pump installation together with REF and Cultural Heritage assessment and new sealed access road. Final investigation, scope and cost estimate to be presented at November Council meeting.
Ordinary Council 17/09/2025	10.2	*Advocacy Second Bridge at Monak*	**Council Resolution** That Council note the Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy document adopted by Mildura Rural City Council on 24 April 2025, and their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and commence advocacy in support of the Heavy Vehicle Bypass, including representation to State and Federal members, Transport ministers, and Transport for NSW. **Moved Cr. Linklater, Seconded Cr. Rodda** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**	**19 Sep 2025 4:55pm Marsden, Gayle** Ongoing

7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

7.1 MAYORAL REPORT OCTOBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/553

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Linklater from 18 September 2025 – 15 October 2025.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report for September 2025.

Report

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Linklater for the period of 18 September 2025 – 15 October 2025.

Date	Meeting	Location
22 Sept 2025	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
23 Sept 2025	Joint WSC and MRCC Meeting	Wentworth
24 Sept 2025	Welcome Function Global Spirit of Cricket	Mildura
29 Sept 2025	Meeting with Minister Moriarty	Cobar
29 Sept - 1 Oct 2025	MDA Conference	Griffith
06 Oct 2025	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
07 Oct 2025	Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group Meeting	Buronga
10 Oct 2025	Far West Joint Organisation meeting	Teams
10 Oct 2025	Wentworth Visitor Centre 1st Birthday Celebration	Wentworth
11 Oct 2025	Buronga Pump Track Opening	Buronga
11 Oct 2025	Festival of Lights	Mildura
13 Oct 2025	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
15 Oct 2025	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

Attachments

Nil

8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT OCTOBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/556

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: Ebony Carter - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

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 25-22

2. Meetings

   As listed.

3. Upcoming meetings or events

   As listed.

4. Other items of note

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the information contained within the September 2025 report from the General Manager.

Detailed Report

1. Circulars

Council Circular 25-22 Release of Quarterly Budget Review Statement Data Return Templates

Key Points

- Councils are required to commence reporting the 1st quarter QBRS under the new Guidelines by no later than 30 November 2025.
- The Q1 QBRS report and QDR are to be sent electronically to OLG by 30 November 2025.
- The QBRS Data return is available on the Council Portal here.

2. Meetings

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 18 September 2025 – 15 October 2025

Date	Meeting	Location
22 Sept 2025	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Office of Local Government

Circular to Councils

Subject/title	Release of Quarterly Budget Review Statement Data Return Templates
Circular Details	Circular 25-22/ 19 September 2025 / A978780
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council finance staff
Contact	Council Performance Team - 02 4428 4100 - olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

What's new or changing?

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) released the Quarterly Budget Review Statement Guidelines for Local Government (the Guidelines) in August 2025, with mandatory reporting to commence for the first quarter ending 30 September 2025.
- The 2025-26 Quarter 1 QBRS data return is available on the OLG webpage.

What will this mean for council?

- The QBRS reporting requirements outlined in the Guidelines are mandatory. This includes use of standardised QBRS reporting templates to be presented to councillors, the community and the OLG.
- Both documents should be returned by 30 November 2025 to the following email addresses:
  - Q1 QBRS Data Return (QDR) - qbrs@olg.nsw.gov.au
  - Q1 QBRS Report - finance@olg.nsw.gov.au
- The QBRS Report is required to be tabled at a council meeting prior to submitting to OLG and must include the Responsible Accounting Officer's statement.

Key points

- Councils are required to commence reporting the 1st quarter QBRS under the new Guidelines by no later than 30 November 2025.
- The Q1 QBRS report and QDR are to be sent electronically to OLG by 30 November 2025.

Attachments

1. Council Circular - Release of Quarterly Budget Review Statement Data Return Templates⇩

T 02 4428 4100 TTY 02 4428 4209, E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
www.olg.nsw.gov.au

- The QBRS Data return is available on the Council Portal here.

Where to go for further information

- The suite of QBRS Guideline documents are available on the OLG website.
- The QBRS Data return is available on the Council Portal here
- OLG is hosting a webinar to provide an introduction to the QBRS on Friday 26 September, 10:00am-11:00am. You can register to attend here.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary, Local Government

9.2 2025 NATIONAL LOCAL ROADS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONGRESS

File Number: RPT/25/622

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

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Summary

The ALGA National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress will be held from 11-12 November 2025 in Bendigo, Victoria. The theme of this year's Congress is "Driving National Productivity".

Recommendation

That Council determines attendance and attendees for the National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to bring the 2025 ALGA National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress to the attention of Council to identify whether a delegate and or a staff member should be appointed to attend.

Report Detail

Council is responsible for some of the most critical transport assets, connecting individuals, communities and businesses. The theme of "Driving National Productivity" will be delivered through sessions that will include:

- Road funding, maintenance, and productivity
- Building better roads and integrating resilience into construction
- Circular economy opportunities in infrastructure
- Managing coastal erosion and infrastructure resilience
- How to build grant applications for success

The Congress is also a valuable opportunity to expand professional networks and connect with suppliers and partners who support councils in delivering for their communities. A site tour of key projects in the Bendigo region will also be offered, providing valuable learnings to share between councils.

Keynote speakers include:

- **The Hon Catherine King MP**, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- **Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie**, Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development
- **Rupert Hoskin AM**, delivering a keynote address on *"The Human Side of Infrastructure Leadership"*. As a former Army Brigadier and strategist, Rupert brings unique insights from his global career spanning military command, diplomacy,

humanitarian action, and business leadership – highlighting why infrastructure projects need both technical and people skills for success.

Costs per person

Registration $1,079

Accommodation approx. 3 nights $750

Travel by car

Meals day 1 and dinner day 3

Previously Council has nominated a Councillor and a member of staff to attend the Congress.

Conclusion

Attendance at the Congress is Council's recognition of the important role our transport assets play in the economic development of our region and the need therefore, for them to be appropriately funded, to ensure that our roads and transport networks are fit-for-purpose now and into the future. Council is therefore requested to consider nominating delegates to attend the 2025 ALGA National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress.

Attachments

Nil

9.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/611

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.1 A well engaged and informed community

Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of September 2025 were $1,618,226.36. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 44.48%. For comparison purposes 45.9% of the levy had been collected at the end of September 2024. Council currently has $41,066,419.66 in cash and investments.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for September 2025.

Detailed Report

Purpose

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 30 September 2025

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 30 September 2025.

		Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 September 2025	$	6,998,063.85
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 30 September 2025 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	$	3,453,701.15
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 30 September 2025 Cash Book entries for this Month	$	6,530,522.07
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 30 September 2025	$	3,921,242.93
Trust Fund Balance	$	1,145,176.73
Total Investments as at 30 September 2025	$	36,000,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	$	41,066,419.66

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of September 2025 were $ 1,618,226.36. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 44.48%**.** A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 30 September 2025 is as follows:

Note: For comparison purposes 45.9% of the levy had been collected at the end of September 2024.

LEVIES	RATES & CHARGES		
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2024 - Rates / Water	799,031.20		
Rates and Charges Levied 21 July 2025	11,941,099.57	$	12,740,130.77
+ Additional Water Charges	638,878.21		
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	48,026.24		
+ Additional Charges	25,061.86		
- Credit Adjustments	9,324.07		
- Abandonments	19,763.32	$	13,423,009.69
DEDUCTIONS			
- Payments	5,802,495.44		
- Less Refunds of Payments	1,791.32	$	5,800,704.12
		$	7,622,305.57
- Pensioner Subsidy			
Government Subsidy	93,507.30		
Council Subsidy	76,505.98	$	170,013.28
RATES/WATER CHARGES OUTSTANDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2025		$	7,452,292.29

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

The following rates or charges have been written off or adjusted under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of September 2025.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
Debtors			
MWR	9/09/2025	41.54	Credit amount charged in error at the Buronga Landfill
MAW	5/09/2025	1658.19	Customer was charged twice by the Buronga Landfill

Council Loans Report

Name	Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding	Due Date
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	$ 850,000.00	$ 471,489.97	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	$ 1,900,000.00	$ 1,125,458.32	1/06/2033
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	$ 1,500,000.00	$ 1,058,593.75	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	$ 750,000.00	$ 465,972.63	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	$ 1,250,000.00	$ 776,818.34	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	$ 1,500,000.00	$ 966,932.66	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	$ 900,000.00	$ 422,336.33	25/09/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	1.933% Fixed	$ 1,500,000.00	$ 1,078,305.81	31/03/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Civic Centre	1.933% Fixed	$ 1,500,000.00	$ 1,406,564.40	31/03/2028
CFWC440209	T-Corp	Civic Centre	5.45% Fixed	$ 4,000,000.00	$ 3,824,399.57	9/02/2044
CFWC440523	T-Corp	Stormwater	5.73% Fixed	$ 2,000,000.00	$ 1,944,523.00	23/05/2044
CFWC440822	T-Corp	Buronga Landfill	5.48% Fixed	$ 12,000,000.00	$ 11,657,863.74	22/08/2044
				TOTAL	$ 25,199,258.52	

Overtime and Travelling

Month	**Sept**	**Pay Periods**	5, 6 & 7			
Overtime from 16 August 2025 to 26 September 2025						
Overtime						
	Time and a Half Includes Time		**Double Time**		**Total**	**2025/26 Accumulative**
Department	**Hours**	**Amount**	**Hours**	**Amount**		**Total**
Animal Services	10.75	565.43	14.00	$ 956.97	$ 1,522.40	$ 4,095.86
Accountant					$ -	$ -
Assets					$ -	$ 213.92
Building Maintenance	0.50	35.92			$ 35.92	$ 359.24
BioSecurity Officer					$ -	$ -
Civil	9.50	500.05	10.50	$ 723.72	$ 1,223.77	$ 2,113.20
Council Roads	399.50	20,691.81	246.50	$ 17,003.18	$ 37,694.99	$ 68,440.91
Customer Service Office					$ -	$ -
Depot Store					$ -	$ -
Finance					$ -	$ -
GM's Office	7.50	617.74	3.50	$ 384.38	$ 1,002.12	$ 1,321.65
Health & Planning					$ -	$ 136.17
Indoor Engineers					$ -	$ -
IT Support					$ -	$ 1,429.44
Landfill Transfer Stations	2.00	127.51			$ 127.51	$ 660.72
Library	6.25	404.44	3.00	$ 276.87	$ 681.31	$ 1,802.94
Parks & Gardens	12.00	599.88	13.00	$ 866.46	$ 1,466.34	$ 4,224.79
Private Works	14.00	711.98	96.00	$ 6,420.70	$ 7,132.68	$ 7,132.68
RMS Roads	19.50	963.20	24.50	$ 1,662.69	$ 2,625.89	$ 4,317.31
Subdivision Officer					$ -	$ 164.73
Tourism & Promotion	10.00	565.64	40.50	$ 3,039.64	$ 3,605.28	$ 4,323.99
Water & Waste Water	79.50	4,655.54	151.00	$ 11,942.79	$ 16,598.33	$ 36,222.01
Workshop	14.25	942.98	0.50	$ 44.12	$ 987.10	$ 2,197.67
Workshop/Mechanics	2.00	101.35			$ 101.35	$ 152.03
Total	**587.25**	**31,483.47**	**603.00**	**43,321.52**	$ 74,804.99	$ 139,309.26

Travel Allowance		
Department	**Kms**	**Amount**
Total	0	0

Grand Total 5,6 & 7		$ 74,804.99

Overtime for the Water & Waste Water team for this period relates to after hours repair works to repair water main breaks at various locations in Buronga and Dareton townships.

Other after hours work during this period included weekend works for water treatment plant operations at Gol Gol, Wentworth and Pooncarie.

Conclusion

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

Attachments

Nil

9.4 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/617

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Ned Lamond - Financial Services Coordinator

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibily and efficiently for the benefit of the community

Summary

As of 30 September 2025, Council had $36 million invested in term deposits and $5,066,419.66 in other cash investments. Council received $215,532.00 from its investments for the month of September 2025.

In September 2025 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 3.68% and it currently has $6,522,314.93 of internal restrictions and $31,211,962.54 of external restrictions.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report for September 2025.

Detailed Report

Purpose

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

Matters under consideration.

As of 30 September 2025, Council had $41,066,419.66 invested with eight (8) financial institutions and one (1) Treasury Corporation. This is a decrease of $3,076,820.92 from the previous month.

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

Interest Received from Cash Investments in August 2025

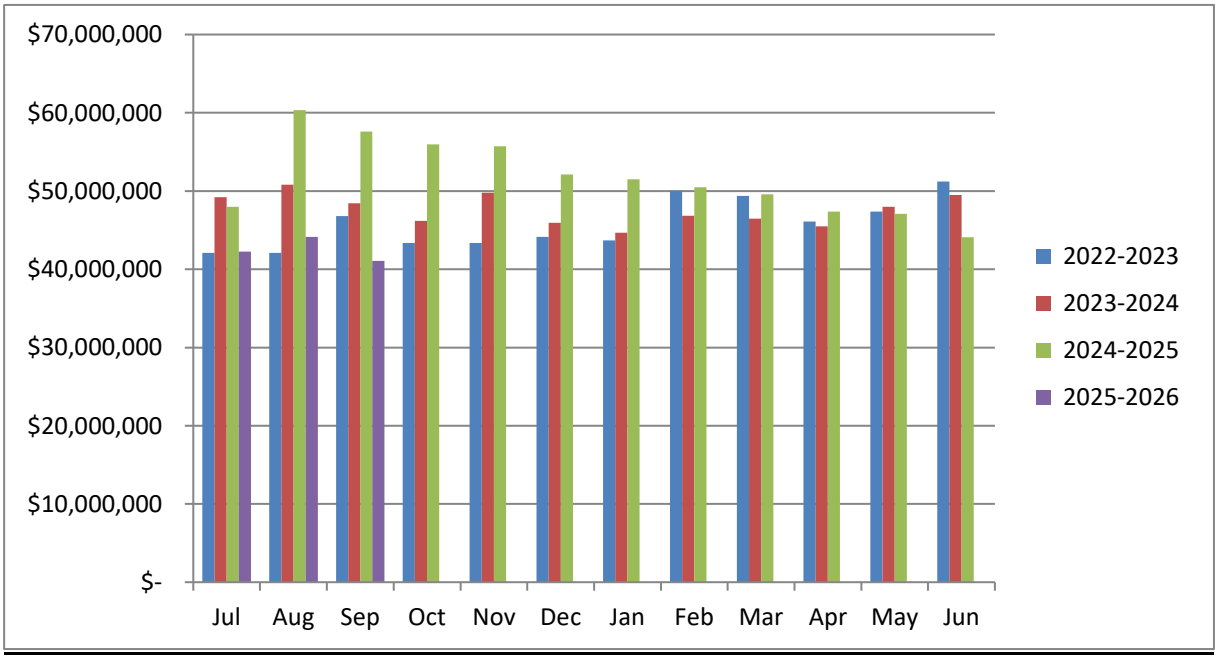
27 deposits matured or provided interest in September earning Council $215,532.00 in interest. The budget for September was $117,083.33. Year to date Council has received $665,205.17 in interest based on cash accounting compared to the budget to September of $471,499.99.

Expired investments are now shown in the attached report along with a summary of accrued interest. The budget for the financial year was set at $2,125,000.00

Restrictions

Internal Restrictions		
- Employee Entitlements	$2,300,921.00	
- Future Development Reserve	$576,217.20	
- Trust Account	$1,145,176.73	
- Capital Projects	$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	$1,500,000.00	$6,522,314.93
External Restrictions		
- Water Fund	$12,145,738.13	
- Sewer Fund	$7,857,845.88	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	$2,259,944.00	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	$1,085,000.00	
- Landfill Expansion Loan	$1,960,412.75	
- Unexpended Grants	$5,107,625.57	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	$208,296.22	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	$587,099.99	$31,211,962.54
Day to Day Liquidity		$3,332,142.19
Total Funds Available		**$41,066,419.66**

Total Funds Invested



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 30 September 2025

Grant	Amount	Expiry
OLG Flood Recovery Grants	$578,329.49	30/06/2026
LRCIP Phase 4	$158,866.39	30/06/2025
RFS M & R Grant	$-	30/06/2025
Crown Reserve Improvement Fund Astronomy Park	$656,000.21	30/06/2026
Main Roads Block Grant	$778,292.19	30/06/2026
Regional Emergency Road Repair Program	$2,879,910.63	31/10/2027
Drought Resilience Funding	$56,226.66	30/11/2025
Total	**$ 5,107,625.57**	

Conclusion

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

Attachments

1. Yield Hub Report - September 2025⇩

Wentworth Shire Council

Holdings Report

As At 30th of September, 2025

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Phone: (02) 9690 2188 | Curve: 1300 128 783 | Email: yield@curve.com.au

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Portfolio Performance Dashboard as at 30/09/2025

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

Portfolio Cost **$36,000,000**	Portfolio Value **$36,000,000**	Unrealised Gain/Loss **$0**	Weighted Avg. Term **52.3 days**
Weighted Avg. Yield **3.8172%**	September 2025 Interest **$215,560**	FY26 Interest **$665,858**	Accrued Interest **$350,979**

Portfolio metrics current as of reporting date

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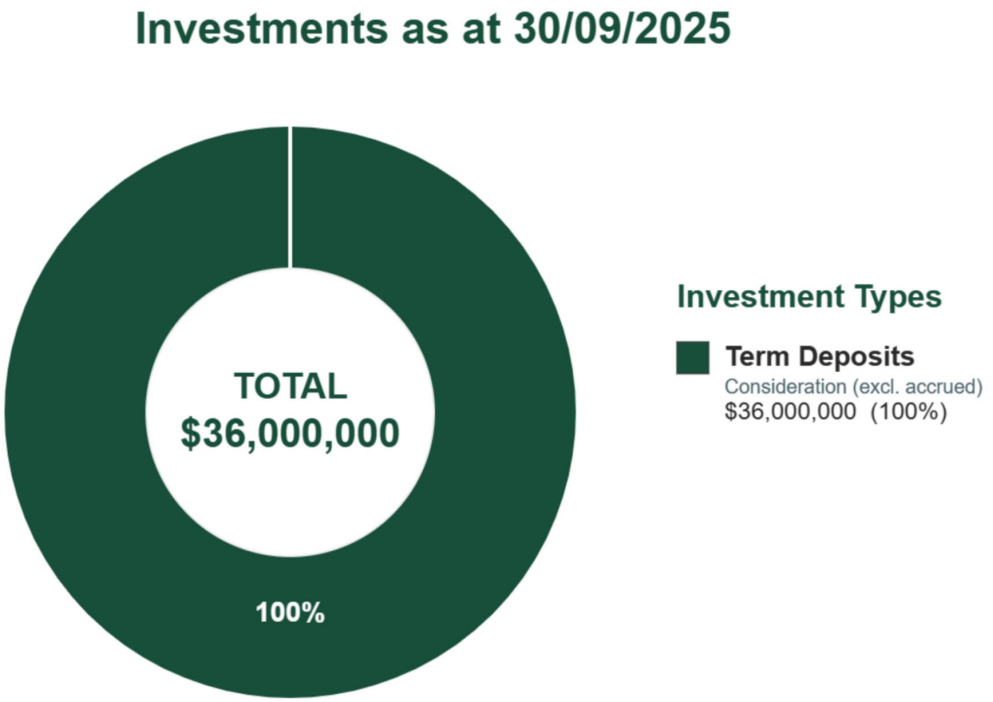
Investment Distribution by Value



This chart shows the distribution of investments by product type based on current portfolio value.

Values used: Term Deposits use Consideration value. NCDs use Consideration value. Bonds use Gross Value (market value including accrued interest at month end). Cash Accounts use Current Balance.

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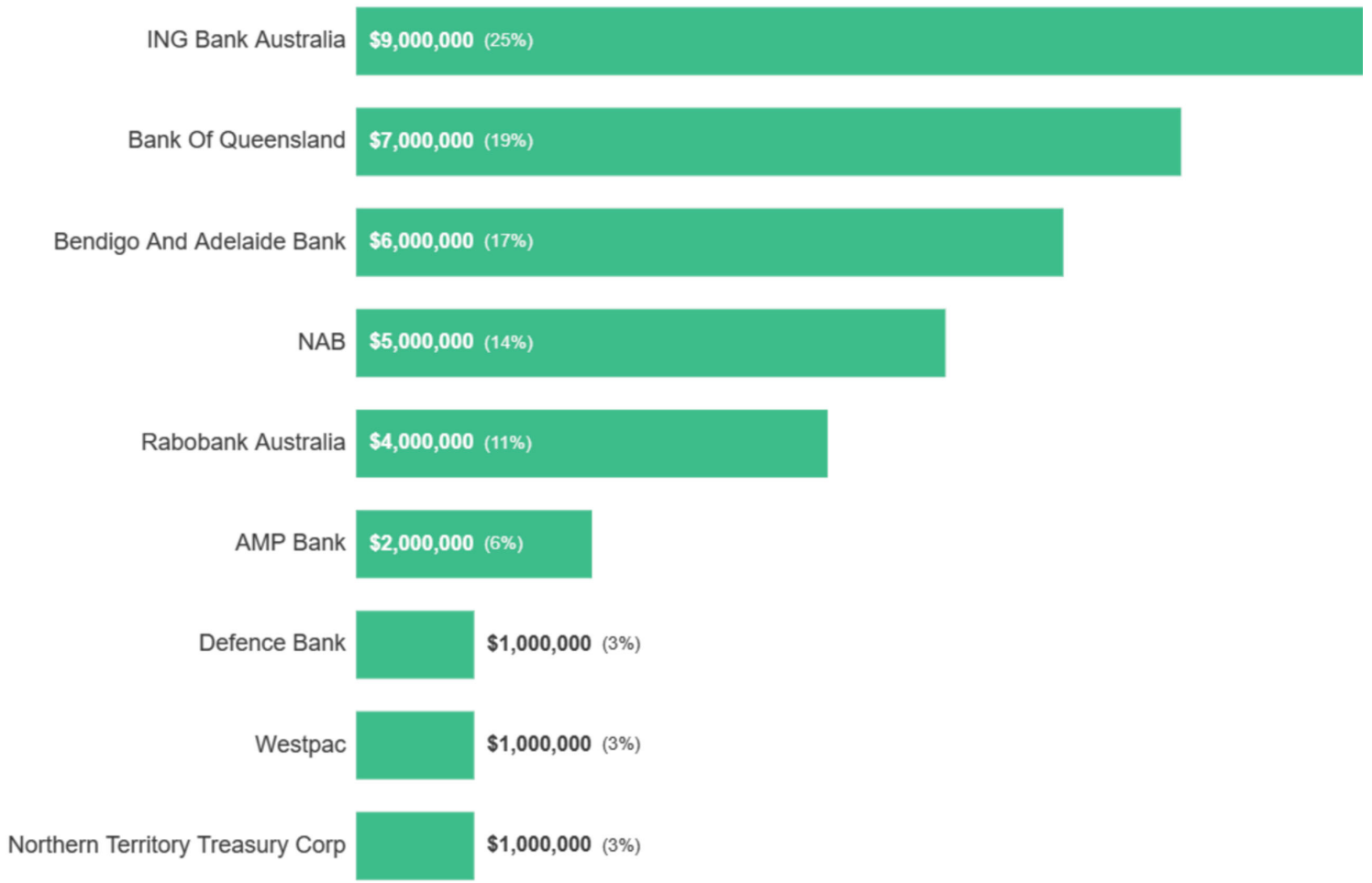
Investment Distribution by Counterparty



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TERM DEPOSITS (36) | Total Consideration (excl. accrued): $36,000,000

INVESTMENT	INSTITUTION	S&P EQUIV. RATING	CONSIDERATION	SETTLEMENT DATE	TERM (DAYS)	MATURITY DATE	YIELD	INTEREST FREQUENCY	INTEREST ACCRUED	TOTAL DEPOSIT INTEREST	NEXT PAYMENT DATE	CO
CN# 096555 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $194.52 Total: $194.52	$3,015.07	30/10/2025	
CN# 096554 Wentworth Shire Council	NAB	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.3500%	At maturity	Monthly: $183.56 Total: $183.56	$2,845.21	30/10/2025	
CN# 096553 Wentworth Shire Council	Rabobank Australia	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $194.52 Total: $194.52	$3,015.07	30/10/2025	
CN# 096552 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5900%	At maturity	Monthly: $196.71 Total: $196.71	$3,049.04	30/10/2025	
CN# 096551 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5900%	At maturity	Monthly: $196.71 Total: $196.71	$3,049.04	30/10/2025	
CN# 096550 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5900%	At maturity	Monthly: $196.71 Total: $196.71	$3,049.04	30/10/2025	
CN# 096549 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	29/09/2025	31	30/10/2025	3.5900%	At maturity	Monthly: $196.71 Total: $196.71	$3,049.04	30/10/2025	
CN# 096523 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	26/09/2025	31	27/10/2025	3.6000%	At maturity	Monthly: $493.15 Total: $493.15	$3,057.53	27/10/2025	
CN# 096522 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	26/09/2025	31	27/10/2025	3.6000%	At maturity	Monthly: $493.15 Total: $493.15	$3,057.53	27/10/2025	
CN# 096501 Wentworth Shire Council	Rabobank Australia	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	25/09/2025	32	27/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $583.56 Total: $583.56	$3,112.33	27/10/2025	
CN# 096500 Wentworth Shire Council	Rabobank Australia	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	25/09/2025	32	27/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $583.56 Total: $583.56	$3,112.33	27/10/2025	
CN# 096499 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	25/09/2025	32	27/10/2025	3.6000%	At maturity	Monthly: $591.78 Total: $591.78	$3,156.16	27/10/2025	
CN# 096498 Wentworth Shire Council	NAB	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	25/09/2025	32	27/10/2025	3.4200%	At maturity	Monthly: $562.19 Total: $562.19	$2,998.36	27/10/2025	
CN# 096226 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	11/09/2025	32	13/10/2025	3.5900%	At maturity	Monthly: $1,967.12 Total: $1,967.12	$3,147.4	13/10/2025	
CN# 096225 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	11/09/2025	32	13/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $1,945.21 Total: $1,945.21	$3,112.33	13/10/2025	

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Term Deposits (continued)

INVESTMENT	INSTITUTION	S&P EQUIV. RATING	CONSIDERATION	SETTLEMENT DATE	TERM (DAYS)	MATURITY DATE	YIELD	INTEREST FREQUENCY	INTEREST ACCRUED	TOTAL DEPOSIT INTEREST	NEXT PAYMENT DATE	CC
CN# 096142 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	08/09/2025	30	08/10/2025	3.5000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,205.48 Total: $2,205.48	$2,876.71	08/10/2025	
CN# 096141 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	08/09/2025	30	08/10/2025	3.5000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,205.48 Total: $2,205.48	$2,876.71	08/10/2025	
CN# 096138 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	08/09/2025	31	09/10/2025	3.5700%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,249.59 Total: $2,249.59	$3,032.05	09/10/2025	
CN# 096137 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	08/09/2025	31	09/10/2025	3.5000%	---	Monthly: $2,205.48 Total: $2,205.48	$2,972.6	09/10/2025	
CN# 096136 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	08/09/2025	31	09/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,236.99 Total: $2,236.99	$3,015.07	09/10/2025	
CN# 096111 Wentworth Shire Council	NAB	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	05/09/2025	32	07/10/2025	3.4000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,421.92 Total: $2,421.92	$2,980.82	07/10/2025	
CN# 096110 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	05/09/2025	32	07/10/2025	3.5700%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,543.01 Total: $2,543.01	$3,129.86	07/10/2025	
CN# 096109 Wentworth Shire Council	Rabobank Australia	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	05/09/2025	32	07/10/2025	3.5500%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,528.77 Total: $2,528.77	$3,112.33	07/10/2025	
CN# 096010 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	03/09/2025	30	03/10/2025	3.5000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,684.93 Total: $2,684.93	$2,876.71	03/10/2025	
CN# 096009 Wentworth Shire Council	NAB	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	03/09/2025	34	07/10/2025	3.4000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,608.22 Total: $2,608.22	$3,167.12	07/10/2025	
CN# 096008 Wentworth Shire Council	NAB	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	03/09/2025	34	07/10/2025	3.4000%	At maturity	Monthly: $2,608.22 Total: $2,608.22	$3,167.12	07/10/2025	
CN# 095273 Wentworth Shire Council	AMP Bank Ltd	A-2 / BBB+	$1,000,000	30/07/2025	91	29/10/2025	4.2000%	At maturity	Monthly: $3,452.05 Total: $7,249.32	$10,471.23	29/10/2025	
CN# 092043 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	27/03/2025	365	27/03/2026	4.4800%	At maturity	Monthly: $3,682.19 Total: $23,075.07	$44,800	27/03/2026	
CN# 081123 Wentworth Shire Council	Defence Bank	A-2 / BBB+	$1,000,000	07/01/2025	330	03/12/2025	4.9500%	At maturity	Monthly: $4,068.49 Total: $36,209.59	$44,753.42	03/12/2025	
CN# 081122 Wentworth Shire Council	AMP Bank Ltd	A-2 / BBB+	$1,000,000	07/01/2025	269	03/10/2025	5.0500%	At maturity	Monthly: $4,150.68 Total: $36,941.1	$37,217.81	03/10/2025	

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Term Deposits (continued)

INVESTMENT	INSTITUTION	S&P EQUIV. RATING	CONSIDERATION	SETTLEMENT DATE	TERM (DAYS)	MATURITY DATE	YIELD	INTEREST FREQUENCY	INTEREST ACCRUED	TOTAL DEPOSIT INTEREST	NEXT PAYMENT DATE	CO
CN# 080628 Wentworth Shire Council	Westpac	A-1+ / AA-	$1,000,000	27/11/2024	365	27/11/2025	5.0900%	At maturity	Monthly: $4,183.56 Total: $42,951.23	$50,900	27/11/2025	
CN# 080627 Wentworth Shire Council	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	20/11/2024	365	20/11/2025	5.0500%	At maturity	Monthly: $4,150.68 Total: $43,582.19	$50,500	20/11/2025	
CN# 080427 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	21/11/2024	365	21/11/2025	5.1500%	At maturity	Monthly: $4,232.88 Total: $44,304.11	$51,500	21/11/2025	
CN# 069374 Wentworth Shire Council	ING Bank (Australia)	A-1 / A	$1,000,000	04/01/2024	732	05/01/2026	5.1400%	Annually	Monthly: $4,224.66 Total: $37,740.27	$103,081.64	05/01/2026	
CN# 068928 Wentworth Shire Council	Bank of Queensland.	A-2 / A-	$1,000,000	04/12/2023	1095	03/12/2026	5.2500%	Annually	Monthly: $4,315.07 Total: $43,294.52	$157,500	04/12/2025	
CN# 054172 Wentworth Shire Council	Northern Territory Treasury Corporation (Territory Bonds)	NR / AA-	$1,000,000	16/09/2021	1916	15/12/2026	1.3500%	Quarterly	Monthly: $554.79 Total: $554.79	$70,865.75	16/12/2025	

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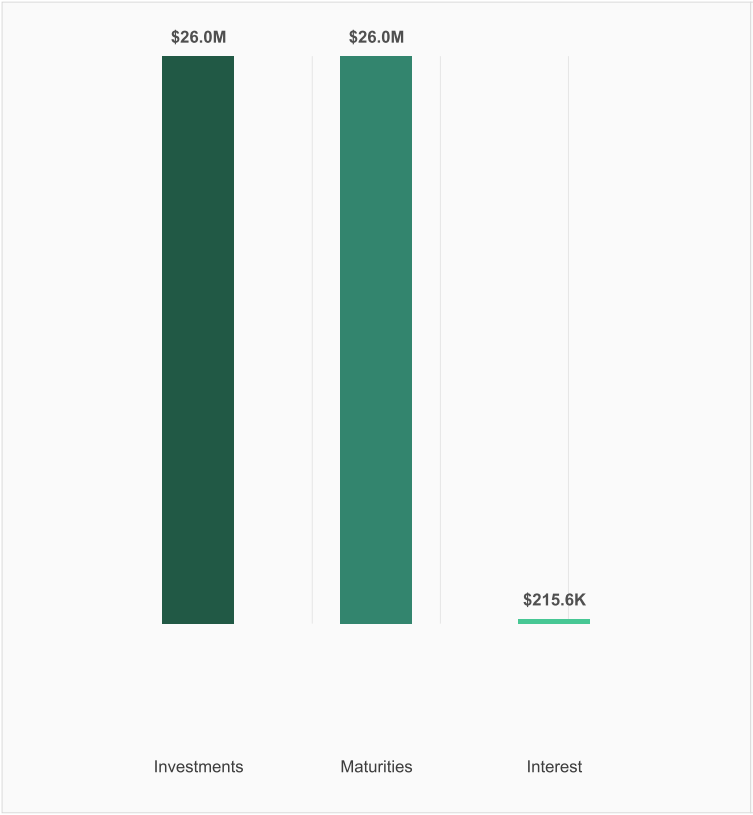
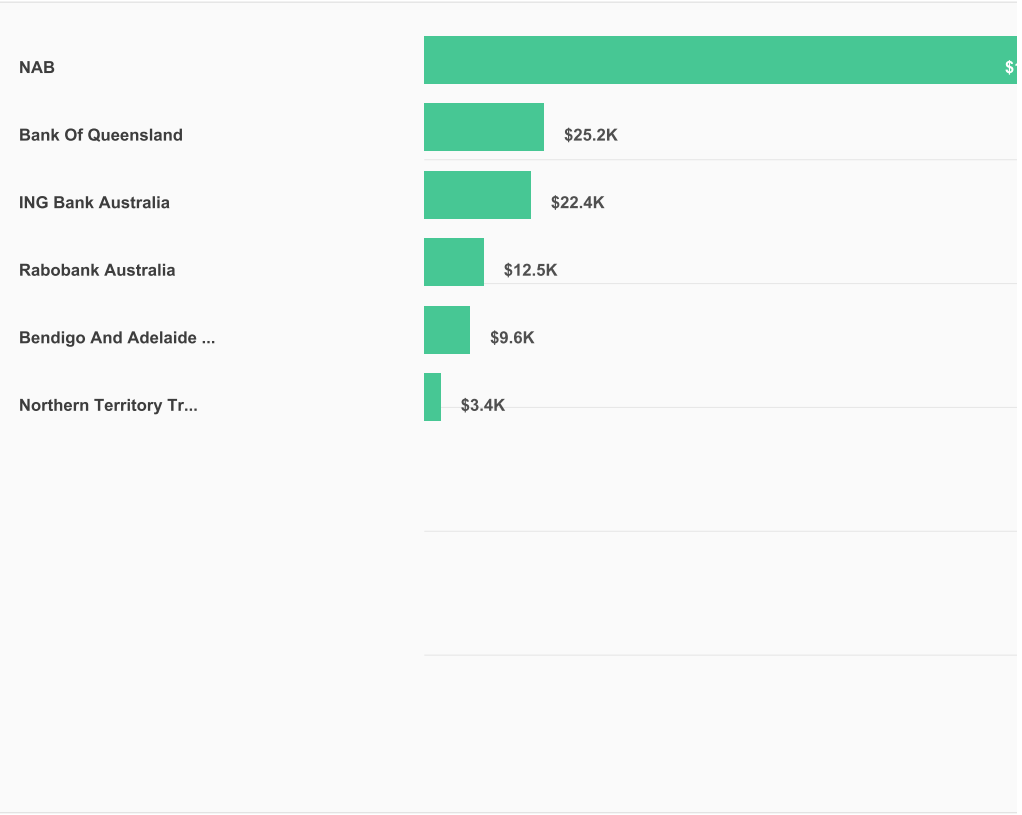
Transaction Activity (01/09/2025 to 30/09/2025)

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

TRANSACTION TOTALS



INTEREST PAYMENTS BY COUNTERPARTY



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Transaction Summaries by Counterparty (01/09/2025 to 30/09/2025)

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

Investments	
Counterparty	**Amount**
ING Bank Australia	$7,000,000
Bank Of Queensland	$6,000,000
NAB	$5,000,000
Rabobank Australia	$4,000,000
Bendigo And Adelaid...	$4,000,000
TOTAL	**$26,000,000**

Maturities	
Counterparty	**Amount**
ING Bank Australia	$7,000,000
Bank Of Queensland	$6,000,000
NAB	$6,000,000
Rabobank Australia	$4,000,000
Bendigo And Adelaid...	$3,000,000
TOTAL	**$26,000,000**

Interest Payments	
Counterparty	**Amount**
NAB	$142,552.0
Bank Of Queensland	$25,164.38
ING Bank Australia	$22,385.75
Rabobank Australia	$12,467.12
Bendigo And Adelaid...	$9,587.67
Northern Territory ...	$3,402.74
TOTAL	**$215,559.7**

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Transaction Summaries by Investment Type (01/09/2025 to 30/09/2025)

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

Investments	
Investment Type	**Amount**
Term Deposit	$26,000,000.00
TOTAL	**$26,000,000.00**

Maturities	
Investment Type	**Amount**
Term Deposit	$26,000,000.00
TOTAL	**$26,000,000.00**

Interest Payments	
Investment Type	**Amount**
Term Deposit	$215,559.7
TOTAL	**$215,559.7**

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Portfolio Performance Summary As at 30/09/2025

Time Period	Term Deposits	Total Avg Yield	RBA Cash	1m BBSW	3m BBSW	AusBond Bank Bill	AusBond Annualised	vs RBA	vs 1m BBSW	vs 3m BBSW	vs AusBond
As At 30/9/2025	3.82%	3.82%	3.60%	3.54%	3.58%	10215.960	---	+0.22%	+0.28%	+0.24%	---
1m	4.00%	4.00%	3.60%	3.55%	3.57%	0.29%	3.56%	+0.40%	+0.45%	+0.43%	+0.43%
3m	4.34%	4.34%	3.85%	3.61%	3.60%	0.92%	3.64%	+0.49%	+0.73%	+0.74%	+0.70%
6m	4.86%	4.86%	4.10%	4.10%	4.13%	1.94%	3.88%	+0.76%	+0.76%	+0.73%	+0.98%
12m	5.04%	5.04%	4.35%	4.30%	4.43%	4.19%	4.19%	+0.69%	+0.74%	+0.61%	+0.85%

UNDERSTANDING YOUR PERFORMANCE DATA:

- Portfolio Weighted Average Yield: Your yield is calculated by examining each investment and weighting its contribution based on its size relative to your total portfolio. Larger investments have greater influence on the overall portfolio yield.
- Benchmark Comparisons: The "vs" columns show how your portfolio yield compares to standard market references, helping you understand whether your investment strategy is delivering returns above or below alternatives. Green values indicate outperformance.
- Time Periods: Rows labeled "1m", "3m", "6m", and "12m" represent historical lookback periods from your report date, allowing you to track how your portfolio and market yields have changed over time and evaluate long-term performance.

Note: Historical performance data is provided for informational purposes only and does not guarantee future results.

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9.5 DRAFT 2024-2025 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - REFER TO AUDIT

File Number: RPT/25/574

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.4 Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community

Summary

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) that Council prepare its Annual Financial Statements as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice.

The Financial Statements must be audited and the audit opinion issued by the Audit Office of NSW and lodged with the Office of Local Government by 31 October 2025.

Section 413 and 418 of the Act and Clause 215 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) have a number of specific requirements that Council has to comply with in regards to the production, auditing and finalisation of the Annual Financial Statements and year end reporting requirements.

Recommendation

That Council certifies:

a. That the Annual Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

   i. The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the Regulations made there under;

   ii. The Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board; and

   iii. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

b. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

   i. Present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the 2024/2025 financial year; and

   ii. Accord with Council's accounting and other records.

c. That Council is not aware of any matter that would render these Statements false or misleading in any way.

That Council:

a. Adopt the Councillors and Management Statement and resolves that it be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer and that it is attached to the financial statements;

b. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to "finalise the date" at which the auditor's report and financial statements are to be presented to the public; and

c. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to authorise the year end accounts for issue immediately upon receipt of the auditor's reports.

That Council:

a. Refer the Draft 2024/2025 Annual Financial Statements to audit.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to comply with a number of legislative obligations in relation to the audit of Council's Annual Financial Statements.

Background

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) that Council prepare its Annual Financial Statements as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice.

The Financial Statements must be audited and the audit opinion issued by the Audit Office of NSW and lodged with the Office of Local Government by 31 October 2025.

Matters under consideration

Section 413 and 418 of the Act and Clause 215 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulations) have a number of specific requirements that Council has to comply with in regards to the production, auditing and finalisation of the Annual Financial Statements and year end reporting requirements.

Section 413 of the Act and Clause 215 of the Regulations require that:

Council must prepare financial reports for each year and must refer them to audit as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year.

Council prepare a Statement that certifies that:

a) Council's annual financial reports have been drawn up in accordance with:

i. The Act and the regulations; and

ii. The code of accounting practice; and

iii. The Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Standards Board; and

b) The reports present fairly Council's financial position and operating result for the year; and

c) The reports accord with Council's accounting and other records; and

d) The signatures are not aware of anything that would make those reports false or misleading in any way and include such information and explanations as will prevent those reports from being misleading because of any qualification that is included in the statement.

The statement must be made by a resolution of Council and be signed by:

- **The Mayor; and**
- **At least one other member of the Council; and**
- **The Responsible Accounting Officer; and**
- **The General Manager (if they are not the Responsible Accounting Officer)**

The statement must be included with the financial reports prior to the Audit Office issuing their audit opinion.

Once the audit opinion has been issued, Council must authorise the statements to be released, fix a date for the meeting at which it proposes to present the audited financial statements to the public and give public notice of that date.

The date to present the audited financial statements must be at least 7 days after the date of the public notice and no more than 5 weeks after the auditor's reports has been received by Council.

Given those time frames it recommended that Council delegate authority to the General Manager to finalise the date that the financial statements are presented to the "public"

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The Audit Office will not issue its audit opinion until such time as Council refer the financial statements to audit and authorise the statements to be signed.

The financial statements have also been reviewed by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee at a meeting held on 26 September 2025.

Conclusion

The Act and Regulations requires Council to comply with a number of obligations in relation to the preparation, audit and presentation of the annual financial statements and the auditor's report.

The purpose of this report is to comply with Council's statutory obligation to refer the Draft Annual Financial Statement to audit. No commentary has been provided on the contents of the statements, as they remain subject to audit and may be amended as part of that process. A full report, including commentary on Council's financial performance and position, will be presented to Council and the community as the November Council meeting when the audited financial statements are formally tabled.

Attachments

1. Draft Financial Statements - October 2025⇩

Wentworth Shire Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Overview

Wentworth Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

61 Darling Street
Wentworth NSW 2648

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note B1-2

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au.

Wentworth Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year NSW local governments are required to present audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement
Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income
Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position
A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity
The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows
Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Wentworth Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993*

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 15 October 2025.

Daniel Linklater
Mayor
15 October 2025

Peter Crisp
Councillor
15 October 2025

Ken Ross
General Manager
15 October 2025

Simon Rule
Responsible Accounting Officer
15 October 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 $ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 $ '000	Actual 2024 $ '000
	Income from continuing operations			
10,938	Rates and annual charges	B2-1	**11,076**	10,410
8,145	User charges and fees	B2-2	**11,498**	10,109
1,329	Other revenues	B2-3	**1,863**	879
11,969	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-4	**8,586**	10,816
12,293	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	B2-4	**21,813**	17,143
2,220	Interest and investment income	B2-5	**2,631**	2,318
53	Other income	B2-6	**53**	75
100	Net gain from the disposal of assets	B4-1	**–**	56
47,047	**Total income from continuing operations**		**57,520**	51,806
	Expenses from continuing operations			
11,277	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	**11,433**	10,066
10,209	Materials and services	B3-2	**13,296**	12,665
1,401	Borrowing costs	B3-3	**1,340**	578
964	Other expenses	B3-5	**712**	681
–	Net loss from the disposal of assets	B4-1	**1,223**	–
–	Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method	D2	**246**	62
23,851	**Total expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets**		**28,250**	24,052
23,196	**Operating result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets**		**29,270**	27,754
9,308	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	B3-4	**12,004**	10,083
13,888	**Operating result from continuing operations**		**17,266**	17,671
13,888	Net operating result for the year attributable to Council		**17,266**	17,671
1,595	**Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes**		**(4,547)**	528

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		**17,266**	17,671
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	**(55,052)**	29,072
Impairment (loss) reversal relating to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	**485**	1,055
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequent to operating result		**(54,567)**	30,127
Total other comprehensive income for the year		**(54,567)**	30,127
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		**(37,301)**	47,798

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	**24,087**	10,482
Investments	C1-2	**20,000**	39,000
Receivables	C1-4	**11,161**	8,320
Inventories	C1-5	**225**	306
Other	C1-8	**342**	276
Total current assets		**55,815**	58,384
Non-current assets			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	**587,909**	615,683
Intangible assets	C1-7	**–**	184
Investments accounted for using the equity method	D2-1	**559**	805
Total non-current assets		**588,468**	616,672
Total assets		**644,283**	675,056
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	**8,024**	5,439
Contract liabilities	C3-2	**5,633**	12,503
Borrowings	C3-3	**1,769**	1,156
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	**2,168**	2,066
Total current liabilities		**17,594**	21,164
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	C3-3	**23,747**	13,828
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	**281**	235
Provisions	C3-5	**3,096**	2,963
Total non-current liabilities		**27,124**	17,026
Total liabilities		**44,718**	38,190
Net assets		**599,565**	636,866
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	C4-1	**151,092**	133,826
IPPE revaluation surplus	C4-1	**448,473**	503,040
Council equity interest		**599,565**	636,866
Total equity		**599,565**	636,866

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 Accumulated surplus $ '000	2025 IPPE revaluation surplus $ '000	2025 Total equity $ '000	2024 Accumulated surplus $ '000	2024 IPPE revaluation surplus $ '000	2024 Total equity $ '000
Opening balance at 1 July		**133,826**	**503,040**	**636,866**	116,155	472,913	589,068
Net operating result for the year		**17,266**	**–**	**17,266**	17,671	–	17,671
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	**–**	**(55,052)**	**(55,052)**	–	29,072	29,072
– Impairment (loss) reversal relating to IPP&E	C1-6	**–**	**485**	**485**	–	1,055	1,055
Other comprehensive income		**–**	**(54,567)**	**(54,567)**	–	30,127	30,127
Total comprehensive income		**17,266**	**(54,567)**	**(37,301)**	17,671	30,127	47,798
Closing balance at 30 June		**151,092**	**448,473**	**599,565**	133,826	503,040	636,866

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Original unaudited budget 2025 $ '000		Notes	Actual 2025 $ '000	Actual 2024 $ '000
	Cash flows from operating activities			
	Receipts:			
10,858	Rates and annual charges		**10,878**	10,714
8,238	User charges and fees		**12,720**	9,102
2,213	Interest received		**3,001**	2,130
25,313	Grants and contributions		**12,850**	25,212
1,223	Other		**4,677**	4,507
	Payments:			
(11,846)	Payments to employees		**(11,323)**	(10,115)
(4,365)	Payments for materials and services		**(17,383)**	(15,119)
(1,383)	Borrowing costs		**(989)**	(351)
(4,283)	Other		**(846)**	(1,347)
25,968	**Net cash flows from operating activities**	G1-1	**13,585**	24,733
	Cash flows from investing activities			
	Receipts:			
–	Sale of investments		**80,000**	40,000
700	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		**910**	412
	Payments:			
–	Purchase of investments		**(61,000)**	(35,000)
(38,505)	Payments for IPPE		**(30,422)**	(33,891)
(37,805)	**Net cash flows from investing activities**		**(10,512)**	(28,479)
	Cash flows from financing activities			
	Receipts:			
12,000	Proceeds from borrowings		**12,000**	8,000
	Payments:			
(1,479)	Repayment of borrowings		**(1,468)**	(983)
10,521	**Net cash flows from financing activities**		**10,532**	7,017
(1,316)	**Net change in cash and cash equivalents**		**13,605**	3,271
–	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		**10,482**	7,211
(1,316)	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	**24,087**	10,482
–	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	**20,000**	39,000
(1,316)	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		**44,087**	49,482

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Wentworth Shire Council

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A About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 15 October 2025. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act) and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation), and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not for-profit entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Natural Disaster - Flooding

Wentworth Shire Council was declared a natural disaster area in November 2022 as a result of extensive flooding through the Murray and Darling River systems. The overall impact on Council assets has been comparatively minor compared to other Councils, however, the event did result in a significant disruption to Council operations with most projects put on hold as either a direct impact of the flood waters or because Council staff were reassigned to flood preparation, clean-up and recovery efforts.

The potential impact of the natural disaster on financial reporting for the year end 30 June 2025 was assessed through an analysis of the following:

- Impairment of assets
- Preparation and Rehabilitation Costs
- Natural Disaster Funding
- Insurance recoveries
- Decommissioning obligations

Current estimates of the expected cost to Council as a result of the flood is still being assessed however, as at 30 June 2025 Council has spent approximately $4,300,000 over the last 3 years on flood preparation, recovery and restoration.

The impairment of Council assets included in these accounts is $737,423 with the cost to restore these assets to their pre-flood condition to occur over the 2025-2026 financial years.

There have been no insurance recoveries received in relation to flood impacted assets and there have been no assets that have been decommissioned or disposed off.

Council is not aware of any other balance day events which would result in additional disclosures or adjustments to the 30 June 2025 financial results.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

(i) estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6

continued on next page

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

(ii) estimated tip remediation provisions – refer Note C3-5
(iii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

(i) Impairment of receivables

Council has made a significant judgement about the impairment of a number of its receivables – refer Note C1-4

(ii) Tip Remediation Provisions

Council has used significant judgement in determining future Tip Remediation Provisions - refer Note C3-5

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following activities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations
- Water service
- Sewerage service

The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and property received by the Council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with, the trusts relating to those monies.

Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council office by any person free of charge.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Volunteer services

Council does not rely on volunteer services. Council has not recognised any volunteer services in the income statement as the value is immaterial, cannot be reliably measured and the services would not be purchased if not donated.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Standards issued not yet effective at 30 June 2025
The followings standards have been issued but are not yet effective at 30 June 2025 and are relevant to Council.

Council has elected not to apply any of these pronouncements in these financial statements before their operative dates.

Council's assessment of these new standards and interpretations (where they have been deemed as having a material impact on Council's future financial performance, financial position and cash flows) are set out below:

AASB 18 *Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements*

continued on next page

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

This standard replaces AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* and sets out the requirements for the structure of the financial statements, including the application of fundamental concepts such as materiality.

AASB 18 introduces subtotals into the Statement of Proft or Loss as well as restructuring the statement into operating, investing and financing elements.

Management performance measures are also required to be disclosed.

The presentation of Councils primary statements will be changed along with some additional disclosures, however there will be no effect on Councils reported position or performance.

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2029 reporting period.

AASB 2024-2 ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments [AASB 7 and AASB 9]***

This standard amends AASB 7 and AASB 9 in response to feedback from the 2022 Post-implementation Review of the classification and measurement requirements in AASB 9 and related requirements in AASB 7 and the subsequent 2023 Exposure Draft.

This Standard amends requirements related to:
(a) settling financial liabilities using an electronic payment system; and
(b) assessing contractual cash flow characteristics of financial assets with environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) and similar features.

This Standard also amends disclosure requirements relating to investments in equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income and adds disclosure requirements for financial instruments with contingent features that do not relate directly to basic lending risks and costs.

Likely impact of this standard is:

- **potentially earlier derecognition of liabilities settled by electronic means which meet the updated criteria in AASB 9.**
- **reclassification of financial assets with ESG features based on the revised guidance in relation to whether amortised costs can be used - not likely to be significant for Councils.**
- **additional disclosures for equity instruments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income - these instruments are rare for Councils.**

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2027 reporting period.

AASB 2024-3 ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements Volume 11 [AASB 1, AASB 7, AASB 9, AASB 10 and AASB 107)***

This standard amends:

a. AASB 1 to improve consistency between paragraphs B5-B6 of AASB 1 and the requirements for hedge accounting in AASB 9 and to improve the understandability of AASB 1;
b. AASB 7 to
    i. replace a cross-reference in paragrah B38 of AASB 7 to a deleted AASB 7 paragraph with a reference to AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*; and
    ii. improve consistency in the language used in AASB 7 with the language used in AASB 13;
c. AASB 9 to:
    i. clarify how a lessee acounts for the derecognition of a lease liability when it is extinguished; and
    ii. address an inconsistency between paragraph 5.1.3 of AASB 9 and the requirements in AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* in relation to the term 'transaction price';
d. AASB 10 to amend paragraph B74 in relation to determining de facto agents of an entity; and
e. AASB 107 to replace the term 'cost method' with 'at cost' as the term is no longer defined in the Australian Accounting Standards.

Council does not expect any significant impact on adoption of this standard.

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2027 reporting period.

AASB2014-10 ***Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture.*** **AASB2015-10** ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128.*** **AASB2017-5** ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections.***

continued on next page

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

The amendments address an acknowledged inconsistency between the requirements in AASB 10, and those in AAS128 (2011) in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture

The main consequence of the amendments is that a full gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves a business (whether it is housed in a subsidiary or not). A partial gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves assets that do not constitute a business, even if these assets are housed in a subsidiary.

AASB2015-10 has delayed the effective date of this standard.
AASB 2017-5 defers the effective date of AASB 2014-10 to 1 Janurary 2022.
AASB 2021-7 defers the effective date of AASB 2014-10 to 1 January 2025.
AASB 2024-4 defers the effective date of AASB 2014-10 to 1 January 2028.

This standard will only impact on councils with associates or joint ventures where there has been a sale or contributon of assets between the entity and its investor.

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2029 reporting period.

The following pronouncements are issued but not yet effective and are not expected to have relevance to Council but have been included for completeness:

AASB 17 Insurance Contracts and associated amendments
Changes accounting for insurance contracts

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2027 reporting period.

AASB 2023-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Lack of Exchangeability.
Requires consistency in determining whether a currency is exchangeable into another currency and the spot exchange rate to use when it is not exchangeable.

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2026 reporting period.

AASB 2025-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Contracts Referencing Nature-dependent Electricity
Standard amends AASB 7 and AASB 9 to clarify the application of the 'own-use' criteria to nature-dependent electricity contracts, permit hedge accounting in certain conditions and adds new disclosure requirements

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2027 reporting period.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time at 30 June 2025.

The following new standard is effective for the first time at 30 June 2025:

- **AASB 2021-1** ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current***
- **AASB 2020-6** ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current - Deferal of Effective Date***
- **AASB 2020-6** ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Non-current Liabilities with Covenants***

Unlikely to have significant impact for Councils, however if Councils have external borrowings:
- the presentation of these loans as current or non-current should be confirmed and
- if there are any covenants in a loan agreement which are tested after the reporting period then these should be disclosed.

AASB 2022-5 ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback.***

Unlikely to have significant impact for Councils, however if Councils undertake a sale and leaseback which satisfies the sale requirements under AASB 15 (i.e. genuine sale) then this amendment requires a seller-lessee to subsequently measure lease liabilities arising from a leaseback in a way that does not recongnise any amount of the gain or loss related to the right of use it retains.

AASB 2022-10 ***Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Section Entities***

There is not expected to have a significant impact on Council's reported financial position, however Councils should review their fair value methodology to ensure that it is in accordance with the guidance included in AASB 2022-10 using the information and resources in Appendix E of the Code.

continued on next page

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Functions or activities										
1. Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region	**1,089**	659	**1,672**	2,798	**(583)**	(2,139)	**970**	541	**5,464**	8,441
2. Wentworth Shire is a great place to live	**2,441**	3,286	**5,512**	3,735	**(3,071)**	(449)	**1,644**	2,918	**34,157**	20,570
3. Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment	**37,195**	30,258	**24,369**	20,336	**12,826**	9,922	**18,505**	14,841	**532,308**	583,562
4. Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civil leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner	**16,795**	17,603	**8,701**	7,266	**8,094**	10,337	**9,280**	9,659	**72,354**	62,483
Total functions and activities	**57,520**	51,806	**40,254**	34,135	**17,266**	17,671	**30,399**	27,959	**644,283**	675,056

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

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

1.1 Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries.
1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination.
1.3 High quality connectivity across the region.
1.4 Encourage lifelong learning opportunities.
1.5 Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities.

2.Wentworth Shire is a great place to live.

2.1 Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.
2.2 Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.
2.3 To have a safe community
2.4 A well informed, supported and engaged community.
2.5 To have a strong sense of place.

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

3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development.
3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained.
3.3 Minimise the impact on the natural environment.
3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely.
3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.

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

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

B2 Sources of income

B2-1 Rates and annual charges

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Ordinary rates		
Residential	**2,743**	2,533
Farmland	**2,115**	2,010
Business	**1,529**	1,513
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	**(41)**	(42)
Less: pensioner rebates (Council policy)	**(34)**	(33)
Rates levied to ratepayers	**6,312**	5,981
Pensioner rate subsidies received	**41**	42
Total ordinary rates	**6,353**	6,023
Special rates		
Tourism	**44**	43
Rates levied to ratepayers	**44**	43
Total special rates	**44**	43
Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 & 611)		
Domestic waste management services	**994**	927
Water supply services	**1,632**	1,510
Sewerage services	**2,098**	1,951
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	**(54)**	(54)
Less: pensioner rebates (Council policy)	**(45)**	(44)
Annual charges levied	**4,625**	4,290
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
– Water	**18**	18
– Sewerage	**16**	16
– Domestic waste management	**20**	20
Total annual charges	**4,679**	4,344
Total rates and annual charges	**11,076**	10,410

Council has used 2022 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

Material accounting policy information
Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.

B2-2 User charges and fees

	Timing	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Specific user charges (per s502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Water supply services	2	**1,751**	1,606
Total specific user charges		**1,751**	1,606
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608)			
Inspection services	2	**8**	18
Planning and building regulation	2	**375**	357
Private works – section 67	2	**31**	41
Regulatory/ statutory fees	2	**127**	125
Section 10.7 certificates (EP&A Act)	2	**69**	61
Section 603 certificates	2	**30**	32
Tapping fees	2	**81**	65
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		**721**	699
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s608))			
Aerodrome	2	**27**	23
Cemeteries	1	**112**	126
Refuse and effluent disposal	2	**11**	3
RMS charges (state roads not controlled by Council)	2	**3,329**	2,756
Waste disposal tipping fees	2	**5,523**	4,868
Animal control	2	**13**	16
Other – road opening permits	2	**11**	12
Total fees and charges – other		**9,026**	7,804
Total other user charges and fees		**9,747**	8,503
Total user charges and fees		**11,498**	10,109
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees			
User charges and fees recognised over time (1)		**112**	126
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time (2)		**11,386**	9,983
Total user charges and fees		**11,498**	10,109

Material accounting policy information

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases such as caravan parks, the customer is required to pay on arrival or a deposit in advance. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Where an upfront fee is charged such as joining fees for the leisure centre the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than over the term of the licence.

B2-3 Other revenues

	Timing	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)	2	**–**	6
Commissions and agency fees	2	**21**	19
Diesel rebate	2	**196**	227
Insurance claims recoveries	2	**26**	244
Sales – general	2	**3**	6
Other - Disaster Recovery	2	**1,129**	–
Facilities revenue	2	**193**	178
Insurance rebates	2	**43**	68
Rural fire service reimbursements	2	**47**	–
Sales – miscellaneous	2	**48**	18
Other – meter readings	2	**10**	10
Other	2	**147**	103
Total other revenue		**1,863**	879
Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue			
Other revenue recognised over time (1)		**–**	–
Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)		**1,863**	879
Total other revenue		**1,863**	879

Material accounting policy information for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Statutory fees and fines are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

B2-4 Grants and contributions

	Timing	**Operating 2025 $ '000**	Operating 2024 $ '000	**Capital 2025 $ '000**	Capital 2024 $ '000
General purpose grants and non-developer contributions (untied)					
General purpose (untied)					
Current year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component	2	**851**	244	**–**	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	2	**356**	103	**–**	–
Payment in advance - future year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component	2	**2,892**	4,677	**–**	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	2	**1,209**	1,951	**–**	–
Amount recognised as income during current year		**5,308**	6,975	**–**	–
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)					
Cash contributions					
Water supplies	2	**–**	–	**112**	89
Bushfire and emergency services	2	**209**	204	**–**	–
Child care	2	**–**	–	**–**	117
Community services	2	**187**	3	**–**	–
Economic development	2	**–**	216	**3,779**	2,681
Employment and training programs	2	**9**	3	**–**	–
Floodplain management	2	**64**	–	**–**	–
Environmental programs	2	**–**	–	**–**	1,036
Library – per capita	2	**63**	61	**–**	–
Library	2	**–**	–	**–**	246
NSW rural fire services	2	**–**	–	**–**	96
Library – special projects	2	**–**	–	**22**	24
Public halls	2	**–**	–	**9**	–
Noxious weeds	2	**42**	–	**–**	–
Recreation and culture	2	**–**	–	**940**	1,839
Street lighting	2	**46**	45	**–**	–
Transport (roads to recovery)	2	**142**	1,314	**–**	–
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	2	**62**	–	**8,280**	6,291
Previously contributions:					
Transport for NSW contributions (regional roads, block grant)	2	**1,484**	1,454	**204**	202
Tourism	2	**970**	541	**–**	–
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash		**3,278**	3,841	**13,346**	12,621
Non-cash contributions					
Bushfire services	2	**–**	–	**464**	396
Dedications – subdivisions (other than by s7.4 and s7.11 – EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA)	2	**–**	–	**7,096**	3,473
Recreation and culture	2	**–**	–	**–**	417
Total other contributions – non-cash		**–**	–	**7,560**	4,286
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)		**3,278**	3,841	**20,906**	16,907
Total grants and non-developer contributions		**8,586**	10,816	**20,906**	16,907
Comprising:					
– Commonwealth funding		**5,450**	8,292	**7,077**	4,421
– State funding		**3,136**	1,963	**6,602**	8,425
– Other funding		**–**	561	**7,227**	4,061

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B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

8,586	10,816	**20,906**	16,907

Developer contributions

	Notes	Timing	**Operating 2025 $ '000**	Operating 2024 $ '000	**Capital 2025 $ '000**	Capital 2024 $ '000
Developer contributions: (s7.4 & s7.11 - EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA):	G4					
Cash contributions						
S 7.11 – Development Contributions Plan		2	**–**	–	**39**	51
S 64 – water supply contributions		2	**–**	–	**257**	16
S 64 – sewerage service contributions		2	**–**	–	**501**	159
Service Plan # 2		2	**–**	–	**110**	10
Total developer contributions – cash			**–**	–	**907**	236
Total developer contributions			**–**	–	**907**	236
Total contributions			**–**	–	**907**	236
Total grants and contributions			**8,586**	10,816	**21,813**	17,143
Timing of revenue recognition						
Grants and contributions recognised over time (1)			**–**	–	**–**	–
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time (2)			**8,586**	10,816	**21,813**	17,143
Total grants and contributions			**8,586**	10,816	**21,813**	17,143

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B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Unspent grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

	Operating 2025 $ '000	Operating 2024 $ '000	**Capital 2025 $ '000**	Capital 2024 $ '000
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	**319**	3,740	**11,934**	9,465
Add: Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	**14**	–	**–**	–
Add: capital grants received and transferred to contract liabilities	**–**	–	**77**	7,840
Less: Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	**–**	(3,421)	**–**	–
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	**–**	–	**(6,965)**	(5,371)
Unspent funds at 30 June	**333**	319	**5,046**	11,934

Unexpended Capital Grants Include:

- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant Projects
- Resources for Regions Round 9 Projects
- OLG Flood Recovery Grant
- Regional & Local Roads Emergency Repair Program.

Contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	**1,085**	982	**–**	–
Add: contributions recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	**203**	103	**–**	–
Unspent contributions at 30 June	**1,288**	1,085	**–**	–

Unexpended Contributions include Contributions received from developers in relation to:

- Development Contribution Plan; and
- Servicing Plan # 2.

Material accounting policy information

Grants and contributions - enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grants and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is satisfied.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement but include:

- Refund in cash or kind is required when the agreed specific performance has not occurred;
- The customer, or another party acting on its behalf, has a right to enforce specific performance or claim damages;
- The customer has the right to take a financial interest in assets purchased or constructed by the entity with resources provided under the agreement;
- The parties to the agreement are required to agree on alternative uses of the resources provided under the agreement; and
- An adminstrative process exists to enforce agreements between sovereign States or between a State and another party.

Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

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B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods/servcies at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report/outcome is provided), where as over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of communit health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received by Council under an enfoceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Developer Contributions

Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of sections 7.4, 7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

While Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and, accordingly, would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required, but the Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules for the contribution plan.

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recongised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

B2-5 Interest and investment income

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	**123**	116
– Cash and investments	**2,508**	2,202
Total interest and investment income (losses)	**2,631**	2,318
Interest and investment income is attributable to:		
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:		
Overdue rates and annual charges (general fund)	**123**	116
General Council cash and investments	**1,554**	1,467
Restricted investments/funds – external:		
Developer contributions		
– Section 7.11	**54**	41
Water fund operations	**571**	457
Sewerage fund operations	**329**	237
Total interest and investment income	**2,631**	2,318

Material accounting policy information
Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B2-6 Other income

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Reversal of impairment losses on receivables			
Other		**–**	23
Total reversal of impairment losses on receivables	C1-4	**–**	23
Rental income			
Lease income		**52**	52
Total rental income	C2-2	**53**	52
Total other income		**53**	75

B3 Costs of providing services

B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Salaries and wages	**9,963**	8,931
Employee termination costs (where material – other than vested leave paid)	**–**	68
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	**1,468**	1,354
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	**1,177**	1,025
Superannuation – defined benefit plans	**31**	48
Workers' compensation insurance	**580**	509
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	**15**	15
Training costs	**102**	99
Uniforms	**60**	83
Recruitment	**37**	44
Total employee costs	**13,433**	12,176
Less: capitalised costs	**(2,000)**	(2,110)
Total employee costs expensed	**11,433**	10,066

Material accounting policy information
Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note E3-1 for more information.

B3-2 Materials and services

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Raw materials and consumables		**3,688**	3,485
Contractor costs		**5,531**	5,277
Audit Fees	F2-1	**64**	65
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	F1-2	**300**	234
Advertising		**29**	24
Bank charges		**44**	43
Cleaning		**114**	138
Election expenses		**86**	–
Electricity and heating		**822**	793
Fire control expenses		**28**	31
Insurance		**712**	725
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		**448**	457
Postage		**32**	31
Printing and stationery		**65**	45
Street lighting		**129**	172
Subscriptions and publications		**143**	102
Telephone and communications		**67**	72
Tourism expenses (excluding employee costs)		**455**	565
Valuation fees		**42**	39
Travel expenses		**30**	16
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)		**149**	165
Other expenses		**75**	17
Legal expenses:			
– Legal expenses: debt recovery		**7**	32
– Legal expenses: other		**236**	137
Total materials and services		**13,296**	12,665
Total materials and services		**13,296**	12,665

Material accounting policy information
Expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

B3-3 Borrowing costs

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
(i) Interest bearing liability costs			
Interest on loans		**1,207**	450
Total interest bearing liability costs		**1,207**	450
Total interest bearing liability costs expensed		**1,207**	450
(ii) Other borrowing costs			
– Landfill Remediation Liability	C3-5	**133**	128
Total borrowing costs expensed		**1,340**	578

Material accounting policy information
Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		**1,889**	1,258
Office equipment		**251**	131
Furniture and fittings		**3**	4
Land improvements (depreciable)		**612**	611
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Buildings		**1,185**	1,082
– Roads		**4,663**	3,782
– Other structures		**254**	255
– Bridges		**115**	97
– Footpaths		**122**	91
– Stormwater drainage		**301**	272
– Water supply network		**1,135**	1,011
– Sewerage network		**996**	932
– Swimming pools		**83**	76
– Other open space/recreational assets		**112**	215
– Other infrastructure		**198**	184
Other assets:			
– Library books		**18**	15
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets:			
– Tip assets	C1-6	**67**	67
Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs		**12,004**	10,083
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		**12,004**	10,083
Impairment / revaluation decrement of IPPE			
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Buildings		**–**	(94)
– Roads		**(485)**	(739)
– Other open space/recreational assets		**–**	(222)
Total gross IPPE impairment / revaluation decrement costs		**(485)**	(1,055)
Amounts taken through revaluation reserve	C1-6	**485**	1,055
Total IPPE impairment / revaluation decrement costs charged to Income Statement		**–**	–
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets		**12,004**	10,083

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment of non-financial assets
Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are not tested for impairment since these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Intangible assets not yet available for use, are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

Other non-financial assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units).

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B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets (continued)

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

B3-5 Other expenses

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Impairment of receivables			
Bad Debt		–	3
Total impairment of receivables	C1-4	–	3
Other			
Contributions/levies to other levels of government			
– Emergency services levy		**27**	34
– Fire & Rescue NSW levy		**35**	35
– NSW rural fire service levy		**387**	393
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)		**263**	216
Total other		**712**	678
Total other expenses		**712**	681

Material accounting policy information

Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis when Council has an obligation for the expenses.

Impairment expenses are recognised when identified.

B4 Gains or losses

B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets

	Notes	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Gain (or loss) on disposal of property (excl. investment property)			
Proceeds from disposal – property		**109**	11
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off		**(421)**	(170)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		**(312)**	(159)
Gain (or loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		**348**	401
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		**(297)**	(149)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		**51**	252
Gain (or loss) on disposal of infrastructure	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – infrastructure		**453**	–
Less: carrying amount of infrastructure assets sold/written off		**(1,231)**	(37)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		**(778)**	(37)
Gain (or loss) on disposal of investments	C1-2		
Proceeds from disposal/redemptions/maturities – investments		**80,000**	40,000
Less: carrying amount of investments sold/redeemed/matured		**(80,000)**	(40,000)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		**–**	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal of intangible assets	C1-7		
Proceeds from disposal – intangible assets		**–**	–
Less: carrying amount of intangible assets sold/written off		**(184)**	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal		**(184)**	–
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets		**(1,223)**	56

Material accounting policy information
Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 26 June 2024 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Variance		
Revenues					
Rates and annual charges	**10,938**	**11,076**	**138**	**1%**	**F**
User charges and fees	**8,145**	**11,498**	**3,353**	**41%**	**F**
Income received from the Buronga Landfil and from works undertaken on the State Highways for Transport for NSW exceeded budget expectations.					
Other revenues	**1,329**	**1,863**	**534**	**40%**	**F**
Council received reimbursement from the Reconstruction Authority for Flood Recovery expenditure. These reimbursements were not included in the original budget as the exact amounts were unknown at the time of budget preparation.					
Operating grants and contributions	**11,969**	**8,586**	**(3,383)**	**(28)%**	**U**
The amount of the Financial Assistant Grants payments continues to vary each year. During the financial year, Council received a 50% pre-payment of its 2025/2026 allocation compated with an 85% pre-payment received in the previous year. This change resulted in a reduction of $1,667,242 in grant income recognised during the financial year.					
It is important to note that Council's overall Financial Assistance Grant has not been reduced. The difference relates only to the timing of when the grant is received and recognised as income.					
Council's approced Roads to Recovery funding allocation for this financial year was $1,661,368. However, with other roads projects being completed, Council was only able to deliver $142,442 worth of works. The unused funds will carry over and be available across the remaining four years of the program.					
Capital grants and contributions	**12,293**	**21,813**	**9,520**	**77%**	**F**
Council does not budget for gifted asset dedications received from developers, as both the timing and the value of these assets are uncertain and impractical to forecast. In addition, the amount of capital grants transferred from contract liabilities was higher than anticipated.					
Interest and investment revenue	**2,220**	**2,631**	**411**	**19%**	**F**
Continued high interest rates, combined with larger than anticipated cash reserves during the year, enabled Council to generate investment income above budget expectations.					
Net gains from disposal of assets	**100**	**–**	**(100)**	**(100)%**	**U**
See net loss on disposal of assets for further information.					
Other income	**53**	**53**	**–**	**0%**	**F**

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B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

$ '000	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2025 Variance		
Expenses					
Employee benefits and on-costs	**11,277**	**11,433**	**(156)**	**(1)%**	**U**
Materials and services	**10,209**	**13,296**	**(3,087)**	**(30)%**	**U**
As noted in the variation for Fees and Charges revenu, the value of works undertaken for Transport for NSW on the State Highways fluctuates from year to year, making it extremely difficult to forecast with accuracy in the budget.					
Borrowing costs	**1,401**	**1,340**	**61**	**4%**	**F**
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	**9,308**	**12,004**	**(2,696)**	**(29)%**	**U**
Over the last 4 financial years through a combination of revaluations and asset additions, Council's net depreciable assets have increased by $230,. In the same time Council's annual depreciation expense has increased by $3,538,848.					
Other expenses	**964**	**712**	**252**	**26%**	**F**
Expenditure for the Mayor and Councillors was budgeted for under Other Expenses, whereas the actuals have been recorded under Materials and Services.					
Net losses from disposal of assets	**–**	**1,223**	**(1,223)**	**∞**	**U**
During the 2024/2025 financial year, Council undertook a number of asset disposals and adjustments resulting in a net loss from disposal of assets.					
Joint ventures and associates – net losses	**–**	**246**	**(246)**	**∞**	**U**
This expense represents Council's share of the decrease in equity of the Joint Organisation for the year. This is a requirement of Accouning Standard AASB11 - Joint Arrangements and will always be a post 30 June adjustment.					
Statement of cash flows					
Cash flows from operating activities	**25,968**	**13,585**	**(12,383)**	**(48)%**	**U**
Variations relates to the timing of payments and recipts of grants and contributions revenue and materials and services expenditure from year to year and the movement in total receiveable and total payables each year.					
Cash flows from investing activities	**(37,805)**	**(10,512)**	**27,293**	**(72)%**	**F**
This variaiton is attributable to Council holding a larger proportion of funds in short term investments and cash during the year, compared with the previous year where funds were predominately held in longer-term investments. This resulted in a favourable cash flow from investing activities.					
Cash flows from financing activities	**10,521**	**10,532**	**11**	**0%**	**F**

C Financial position

C1 Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	**5,087**	9,950
Cash equivalent assets		
– Deposits at call	**–**	532
– Short-term deposits	**19,000**	–
Total cash and cash equivalents	**24,087**	10,482

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	**24,087**	10,482
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	**24,087**	10,482

Material accounting policy information
For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

C1-2 Financial investments

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Long term deposits	**20,000**	**–**	39,000	–
Total	**20,000**	**–**	39,000	–
Total financial investments	**20,000**	**–**	39,000	–
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	**44,087**	**–**	49,482	–

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets
All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification
On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories – those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income – equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

Amortised cost
Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term deposits with an initial term of more than 3 months are classified as investments rather than cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
(a) Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments		
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	**44,087**	49,482
Less: Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	**(32,484)**	(32,882)
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	**11,603**	16,600
External restrictions		
External restrictions – included in liabilities		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Specific purpose unexpended grants – Contract Liabilities	**5,046**	11,934
External restrictions – included in liabilities	**5,046**	11,934
External restrictions – other		
External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:		
Developer contributions – general	**1,288**	1,085
Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – general fund	**333**	319
Water fund	**11,813**	11,127
Sewer fund	**6,812**	5,693
Council reserves – caravan park	**228**	226
Other - T-Corp Loan Balance	**6,964**	2,498
External restrictions – other	**27,438**	20,948
Total external restrictions	**32,484**	32,882

Cash, cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which are only available for specific use by Council due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement.

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
(b) Internal allocations		
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	**11,603**	16,600
Less: Internally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	**(9,652)**	(14,318)
Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	**1,951**	2,282
Internal allocations		
At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:		
Plant and vehicle replacement	**–**	1,500
Employees leave entitlement	**2,449**	2,301
Deposits, retentions and bonds	**1,145**	1,719
Capital projects	**–**	1,000
FAG received in advance	**4,101**	6,628
Future development	**576**	576
Other doubtful debts provision	**–**	25
Cemeteries Deposits	**587**	569
Buronga Landfill Reserve	**794**	–
Total internal allocations	**9,652**	14,318

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C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments (continued)

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
(c) Unrestricted and unallocated		
Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	**1,951**	2,282

C1-4 Receivables

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Rates and annual charges	**1,071**	**–**	832	–
Interest and extra charges	**250**	**–**	323	–
User charges and fees	**3,057**	**–**	3,273	–
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	**630**	**–**	927	–
Government grants and subsidies	**5,842**	**–**	2,741	–
Net GST receivable	**336**	**–**	249	–
Total	**11,186**	**–**	8,345	–
Less: provision for impairment				
Other debtors	**(25)**	**–**	(25)	–
Total provision for impairment – receivables	**(25)**	**–**	(25)	–
Total net receivables	**11,161**	**–**	8,320	–
Externally restricted receivables				
Water supply				
– Rates and availability charges	**443**	**–**	375	–
– Other	**675**	**–**	662	–
Sewerage services				
– Rates and availability charges	**239**	**–**	207	–
– Other	**197**	**–**	95	–
Total external restrictions	**1,554**	**–**	1,339	–
Unrestricted receivables	**9,607**	**–**	6,981	–
Total net receivables	**11,161**	**–**	8,320	–

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Movement in provision for impairment of receivables		
Balance at the beginning of the year	**25**	48
– previous impairment losses reversed	**–**	(23)
Balance at the end of the year	**25**	25

Material accounting policy information

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment
Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When estimating ECL, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

Council uses the simplified approach to trade receiveables when the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

When considering the ECL for rates and annual charges debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

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C1-4 Receivables (continued)

For non-rates debtors, Council uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Council writes off a trade receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or when the receivables are over 2 years past due, whichever occurs first.

None of the receivables that have been written off are subject to enforcement activity.

Where the Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

C1-5 Inventories

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	**225**	**–**	306	–
Total inventories at cost	**225**	**–**	306	–
Total inventories	**225**	**–**	306	–

Material accounting policy information

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods
Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2024			Asset movements during the reporting period									At 30 June 2025		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals [1]	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in equity)	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
Capital work in progress	24,279	–	24,279	**11,532**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(20,997)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**14,814**	**–**	**14,814**
Plant and equipment	27,434	(16,862)	10,572	**–**	**2,660**	**(297)**	**(1,889)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**28,986**	**(17,940)**	**11,046**
Office equipment	1,725	(408)	1,317	**208**	**176**	**–**	**(251)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2,109**	**(659)**	**1,450**
Furniture and fittings	102	(84)	18	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(3)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**102**	**(87)**	**15**
Land:															
– Operational land	9,681	–	9,681	**–**	**1,635**	**(421)**	**–**	**–**	**85**	**–**	**–**	**443**	**11,423**	**–**	**11,423**
– Community land	10,211	–	10,211	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**719**	**10,930**	**–**	**10,930**
– Land under roads (post 30/6/08)	1,543	–	1,543	**–**	**527**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2,070**	**–**	**2,070**
Land improvements – depreciable	20,413	(5,901)	14,512	**909**	**191**	**–**	**(612)**	**–**	**4,747**	**356**	**–**	**984**	**28,147**	**(7,060)**	**21,087**
Infrastructure:															
– Buildings	88,739	(49,341)	39,398	**879**	**1,106**	**(1,218)**	**(1,185)**	**–**	**14,313**	**–**	**–**	**1,577**	**105,315**	**(50,445)**	**54,870**
– Other structures	8,191	(2,998)	5,193	**264**	**–**	**(13)**	**(254)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**209**	**8,778**	**(3,379)**	**5,399**
– Roads	263,417	(134,330)	129,087	**12,360**	**1,293**	**–**	**(4,663)**	**485**	**1,242**	**–**	**–**	**18,979**	**229,310**	**(70,527)**	**158,783**
– Bridges	16,363	(7,431)	8,932	**41**	**–**	**–**	**(115)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**5,308**	**21,621**	**(7,455)**	**14,166**
– Footpaths	9,806	(4,334)	5,472	**409**	**301**	**–**	**(122)**	**–**	**457**	**(236)**	**(679)**	**–**	**8,466**	**(2,864)**	**5,602**
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	237,002	–	237,002	**–**	**210**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(82,374)**	**–**	**154,838**	**–**	**154,838**
– Stormwater drainage	34,471	(13,693)	20,778	**42**	**2,670**	**–**	**(301)**	**–**	**41**	**–**	**–**	**512**	**38,085**	**(14,343)**	**23,742**
– Water supply network	84,010	(38,809)	45,201	**256**	**1,659**	**–**	**(1,135)**	**–**	**40**	**–**	**–**	**1,102**	**88,065**	**(40,942)**	**47,123**
– Sewerage network	57,188	(23,829)	33,359	**539**	**749**	**–**	**(996)**	**–**	**72**	**–**	**–**	**809**	**59,978**	**(25,446)**	**34,532**
– Swimming pools	3,612	(1,606)	2,006	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(83)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**82**	**3,766**	**(1,761)**	**2,005**
– Other open space/recreational assets	1,791	(884)	907	**62**	**10**	**–**	**(112)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**34**	**1,940**	**(1,039)**	**901**
– Other infrastructure	17,364	(4,337)	13,027	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(198)**	**–**	**–**	**(120)**	**(2,757)**	**–**	**10,399**	**(447)**	**9,952**
Other assets:															
– Library books	364	(153)	211	**–**	**58**	**–**	**(18)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**422**	**(171)**	**251**
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):															
– Tip assets	3,338	(361)	2,977	**–**	**–**	**–**	**(67)**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3,338**	**(428)**	**2,910**
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	921,044	(305,361)	615,683	**27,501**	**13,245**	**(1,949)**	**(12,004)**	**485**	**–**	**–**	**(85,810)**	**30,758**	**832,902**	**(244,993)**	**587,909**

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2023			Asset movements during the reporting period							At 30 June 2024		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals [1]	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	Impairment reversal (recognised in equity)	WIP transfers	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
Capital work in progress	17,086	–	17,086	14,930	–	(37)	–	–	(7,700)	–	24,279	–	24,279
Plant and equipment	25,864	(16,582)	9,282	2,094	603	(149)	(1,258)	–	–	–	27,434	(16,862)	10,572
Office equipment	932	(277)	655	325	468	–	(131)	–	–	–	1,725	(408)	1,317
Furniture and fittings	102	(80)	22	–	–	–	(4)	–	–	–	102	(84)	18
Land:													
– Operational land	9,851	–	9,851	–	–	(170)	–	–	–	–	9,681	–	9,681
– Community land	9,811	–	9,811	–	400	–	–	–	–	–	10,211	–	10,211
– Land under roads (post 30/6/08)	1,259	–	1,259	–	284	–	–	–	–	–	1,543	–	1,543
Land improvements – depreciable	16,529	(4,906)	11,623	1,761	76	–	(611)	–	720	943	20,413	(5,901)	14,512
Infrastructure:													
– Buildings	81,553	(45,149)	36,404	474	856	–	(1,082)	94	93	2,559	88,739	(49,341)	39,398
– Other structures	7,086	(2,549)	4,537	22	240	–	(255)	–	312	337	8,191	(2,998)	5,193
– Roads	238,606	(125,669)	112,937	8,968	870	–	(3,782)	739	3,273	6,082	263,417	(134,330)	129,087
– Bridges	14,824	(6,956)	7,868	300	–	–	(97)	–	406	455	16,363	(7,431)	8,932
– Footpaths	8,322	(4,023)	4,299	–	968	–	(91)	–	17	279	9,806	(4,334)	5,472
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	224,373	–	224,373	–	41	–	–	–	–	12,588	237,002	–	237,002
– Stormwater drainage	31,815	(12,761)	19,054	–	993	–	(272)	–	–	1,003	34,471	(13,693)	20,778
– Water supply network	76,140	(35,925)	40,215	1,498	490	–	(1,011)	–	1,828	2,181	84,010	(38,809)	45,201
– Sewerage network	51,871	(21,748)	30,123	1,050	457	–	(932)	–	1,051	1,610	57,188	(23,829)	33,359
– Swimming pools	3,335	(1,425)	1,910	42	–	–	(76)	–	–	130	3,612	(1,606)	2,006
– Other open space/recreational assets	1,422	(834)	588	253	–	–	(215)	222	–	59	1,791	(884)	907
– Other infrastructure	16,236	(3,871)	12,365	–	–	–	(184)	–	–	846	17,364	(4,337)	13,027
Other assets:													
– Library books	314	(138)	176	50	–	–	(15)	–	–	–	364	(153)	211
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):													
– Tip assets	3,338	(294)	3,044	–	–	–	(67)	–	–	–	3,338	(361)	2,977
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	840,669	(283,187)	557,482	31,767	6,746	(356)	(10,083)	1,055	–	29,072	921,044	(305,361)	615,683

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Material accounting policy information

Initial recognition of infrastrucutre, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

IPPE is measured initiallly at cost. Costs includes the fair value of the consideration given to acquire the asset (net of discounts and rebates) and any directly attributable cost of bringing the asset to working condition for its intended use (inclusive of import duties and taxes).

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are acquired by Council at significantly below fair value, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognsied as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Useful lives of IPPE

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	**Other equipment**	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Playground equipment	5 to 15
Office furniture	10 to 20	Benches, seats etc.	10 to 20
Computer equipment	4		
Vehicles	5 to 8	**Buildings**	
Heavy plant/road making equipment	5 to 8	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15	Buildings: other	20 to 40
Water and sewer assets		**Stormwater assets**	
Dams and reservoirs	80 to 100	Drains	80 to 100
Bores	20 to 40	Culverts	50 to 80
Reticulation pipes: PVC	70 to 80	Flood control structures	80 to 100
Reticulation pipes: other	25 to 75		
Pumps and telemetry	15 to 20		
Transportation assets		**Other infrastructure assets**	
Sealed roads: surface	20	Swimming pools	50
Sealed roads: structure	50	Unsealed roads	20
Unsealed roads	20	Other open space/recreational assets	20
Bridge: concrete	100	Other infrastructure	20
Bridge: other	50		
Road pavements	60		
Kerb, gutter and footpaths	40		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Revaluation model

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Comprehensive valuations are performed at least every 5 years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Water and sewerage network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation are credited to the IPPE revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against the IPPE revaluation reserve to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

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C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008. Land under roads acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with the IPPE accounting policy.

Crown reserves
Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

Rural Fire Service assets
Under Section 119 of the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997 (NSW)*, "all firefighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the firefighting equipment has been purchased or constructed".

These Rural Fire Service assets are recognised as assets of the Council in these financial statements.

Externally restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	as at 30/06/25			as at 30/06/24		
	Gross carrying amount	**Accumulated depn. and impairment**	**Net carrying amount**	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depn. and impairment	Net carrying amount
	$ '000	**$ '000**	**$ '000**	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
Water supply						
WIP	**1,155**	**–**	**1,155**	435	–	435
Plant and equipment	**43**	**24**	**19**	43	22	21
Infrastructure	**88,065**	**40,942**	**47,123**	84,010	38,809	45,201
Total water supply	**89,263**	**40,966**	**48,297**	84,488	38,831	45,657
Sewerage services						
WIP	**648**	**–**	**648**	460	–	460
Land						
– Improvements – depreciable	**37**	**27**	**10**	35	21	14
Infrastructure	**59,978**	**25,446**	**34,532**	57,188	23,829	33,359
Total sewerage services	**60,663**	**25,473**	**35,190**	57,683	23,850	33,833
Total restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	**149,926**	**66,439**	**83,487**	142,171	62,681	79,490

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – current year impairments

	2025	2024
	$ '000	$ '000
Impairment of Buildings due to flooding	**–**	(94)
Impairment of Playgrounds due to flooding	**–**	(222)
Impairment of Roads due to flooding	**–**	(1,963)
Total impairment losses	**–**	(2,279)
Reinstatement of Buildings Impairment	**–**	94
Reinstatement of Playgrounds Impairment	**–**	222
Reinstatement of Roads Impairment	**485**	739
Total impairment reversals	**485**	1,055
Impairment of assets – direct to equity (ARR)	**485**	(1,224)

C1-7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are as follows:

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Goodwill		
Opening values at 1 July		
Gross book value	**184**	184
Net book value – opening balance	**184**	184
Gross book value written off	**(184)**	–
Closing values at 30 June		
Gross book value	**–**	184
Total Goodwill – net book value	**–**	184
Total intangible assets – net book value	**–**	184

Material accounting policy information

Intangible Assets

An intangible asset is an identifiable, non-monetary asset without physical substance. The identifiable criterion is met when the intangible asset is separable (ie it can be sold, transferred or licenced), or where it arises from contractual or other legal rights.

Acquired intangible assets

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Cost includes (a) the fair value of the consideration given to acquiring the asset; and (b) any costs directly attributable to the transaction, such as relevant professional fees or taxes.

Subsequent measurement

Intangible assets with definite useful lives are considered for impairment where there is an indication that the asset has been impaired. Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives should be tested annually for impairment, as well as whenever there is an indication of impairment.

C1-8 Other

Other assets

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Prepayments	**342**	**–**	276	–
Total other assets	**342**	**–**	276	–

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Council currently has no leases in place.

Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases

Council has no leases that are significantly below market value.

C2-2 Council as a lessor

Operating leases

Council leases out a number of properties and /or plant and equipment to community groups; these leases have been classified as operating leases for financial reporting purposes and the assets are included as IPP&E in the Statement of Financial Position.

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to operating leases where Council is a lessor are shown below:

	2025	2024
	$ '000	$ '000
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	**52**	52
Total income relating to operating leases for investment property assets	**52**	52

(iii) Maturity analysis of undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for all operating leases:

Maturity analysis of future lease income receivable showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for operating leases:

< 1 year	**100**	100
1–2 years	**102**	102
2–3 years	**104**	104
3–4 years	**106**	106
4–5 years	**108**	108
> 5 years	**570**	570
Total undiscounted lease payments to be received	**1,090**	1,090

Material accounting policy information

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

When Council has a sub-lease over an asset and is the intermediate lessor then the head lease and sub-lease are accounted for separately. The classification of the sub-lease is based on the right-of-use asset which arises from the head lease rather than the useful life of the underlying asset.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

C3 Liabilities of Council

C3-1 Payables

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Accrued expenses:				
– Borrowings	**326**	**–**	108	–
– Salaries and wages	**251**	**–**	211	–
– Other expenditure accruals	**5,780**	**–**	2,920	–
Trust account – money held in trust	**1,145**	**–**	1,719	–
Prepaid rates	**522**	**–**	481	–
Total payables	**8,024**	**–**	5,439	–

Material accounting policy information
Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Payables
Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Contract Liabilities

	Notes	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Grants and contributions received in advance:					
Unexpended capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	(i)	**5,046**	**–**	11,934	–
Total grants received in advance		**5,046**	**–**	11,934	–
User fees and charges received in advance:					
Other - Cemeteries Deposits	(ii)	**587**	**–**	569	–
Total user fees and charges received in advance		**587**	**–**	569	–
Total contract liabilities		**5,633**	**–**	12,503	–

Notes
(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, bridges, library and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion. The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

(ii) Council has received funds for Cemeteries Reservations prior to the satisfaction of the performance obligations.

Contract liabilities relating to restricted assets

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Unspent grants held as contract liabilities (excl. Water & Sewer)	**5,046**	**–**	11,934	–
Contract liabilities relating to externally restricted assets	**5,046**	**–**	11,934	–
Cemeteries Deposits	**587**	**–**	569	–
Contract liabilities relating to internally restricted assets	**587**	**–**	569	–
Total contract liabilities relating to restricted assets	**5,633**	**–**	12,503	–
Total contract liabilities	**5,633**	**–**	**12,503**	**–**

Significant changes in contract liabilities
Council has received significant grant funding in advance from the following funding programs:

- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure
- Resources for Regions
- Regional & Local Roads Emergency Repair Program
- Office of Local Government (Natural Disaster Funding)

Material accounting policy information
Contract liabilities are recorded when consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to Council transferring a good or service to the customer, Council presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability.

C3-3 Borrowings

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Loans – secured [1]	**1,769**	**23,747**	1,156	13,828
Total borrowings	**1,769**	**23,747**	1,156	13,828

(1) Loans are secured over the general rating income of Council.
Disclosures on liability interest rate risk exposures, fair value disclosures and security can be found in Note E1-1.

Borrowings relating to restricted assets

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Externally restricted assets				
Sewer	**74**	**392**	73	466
Borrowings relating to externally restricted assets	**74**	**392**	73	466
Total borrowings relating to restricted assets	**74**	**392**	73	466
Total borrowings relating to unrestricted assets	**1,695**	**23,355**	1,083	13,362
Total borrowings	**1,769**	**23,747**	1,156	13,828

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C3-3 Borrowings (continued)

(a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

	2024		Non-cash movements				2025
	Opening Balance $ '000	Cash flows $ '000	Acquisition $ '000	Fair value changes $ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy $ '000	Other non-cash movement $ '000	Closing balance $ '000
Loans – secured	14,984	**(1,468)**	**12,000**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**25,516**
Total liabilities from financing activities	14,984	**(1,468)**	**12,000**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**25,516**

	2023		Non-cash movements				2024
	Opening Balance $ '000	Cash flows $ '000	Acquisition $ '000	Fair value changes $ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy $ '000	Other non-cash movement $ '000	Closing balance $ '000
Loans – secured	7,967	(983)	8,000	–	–	–	14,984
Total liabilities from financing activities	7,967	(983)	8,000	–	–	–	14,984

(b) Financing arrangements

	2025	2024
	$ '000	$ '000
Total facilities		
Total financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
Credit cards/purchase cards	**100**	100
Bank Guarantee	**10**	54
Total financing arrangements	**110**	154
Drawn facilities		
Financing facilities drawn down at the reporting date are:		
Undrawn facilities		
Undrawn financing facilities available to Council at the reporting date are:		
– Credit cards/purchase cards	**100**	200
– Bank Guarantee	**10**	108
Total undrawn financing arrangements	**110**	308

Additional financing arrangements information

Breaches and defaults
During the current and prior year, there were no defaults or breaches on any of the loans.

Security over loans
Loans are secured over future cash flows.

Bank overdrafts
The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

Material accounting policy information

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down.

Borrowings are removed from the Statement of Financial Position when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or

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C3-3 Borrowings (continued)

transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or borrowing costs.

C3-4 Employee benefit provisions

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-current $ '000
Annual leave	**821**	**–**	806	–
Long service leave	**1,246**	**281**	1,148	235
Gratuities	**101**	**–**	112	–
Total employee benefit provisions	**2,168**	**281**	2,066	235

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	**923**	918
	923	918

Description of and movements in provisions

	ELE provisions			
	Annual leave $ '000	Long service leave $ '000	Gratuities $ '000	Total $ '000
2025				
At beginning of year	**806**	**1,383**	**112**	**2,301**
Additional provisions	**882**	**315**	**3**	**1,200**
Amounts used (payments)	**(867)**	**(171)**	**(14)**	**(1,052)**
Total ELE provisions at end of year	**821**	**1,527**	**101**	**2,449**
2024				
At beginning of year	865	1,320	122	2,307
Additional provisions	707	282	8	997
Amounts used (payments)	(766)	(219)	(18)	(1,003)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	806	1,383	112	2,301

Material accounting policy information

Employee benefit provisions are presented as current liabilities in the statement of Financial Position if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur and therefore all annual leave and vested long service leave (or that which vests within 12 months) is presented as current.

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service) are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

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C3-4 Employee benefit provisions (continued)

On-costs
The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-costs liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

C3-5 Provisions

	2025 Current $ '000	2025 Non-Current $ '000	2024 Current $ '000	2024 Non-Current $ '000
Asset remediation/restoration:				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	**–**	**3,096**	–	2,963
Sub-total – asset remediation/restoration	**–**	**3,096**	–	2,963
Total provisions	**–**	**3,096**	–	2,963
Total provisions relating to unrestricted assets	**–**	**3,096**	–	2,963
Total provisions	**–**	**3,096**	–	2,963

Description of and movements in provisions

	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation $ '000	Total $ '000
2025		
At beginning of year	**2,963**	**2,963**
Unwinding of discount	**133**	**133**
Total other provisions at end of year	**3,096**	**3,096**
2024		
At beginning of year	2,835	2,835
Unwinding of discount	128	128
Total other provisions at end of year	2,963	2,963

Nature and purpose of provisions

Asset remediation
Council has a legal/public obligation to make, restore, rehabilitate and reinstate the Buronga Landfill.

Material accounting policy information
Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a borrowing cost.

Asset remediation – tips and quarries
Close-down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close-down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs. Provisions for close-down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, e.g. updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

The ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors, including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques, or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production

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C3-5 Provisions (continued)

rates. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean-up, which would affect future financial results.

Other movements in the provisions for close-down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations, and revisions to discount rates, are capitalised within infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

IPPE Revaluation Surplus
The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

D Council structure

D1 Results by fund

General fund refers to all Council activities other than water and sewer. All amounts disclosed in this note are gross i.e. inclusive of internal charges and recoveries made between the funds. Assets and liabilities shown in the water and sewer columns are restricted for use for these activities.

D1-1 Income Statement by fund

	General 2025 $ '000	Water 2025 $ '000	Sewer 2025 $ '000
Income from continuing operations			
Rates and annual charges	7,408	1,599	2,069
User charges and fees	9,656	1,842	–
Interest and investment revenue	1,671	611	349
Other revenues	1,853	1	9
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	8,552	18	16
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	18,780	1,849	1,184
Other income	53	–	–
Total income from continuing operations	47,973	5,920	3,627
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee benefits and on-costs	10,433	775	225
Materials and services	11,200	1,634	462
Borrowing costs	1,331	–	9
Other expenses	585	70	57
Net losses from the disposal of assets	1,223	–	–
Share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method	246	–	–
Total expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	25,018	2,479	753
Operating result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	22,955	3,441	2,874
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	9,866	1,137	1,001
Operating result from continuing operations	13,089	2,304	1,873
Net operating result for the year	13,089	2,304	1,873
Net operating result attributable to each council fund	13,089	2,304	1,873
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	**(5,691)**	**455**	**689**

D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund

	General 2025 $ '000	Water 2025 $ '000	Sewer 2025 $ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5,462	11,813	6,812
Investments	20,000	–	–
Receivables	9,607	1,118	436
Inventories	225	–	–
Other	342	–	–
Total current assets	35,636	12,931	7,248
Non-current assets			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	504,423	48,297	35,189
Investments accounted for using the equity method	559	–	–
Total non-current assets	504,982	48,297	35,189
Total assets	540,618	61,228	42,437
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	8,024	–	–
Contract liabilities	5,633	–	–
Borrowings	1,695	–	74
Employee benefit provision	2,168	–	–
Total current liabilities	17,520	–	74
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	23,355	–	392
Employee benefit provision	281	–	–
Provisions	3,096	–	–
Total non-current liabilities	26,732	–	392
Total liabilities	44,252	–	466
Net assets	496,366	61,228	41,971
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	111,294	26,580	13,218
IPPE revaluation surplus	385,072	34,648	28,753
Council equity interest	496,366	61,228	41,971
Total equity	496,366	61,228	41,971

D2 Interests in other entities

	Council's share of net assets	
	2025	2024
	$ '000	$ '000
Council's share of net income		
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – expenses		
Joint ventures	**246**	62
Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – expenses	**246**	62
Total Council's share of net income	**(246)**	(62)
Council's share of net assets		
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets		
Joint ventures	**559**	805
Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets	**559**	805
Total Council's share of net assets	**559**	805

D2-1 Interests in joint arrangements

Material joint ventures

The following information is provided for joint arrangements that are individually material to the Council. Included are the total amounts as per the joint arrangements financial statements, adjusted for fair-value adjustments at acquisition date and differences in accounting policies, rather than the Council's share.

Council is a member of the Far West Joint Organisation of Councils (FWJO). Details of Council's membership and participation is a follows:

The FWJO is a separately constituted entity pursuant to Part 7 (Sections 400O to 400ZH) of the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993, as amended and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2008.

The FWJO has the same year end date as the Council.

The principal functions of the Far West Joint Organisation will be to:

1. Establish strategic regional priorities for the joint organisation area and develop strategies and plans for delivering these priorities;
2. Provide regional leadership for the joint organisation area and to be an adovcate for strategic regional priorities;
3. Identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation on matters relating to the joint orgnisation area;
4. Enhancing strategic capacity to support member councils to deliver services to their communities; and
5. Service delivery to provide services directly to communities in the region.

The percentage ownership interest is eqivalent to the percentage voting rights for all associates as follows:
FWJO compises the Councils of the Shires of Balranald, Broken Hill, Central Darling and Wentworth. The Board of the FWJO comprises 4 voting members being the Mayors of the four member Councils, and non-voting members being the General Managers of the four member Councils, as well as three appointed members from the State Government and Cabinet (non-voting).

Wentworth Shire Council as a member of the FWJO, has a one quarter voting right (25%) in respect to the decisions of the Board.

For the 2024/2025 year, member Councils made no contributions to the FWJO.

Members of the FWJO are indemnified from liability for functions and duties carried out or omitted honestly, in good faith and with due care and diligence.

The FWJO has contracted the Executive Officer role to Broken Hill City Council.

There are no liability issues identified for Council in the short to medium term.

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D2-1 Interests in joint arrangements (continued)

Far West Joint Organisation 2025	
Equity Method	**$'000**
Summarised Statement of Financial Position	
Current assets	2,299
Non-current assets	-
Current liabilities	62
Non-current liabilities	-
Net assets	2,237
Summarised Statement of Income and other Comprehensive Income	
Grant funding	-
Interest income	9
Other Income	91
Total Income from Continuing Operations	100
Employee benefits	-
Borrowing costs	-
Depreciation and amortisation	-
Adminstration expense	(1,086,915)
Other expenses	-
Total Expense from Continuing Operations	(1,086,915)
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	(987)
Other Comprehensive Income	-
Total Comprehensive Income	(987)
Summarised Statement of Cash Flows	
Cash flows from operating activities	(1,160)
Cash flows from investing activities	-
Cash flows from financing activities	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	**(1,160)**
Reconciliation of carrying amount of interest in the joint arrangement to summarised financial information for FWJO accounted for using the Equity method:	
Wentworth Shire Council's share of 25% of Net Assets	559
Carrying amount	559

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D2-1 Interests in joint arrangements (continued)

Joint arrangement

	Principal activity	Place of business	Interest in ownership 2025	2024	Interest in voting 2025	2024
Council is involved in the following joint arrangement						
Name of joint arrangement:						
Far West Joint Organisation	Local Government Joint Arrangement	240 Blende St Broken Hill NSW 2880	**0%**	25%	**0%**	25%

Material accounting policy information

The council has determined that it has a joint arrangement with Balranald Council, Broken Hill Council and Central Darling Council in the Far West Joint Organisation.

Interest in joint arrangements are accounted for using the equity method in accordance with AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.

Under this method, the investment is initially recognised as at cost and the carrying amount is increased or decreased to recognise the Council's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the investee after the date of acquisition. If the Council's share of losses of a joint arrangement equals or exceeds its interest in the joint arrangement, the Council discontinues recognising its share of further losses.

The Council's share in the joint arrangements gains or losses arising from transactions between itself and its joint arrangement are eliminated.

Adjustments are made to the joint arrangements accounting policies where they are different from those of the Council for the purpose of the consolidated financial statements.

E Risks and accounting uncertainties

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including **(1)** price risk, **(2)** credit risk, **(3)** liquidity risk and **(4)** interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

	Carrying value 2025 $ '000	Carrying value 2024 $ '000	**Fair value 2025 $ '000**	Fair value 2024 $ '000
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	**24,087**	10,482	**24,087**	10,482
Receivables	**11,161**	8,320	**11,161**	6,868
Investments				
– Debt securities at amortised cost	**20,000**	39,000	**20,000**	39,000
Total financial assets	**55,248**	57,802	**55,248**	56,350
Financial liabilities				
Payables	**8,024**	5,439	**8,024**	5,439
Loans/advances	**25,516**	14,984	**25,516**	14,984
Total financial liabilities	**33,540**	20,423	**33,540**	20,423

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and investments portfolio.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Minister's investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and it's staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether there changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- **Credit risk** – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

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E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

	2025	2024
	$ '000	$ '000
The impact on the result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.		
Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates		
– Equity / Income Statement	**441**	495

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E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. Council also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through incentives.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, other than Council has significant credit risk exposures in its local area given the nature of the business.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required and carries out credit checks on most non-rate debtors. There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Credit risk profile

Receivables – rates and annual charges
Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

	Not yet overdue	overdue rates and annual charges		
		< 5 years	≥ 5 years	Total
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
2025				
Gross carrying amount	**–**	**1,031**	**40**	**1,071**
2024				
Gross carrying amount	–	810	22	832

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges and contract assets
Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

	Not yet overdue	Overdue debts				Total
		0 - 30 days	31 - 60 days	61 - 90 days	> 91 days	
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
2025						
Gross carrying amount	**9,355**	**100**	**10**	**200**	**450**	**10,115**
Expected loss rate (%)	**0.00%**	**0.45%**	**6.45%**	**0.27%**	**5.05%**	**0.24%**
ECL provision	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**	**23**	**25**
2024						
Gross carrying amount	6,718	261	–	76	458	7,513
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.45%	6.45%	0.27%	5.05%	0.33%
ECL provision	–	2	–	–	23	25

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E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities (refer to Note C2-1(b) for lease liabilities) and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	≤ 1 Year	payable in: 1 - 5 Years	> 5 Years	Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
	%	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
2025							
Payables	**0.00%**	**–**	**6,879**	**–**	**–**	**6,879**	**8,024**
Borrowings	**3.73%**	**–**	**2,849**	**10,403**	**20,358**	**33,610**	**25,516**
Total financial liabilities		**–**	**9,728**	**10,403**	**20,358**	**40,489**	**33,540**
2024							
Payables	0.00%	1,719	3,720	–	–	5,439	5,439
Borrowings	3.66%	–	2,880	10,799	22,222	35,901	14,984
Total financial liabilities		1,719	6,600	10,799	22,222	41,340	20,423

E2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment
– Financial assets and liabilities

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

		Fair value measurement hierarchy							
		Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
		2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	Notes	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Recurring fair value measurements									
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6								
Plant and equipment				**–**	–	**11,046**	10,572	**11,046**	10,572
Office equipment				**–**	–	**1,450**	1,317	**1,450**	1,317
Furniture and fittings				**–**	–	**15**	18	**15**	18
Swimming Pools		30/06/2023	30/06/2023	**–**	–	**2,005**	2,006	**2,005**	2,006
Operational land		30/06/2025	30/06/2024	**–**	–	**11,423**	9,681	**11,423**	9,681
Community Land		30/06/2025	30/06/2024	**–**	–	**10,930**	10,211	**10,930**	10,211
Land improvements – depreciable		30/06/2023	30/06/2023	**–**	–	**21,087**	14,512	**21,087**	14,512
Buildings		30/06/2025	30/06/2023	**–**	–	**54,870**	39,398	**54,870**	39,398
Other structures		30/06/2023	30/06/2023	**–**	–	**5,399**	5,193	**5,399**	5,193
Roads, Bridges, Bulk Earthworks & Land Under Roads		30/06/2025	30/06/2020	**–**	–	**329,861**	376,564	**329,861**	376,564
Footpaths		30/06/2025	30/06/2020	**–**	–	**5,602**	5,472	**5,602**	5,472
Stormwater drainage		30/06/2022	30/06/2022	**–**	–	**23,742**	20,778	**23,742**	20,778
Water supply network		30/06/2022	30/06/2022	**–**	–	**47,123**	45,201	**47,123**	45,201
Sewerage network		30/06/2022	30/06/2022	**–**	–	**34,532**	33,359	**34,532**	33,359
Other recreational assets		30/06/2023	30/06/2023	**–**	–	**901**	907	**901**	907
Library books		30/06/2020	30/06/2020	**–**	–	**251**	211	**251**	211
Other Infrastructure		30/06/2025	30/06/2020	**–**	–	**9,952**	13,027	**9,952**	13,027
Tip Assets		30/06/2024	30/06/2024	**–**	–	**2,910**	2,977	**2,910**	2,977
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment				**–**	–	**573,099**	591,404	**573,099**	591,404
Non-recurring fair value measurements									

Valuation techniques

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture & Fittings are valued at cost but are disclosed at fair value in the notes. The carrying amount of these assets is assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items. The key unobservable inputs to the valuation are the remaining useful life and residual value. Council reviews the values of these assets against quoted prices for the gross current replacement cost of similar assets and by taking account of the pattern of consumption, estimated remaining useful life and the residual value. There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Operational Land comprises all of Council land classified as Operational Land under the NSW Local Government Act 1993. The key unobservable input to the valuation is the price per square metre. The last valuation was undertaken at 30 June 2025 using the values provided by the NSW Valuer General's Office. Generally, fair value is the most advantageous price reasonably obtained by the seller and the most advantageous price reasonably obtained by the buyer. This is not necessarily the market selling price of the asset, rather, it is regarded as the maximum value that Council would rationally pay to acquire the asset if it did not hold it, taking into account quoted market price in an active and liquid market, the current market price of the same or similar asset, the cost of replacing the asset, if management intended to replace the asset, the remaining useful life and condition of the asset; and cash flows from future use and disposal.

Valuations of all Council's Community Land are based on the land values provided by the NSW Valuer General's Office. As these values are not considered to be observable market evidence they have been classified as Level 3. Community Land was revalued as at 30 June 2025.

Depreciable Land Improvements comprises land improvements such as spectator mounds, gardens, mulched areas streetscaping and landscaping. These assets may be located on parks, reserves and within road reserves. They were last revalued at 30 June 2023 by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd. The cost approach has been utilised whereby the replacement cost was estimated for each asset by taking into account a range of factors. Inputs such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such these assets were all classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs. Council undertook a desktop valuation of these assets utilising ABS Pricing Indicies as at 30 June 2025.

Buildings were valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd at 30 June 2023 using the cost approach. The approach estimated the replacement cost of each building by componetising the buildings into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While all buildings were physically inspected inputs such as estimates of residual value and pattern of consumption required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs. Council undertook a desktop valuation of these assets utilising ABS Pricing Indicies as at 30 June 2025.

Other Structures comprises lighting systems, shade sails, shelters, tennis and netball courts, bbqs, etc. The cost approach has been utilised whereby the replacement cost was estimated for each asset by taking into account a range of factors. Inputs such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. As such, these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs. These assets were valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd at 30 June 2023. Council undertook a desktop valuation of these assets utilising ABS Pricing Indicies as at 30 June 2025.

Roads comprises the road carrigeway, bus shelters, carparks, guardrails, kerb & guttering, boat ramps, wharfs and traffic facilities. The road carriage way is defined as the trafficable portion of a road, between but not including the kerb & gutter. The cost approach using Level 3 inputs was used to value the road carriage way and other road infrastructure. The cost approach was utilisied with inputs such as estimates of patterns of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life requiring extensive professional judgement which impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Additionally due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets there is some uncertainity regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets. These assets were valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2025.

Footpaths have been valued using the fair value approach. Footpaths were segmented to match the adjacent road segment and no further componentisation was undertaken. Footpaths were originally assessed using physical inspections. Condition information is updated as changes in the network are observed through regular inspections. These assets were valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2025.

Stormwater Drainage assets comprises pits, pipes, headwalls, gross pollutant traps and various types of water quality devices. The cost approach estimated the replacement cost of each asset by componetising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. The level of componetisation adopted by Council is in accordance with OLG Circular 09-09 and the Institute of Public Works Engineers Australia's International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM). Inputs such as estimates of the pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Accordingly due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets. There has been no changes to the valuation process during the reporting period. These assets were valued by

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Marsh Valuations as at 30 June 2022. In accordance with the requirements of the DPI-Water NSW Rates Reference Manual Stormwater assets had an annual indexation applied to them in between formal valuations as at 30 June 2025.

Sewerage Network and Water Supply Network assets comprises pump stations, reservoirs, treatment plants, reticulation mains, trunk mains, manholes, rising mains, pipes, valves, hydrants, standpipes. The cost approach estimated the replacement cost of each asset by componetising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. The level of componetisation adopted by Council is in accordance with OLG Circular 09-09 and the Institute of Public Works Engineers Australia's International Infrastructure Management Manual (IIMM). Inputs such as estimates of the pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. Accordingly, due to limitations in the historical records of very long lived assets, there is uncertainty regarding the actual design, specifications and dimensions of some assets. There has been no changes to the valuation process during the reporting period. These assets were revalued by Marsh Valuation at 30 June 2022. In accordance with the requirements of the DPI-Water NSW Rates Reference Manual these assets had an annual indexation applied to them in between formal valuations as at 30 June 2025.

Swimming pools were valued by Asset Val Pty Ltd at 30 June 2018 using the cost approach. Inputs such as estimates of the pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement which impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value.These assets were revalued by Marsh Valuations as at 30 June 2023. Council undertook a desktop valuation of these assets utilising ABS Pricing Indicies as at 30 June 2025.

Other Open Space/Recreational Assets include all of Councils playground equipment. They were valued by Asset Val Pty Ltd at 30 June 2018 using the cost approach. Inputs such as estimates of the pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life required extensive professional judgement which impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value. These assets were revalued by Marsh Valuations as at 30 June 2023. Council undertook at desktop valuation of these assets utilising ABS Pricing Indicies as at 30 June 2025.

Bridges have previosuly been valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2020 using the fair value approach. Bridges were originally assessed using physical inspections. Condition information is updated as changes in the condition are observed through regular inspections. These assets were valued by Marsh Valuations Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2025.

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy by class of assets is provided below:

	Plant and equipment		Office equipment		Furniture and fittings		Operational land	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Opening balance	**10,572**	9,282	**1,317**	655	**18**	22	**9,681**	9,851
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	**2,660**	2,697	**384**	793	**–**	–	**1,720**	–
Other movement (revaluation)	**–**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–	**443**	–
Disposals (WDV)	**(297)**	(149)	**–**	–	**–**	–	**(421)**	(170)
Depreciation and impairment	**(1,889)**	(1,258)	**(251)**	(131)	**(3)**	(4)	**–**	–
Closing balance	**11,046**	10,572	**1,450**	1,317	**15**	18	**11,423**	9,681

	Library books		Community land		Land imp'mts depreciable		Buildings	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Opening balance	**211**	176	**10,211**	9,811	**14,512**	11,623	**39,398**	36,404
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	**58**	50	**–**	400	**5,847**	2,557	**16,298**	1,423
Other movement (revaluation)	**–**	–	**719**	–	**984**	943	**1,577**	2,559
Disposals (WDV)	**–**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–	**(1,218)**	–
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	**–**	–	**–**	–	**356**	–	**–**	–
Depreciation and impairment	**(18)**	(15)	**–**	–	**(612)**	(611)	**(1,185)**	(988)
Closing balance	**251**	211	**10,930**	10,211	**21,087**	14,512	**54,870**	39,398

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

	Other structures		Roads		Footpaths		Stormwater drainage	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Opening balance	**5,193**	4,537	**376,564**	346,437	**5,472**	4,299	**20,778**	19,054
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	**264**	574	**15,677**	14,142	**1,167**	985	**2,753**	993
Other movement (revaluation)	**209**	337	**(58,087)**	19,125	**(679)**	279	**512**	1,003
Disposals (WDV)	**(13)**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	**–**	–	**–**	–	**(236)**	–	**–**	–
Depreciation and impairment	**(254)**	(255)	**(4,293)**	(3,140)	**(122)**	(91)	**(301)**	(272)
Closing balance	**5,399**	5,193	**329,861**	376,564	**5,602**	5,472	**23,742**	20,778

	Water supply network		Sewerage network		Swimming pools		Open space	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Opening balance	**45,201**	40,215	**33,359**	30,123	**2,006**	1,910	**907**	588
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	**1,955**	3,816	**1,360**	2,558	**–**	42	**72**	253
Other movement (revaluation)	**1,102**	2,181	**809**	1,610	**82**	130	**34**	59
Depreciation and impairment	**(1,135)**	(1,011)	**(996)**	(932)	**(83)**	(76)	**(112)**	7
Closing balance	**47,123**	45,201	**34,532**	33,359	**2,005**	2,006	**901**	907

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E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

	Other Infrastructure		Tip Assets		Total	
	2025	2024	**2025**	2024	**2025**	2024
	$ '000	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000	**$ '000**	$ '000
Opening balance	**13,027**	12,365	**2,977**	3,044	**591,404**	540,396
Purchases (GBV)	**–**	–	**–**	–	**50,215**	31,283
Other movement (revaluation)	**(2,757)**	846	**–**	–	**(55,052)**	29,072
Disposals (WDV)	**–**	–	**–**	–	**(1,949)**	(319)
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	**(120)**	–	**–**	–	**–**	–
Depreciation and impairment	**(198)**	(184)	**(67)**	(67)	**(11,519)**	(9,028)
Closing balance	**9,952**	13,027	**2,910**	2,977	**573,099**	**591,404**

Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

E3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans
Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

– Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer;

– The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer;

– Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer; and

– The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members). As such we do not believe that there is sufficient reliable information to allow each sponsoring employer to account for its proportionate share of the defined benefit obligation, sub-group assets and costs associated with the sub-group in the same way as it would for a single employer sponsored defined benefit plan.

Description of the funding arrangements including the method used to determine the entity's rate of contributions and any minimum funding requirements.

Pooled employers are required to pay future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the fund.

The future service employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current standard employer contribution rates are:

Division B	1.90 times employee contributions for non - 180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.50% salaries
Division D	1.64 times employee contributions

*For 180 Point Members, Employeers are required to contribute 9.5% of salaries for the year ending 30 June 2025 to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in additon to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of $20 million per annum from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June. Given the funding position of the Fund as at 30 June 2024, it was recommended to cease these past service contributions effective 1 January 2025.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each actuarial investigation which will be conducted annually, the next of which is due 30 June 2025.

Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the plan for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding past service contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

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E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2025 was $38,306.23. The last valuation of the fund was undertaken by Mr Richard Boyfield, FIAA as at 30 June 2024.

It should be noted that the funding requirements for the defined benefits arrangements are assessed on an annual basis by the Trustee, in conjunction with the Fund Actuary. As assessment is currently underway and Council will be advised of any changes once that assessment is completed.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2025 is:

Employer reserves only *	$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,197.6	
Past Service Liabilities	2,092.0	105.0%
Vested Benefits	2,130.4	103.2%

* excluding other accumulation accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of this deficit that is broadly attributed to Council is estimated to be in the order of 0.13%

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	6.0% per annum
Salary inflation	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group. Please note that the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation, and once all the relevant information has been received by the Funds Actuary, the final end of year review will be completed by December 2025.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

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E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

(iv) Other guarantees
Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

(ii) Potential land acquisitions due to planning restrictions imposed by Council

Council has classified a number of privately owned land parcels as local open space or bushland.

As a result, where notified in writing by the various owners, Council will be required to purchase these land parcels.

At reporting date, reliable estimates as to the value of any potential liability (and subsequent land asset) from such potential acquisitions has not been possible.

ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED

(i) Land under roads

As permitted under AASB 1051, Council has elected not to bring to account land under roads that it owned or controlled up to and including 30/6/08.

(ii) Infringement notices/fines

Fines and penalty income, the result of Council issuing infringement notices is followed up and collected by the Infringement Processing Bureau.

Council's revenue recognition policy for such income is to account for it as revenue on receipt.

Accordingly, at year end, there is a potential asset due to Council representing issued but unpaid infringement notices.

Due to the limited information available on the status, value and duration of outstanding notices, Council is unable to determine the value of outstanding income.

F People and relationships

F1 Related party disclosures

F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	**1,654**	1,733
Post Employment Benefits	**196**	198
Total	**1,850**	1,931

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that transactions at arm's length between a KMP and Council as part of Council delivering a public service objective (e.g. access to library or Council swimming pool by KMP) will not be disclosed.

Nature of the transaction	Ref	Transactions during the year $ '000	Outstanding balances including commitments $ '000	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances $ '000	Impairment expense $ '000
2025						
Property Management Fees	1	**1**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Fees and Charges	2	**141**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Donations, Grants and Contributions	3	**157**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Document Destruction Services, Native Nursery & Employment	5	**4**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Construction Works	7	**458**	**173**		**–**	**–**
Maintenance & Construction Works	8	**79**	**7**		**–**	**–**
Construction Works & Supply of Material	9	**7,993**	**1,359**		**–**	**–**
AV/Telecommunications	11	**32**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Freight Services	12	**4**	**–**		**–**	**–**
Electrical Services	14	**5**	**–**		**–**	**–**

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F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

Nature of the transaction	Ref	Transactions during the year $ '000	Outstanding balances including commitments $ '000	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances $ '000	Impairment expense $ '000
2024						
Property Management Fees	1	1	–		–	–
Fees and Charges	2	101	4		–	–
Donations, Grants and Contributions	3	12	2		–	–
Tree/Weed Removal, Construction and Demolition work	4	119	61		–	–
Document Destruction Services, Native Nursery & Employment	5	3	–		–	–
Cleaning Services	6	81	–		–	–
Construction Works & Supply of Material	9	4,244	40		–	–
Contribution to Building Construction	10	100	–		–	–
AV/Telecommunications	11	81	–		–	–
Freight Services	12	1	–		–	–
Electrical Services	14	56	–		–	–

1 Council has an investment property that is managed by Wentworth District Real Estate Pty Ltd, a company directly controlled by a Council KMP. Commission was payed under standard industry terms following Council's procurement process

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F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

2	Planning Fees were received from the Greater Murray Darling Junction Inc, an organisation that is jointly controlled by a Council KMP. Licence Fees for the use of a Crown Reserve was received from Wentworth District Community Medical Inc, Wentworth District Racing Club, Wentworth Makers and Dareton Men in a Shed, organisations that are jointly controlled by two Council KMP's. Licence Fee for the use of a Crown Reserve was received from the Wentworth Bowls Club, the Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club and the Gol Gol Football Netball Club, organisations jointly controlled by Council KMP's and a KMP close family member. Council charges Landfill fees to Wall Construction, Waters Excavations, Mallee Sheds and the Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club, business controlled by close family members of three Council KMP's. Planning Fees were received from Roberts Family Superannuation and Roberts Partners Gol Gol, property developers controlled by close family members of a Counci KMP. Planning fees were received from Waters Excavations, an organisation controlled by a close family member of a Council KMP. Fees were charged at normal trading terms following an arms length transaction.
3	Council approved Financial Assistance Contributions to Greater Murray Darling Junction Inc,Wentworth District Community Medical Inc, Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc, Wentworth Makers, Dareton Men in a Shed and Wentworth Bowls Club as part of Council's annual Financial Assistance program. All of these organisations are jointly controlled by Council KMP's or KMP's close family members.
4	Council incurred transactions during the year with XCAV8IT, a business that is directly controlled by a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.
5	Council incurred transactions with the Christie Centre Inc, an organisation that is jointly controlled by a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

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F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

6 Council incurred transactions with KNH Cleaning Services, a business owned by a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

7 Council incurred transactions with Mallee Sheds a family owned company of a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

8 Council incurred transactions with Stockman's Plumbing a family owned company of a close family member of a Council KMP and Niftys Engineering a company that employs a KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

9 Council incurred transactions with Wall Constructions and Waters Excavations Pty Ltd, companies owned by close family members of Council KMP's. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were due and payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

10 Dareton Men in a Shed is jointly controlled by a close family member of a Council KMP. Council has assisted the organisation in securing funding to construct a new shed to operate from. Payments from Council to the organisation are being made in line with the payment schedule outlined in the funding agreement between Council and the funding provider. Payments were made based on standard commercial arrangements.

11 Council incurred transactions with A2ZAV, a business owned by a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

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F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP) (continued)

12 Council incurred transactions with GTS Freight Management, a business that employess the partner of a Council KMP and Sunraysia Freight, a business that employs a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were payable under normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

14 Council incurred transactions with BRW Electrical, a business owned by a close family member of a Council KMP. Amounts were billed based on normal rates for such supplies and were payable under the normal payment terms following Council's procurement process.

F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Mayoral fee	**30**	28
Councillors' fees	**118**	112
Other Councillors' expenses (including Mayor)	**152**	94
Total	**300**	234

F2 Other relationships

F2-1 Audit fees

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms		
Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:		
Audit and other assurance services		
Audit and review of financial statements	**64**	65
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	**64**	65
Total Auditor-General remuneration	**64**	65
Total audit fees	**64**	65

G Other matters

G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

(a) Reconciliation of Operating Result

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Net operating result from Income Statement	**17,266**	17,671
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	**12,004**	10,083
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	**1,223**	(56)
Non-cash capital grants and contributions	**(7,560)**	(4,286)
Unwinding of discount rates on reinstatement provisions	**133**	128
Share of net (profits)/losses of associates/joint ventures using the equity method	**246**	62
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	**(2,841)**	(2,526)
Increase / (decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables	**–**	(23)
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	**81**	(58)
(Increase) / decrease of other current assets	**(66)**	(75)
Increase / (decrease) in accrued interest payable	**218**	99
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	**136**	206
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	**(533)**	1,023
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	**(6,870)**	2,491
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	**148**	(6)
Net cash flows from operating activities	**13,585**	24,733

(b) Non-cash investing and financing activities

Bushfire assets	**464**	396
Developer contributions ‘in kind’	**7,096**	3,473
Other dedications	**–**	417
Total non-cash investing and financing activities	**7,560**	4,286

G2-1 Commitments

Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Property, plant and equipment		
Sewerage and water infrastructure	**1,213**	462
Buildings	**518**	1,876
Plant and equipment	**2,264**	613
Other	**4,701**	1,205
Road infrastructure	**397**	1,441
Total commitments	**9,093**	5,597
These expenditures are payable as follows:		
Within the next year	**9,093**	5,597
Total payable	**9,093**	5,597
Sources for funding of capital commitments:		
Unrestricted general funds	**2,400**	1,646
Unexpended grants	**1,267**	2,878
Externally restricted reserves	**977**	60
Unexpended loans	**4,449**	1,013
Total sources of funding	**9,093**	5,597

G3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is unaware of any material or significant ‘non-adjusting events’ that should be disclosed.

G4 Statement of developer contributions

G4-1 Summary of developer contributions

	Opening balance at 1 July 2024	Contributions received during the year		Non-cash Other	Interest and investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	Held as restricted asset at 30 June 2025	Cumulative balance of internal borrowings (to)/from
		Cash	Non-cash Land						
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
Development Contribution Plan	394	**39**	–	–	**20**	–	–	**453**	–
Service Plan # 2	691	**109**	–	–	**35**	–	–	**835**	–
S7.11 contributions – under a plan	1,085	**148**	–	–	**55**	–	–	**1,288**	–
Total S7.11 and S7.12 revenue under plans	1,085	**148**	–	–	**55**	–	–	**1,288**	–
Total contributions	1,085	**148**	–	–	**55**	–	–	**1,288**	–

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, local infrastructure contributions, also known as developer contributions, are charged by councils when new development occurs. They help fund infrastructure like parks, community facilities, local roads, footpaths, stormwater drainage and traffic management. It is possible that the funds contributed may be less than the cost of this infrastructure, requiring Council to borrow or use general revenue to fund the difference.

G4-2 Developer contributions by plan

	Opening balance at 1 July 2024	Contributions received during the year		Non-cash Other	Interest and investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	Held as restricted asset at 30 June 2025	Cumulative balance of internal borrowings (to)/from
		Cash	Non-cash Land						
	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000	$ '000
S7.11 contributions – under a plan									
CONTRIBUTION PLAN 1									
Development Contribution Plan	394	**39**	–	–	**20**	–	–	**453**	–
Service Plan # 2	691	**109**	–	–	**35**	–	–	**835**	–
Total	1,085	**148**	–	–	**55**	–	–	**1,288**	–

End of the audited financial statements

H Additional Council disclosures (unaudited)

H1-1 Council information and contact details

Principal place of business:
61 Darling Street
Wentworth NSW 2648

Contact details

Mailing Address:
PO Box 81
Wentworth NSW 2648

Telephone: 03 5027 5027
Facsimile: 03 5027 5000

Opening hours:
8:30am - 5:00pm
Monday to Friday

Internet: www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au
Email: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Officers

General Manager
Ken Ross

Responsible Accounting Officer
Simon Rule

Public Officer
Deborah Zorzi

Auditors
Audit Office of NSW
Darling Park Tower 2, Level 19
201 Sussex Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Elected members

MAYOR
Daniel Linklater - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024 & 11/10/2024-30/06/2025

COUNCILLORS
Jon Armstrong - 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Brian Beaumont - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024
Steve Cooper - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024
Peter Crisp - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024 & 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Tim Elstone - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024 & 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Greg Evans - 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Jane MacAllister - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024
Susan Nichols - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024 & 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Jo Rodda - 1/7/2024-13/09/2024 & 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Jody Starick - 11/10/2024-30/06/2025
Michael Weeding - 11/10/2024-30/06/2025

Other information

ABN: 96 283 886 815

Wentworth Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Independent Auditor's Reports:

On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [2])

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).

continued on next page

Wentworth Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Independent Auditor's Reports: (continued)

On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [3])

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (commentary) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).

Wentworth Shire Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

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Note – Material accounting policy information **8**

Auditor's Report on Special Purpose Financial Statements **11**

Background

i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.

ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than $2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

Wentworth Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- NSW Government Policy Statement, *Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*
- Division of Local Government Guidelines, *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- Sections 3 and 4 of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's (DCCEEW) *Regulatory and assurance framework for local water utilities, July 2022*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year,
- accord with Council's accounting and other records; and
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 15 October 2025.

Daniel Linklater
Mayor
15 October 2025

Peter Crisp
Councillor
15 October 2025

Ken Ross
General Manager
15 October 2025

Simon Rule
Responsible Accounting Officer
15 October 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

Income Statement of water supply business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	**1,599**	1,478
User charges	**1,751**	1,606
Fees	**91**	75
Interest and investment income	**611**	491
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	**18**	18
Other income	**1**	1
Total income from continuing operations	**4,071**	3,669
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	**775**	792
Materials and services	**1,628**	1,211
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	**1,137**	1,013
Water purchase charges	**6**	6
Other expenses	**70**	105
Total expenses from continuing operations	**3,616**	3,127
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	**455**	542
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	**1,849**	527
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	**2,304**	1,069
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	**2,304**	1,069
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	**(114)**	(136)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	**2,190**	933
Plus accumulated surplus	**24,275**	23,206
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	**114**	136
Closing accumulated surplus	**26,579**	24,275
Return on capital %	**0.9%**	1.2%
Subsidy from Council	**1,554**	1,421
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	**2,190**	933
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	**(1,592)**	(527)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	**598**	406
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	**299**	203

Wentworth Shire Council

Income Statement of sewerage business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	**2,069**	1,922
User charges	**(1)**	–
Interest and investment income	**349**	255
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	**16**	16
Other income	**10**	2
Total income from continuing operations	**2,443**	2,195
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	**225**	307
Borrowing costs	**9**	13
Materials and services	**462**	240
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	**1,001**	936
Other expenses	**57**	53
Total expenses from continuing operations	**1,754**	1,549
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	**689**	646
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	**1,184**	614
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	**1,873**	1,260
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	**1,873**	1,260
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	**(172)**	(162)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	**1,701**	1,098
Plus accumulated surplus	**11,345**	10,085
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	**172**	162
Closing accumulated surplus	**13,218**	11,345
Return on capital %	**2.0%**	1.9%
Subsidy from Council	**766**	796
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	**1,701**	1,098
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	**(683)**	(614)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	**1,018**	484
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	**509**	242

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity

as at 30 June 2025

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	**11,813**	11,127
Receivables	**1,118**	1,037
Total current assets	**12,931**	12,164
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	**48,297**	45,657
Total non-current assets	**48,297**	45,657
Total assets	**61,228**	57,821
Net assets	**61,228**	57,821
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	**26,580**	24,275
IPPE revaluation surplus	**34,648**	33,546
Total equity	**61,228**	57,821

Wentworth Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity

as at 30 June 2025

	2025 $ '000	2024 $ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	**6,812**	5,693
Receivables	**436**	302
Total current assets	**7,248**	5,995
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	**35,189**	33,833
Total non-current assets	**35,189**	33,833
Total assets	**42,437**	39,828
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Borrowings	**74**	73
Total current liabilities	**74**	73
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	**392**	466
Total non-current liabilities	**392**	466
Total liabilities	**466**	539
Net assets	**41,971**	39,289
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	**13,218**	11,345
IPPE revaluation surplus	**28,753**	27,944
Total equity	**41,971**	39,289

Note – Material accounting policy information

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (Regulation) and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

Declared business activities

In accordance with Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1
(where gross operating turnover is over $2 million)

a. Wentworth Shire Council Combined Water Supplies

Comprising the whole of the operations and net assets of Council's water supply activities servicing the towns of Wentworth, Dareton, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Buronga, which is established as a separate Special Rate Fund.

b. Wentworth Shire Council Combined Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the operations and net assets of Council's sewerage reticulation and treatment activities servicing the towns of Wentworth, Dareton, Gol Gol, Pooncarie and Buronga, which is established as a Special Rate Fund.

Category 2
(where gross operating turnover is less than $2 million)

Nil

Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs.

However, where Council does not pay some taxes which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in Special Purpose Financial Statements.

continued on next page

Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – **25%**

Land tax – the first $755,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of $755,000 up to $4,616,000 the rate is **1.6% + $100**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds $4,616,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

Payroll tax – **4.85%** on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of $1,200,000.

In accordance with DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework, a payment for the amount calculated as the annual tax equivalent charges (excluding income tax) must be paid from water supply and sewerage business activities.

The payment of taxation equivalent charges, referred to in the regulatory and assurance framework as a 'dividend for taxation equivalent', may be applied for any purpose allowed under the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Achievement of substantial compliance to DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework is not a prerequisite for the payment of the tax equivalent charges, however the payment must not exceed $3 per assessment.

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities.

Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested.

Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level - gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 25%.

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to Council as the 'owner' of business operations - it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council. Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

The rate applied of 25% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

(ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

continued on next page

Note – Material accounting policy information (continued)

Such funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies.

The actual rate of return achieved by each business activity is disclosed at the foot of each respective Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\textbf{Operating result before capital income + interest expense}}{\textbf{Written down value of I,PP\&E as at 30 June}}$$

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 4.30% at 30/6/24.

(iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

Local government water supply and sewerage businesses is permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply or sewerage business surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework and must not exceed:

- 50% of the relevant surplus in any one year, or
- the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2024 multiplied by $30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding $3 per assessment).

In accordance with DCCEEW's regulatory and assurance framework, statement of compliance and statement of dividend payment, divident payment form and unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are required to be submitted to DCCEEW.

Wentworth Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Independent Auditor's Report

Please upift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the SPFS report (via the Home screen).

Wentworth Shire Council

SPECIAL SCHEDULES

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Wentworth Shire Council

Special Schedules
for the year ended 30 June 2025

Contents Page

Special Schedules:

Permissible income for general rates 3

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025 5

Background

These Special Schedules have been designed to meet the requirements of special purpose users such as:

- the NSW Grants Commission
- the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
- the NSW Office of Water (NOW), and
- the Office of Local Government (OLG)

The financial data is collected for various uses including:

- the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants,
- the incorporation of Local Government financial figures in national statistics,
- the monitoring of loan approvals
- the allocation of borrowing rights, and
- the monitoring of the financial activities of specific services

Wentworth Shire Council

Permissible income for general rates

	Notes	Calculation 2024/25 $ '000	**Calculation 2025/26 $ '000**
Notional general income calculation [1]			
Last year notional general income yield	a	6,039	**6,427**
Plus or minus adjustments [2]	b	182	**227**
Notional general income	c = a + b	**6,221**	**6,654**
Permissible income calculation			
Percentage increase	d	5.20%	**4.50%**
Less expiring special variation amount	e	(129)	**–**
Plus percentage increase amount [3]	f = d x (c + e)	317	**299**
Sub-total	g = (c + e + f)	**6,409**	**6,953**
Plus (or minus) last year's carry forward total	h	56	**38**
Sub-total	j = (h + i)	**56**	**38**
Total permissible income	k = g + j	6,465	**6,991**
Less notional general income yield	l	6,427	**6,988**
Catch-up or (excess) result	m = k – l	38	**3**
Carry forward to next year [4]	p = m + n + o	38	**3**

Notes

(1) The notional general income will not reconcile with rate income in the financial statements in the corresponding year. The statements are reported on an accrual accounting basis which include amounts that relate to prior years' rates income.

(2) Adjustments account for changes in the number of assessments and any increase or decrease in land value occurring during the year. The adjustments are called 'supplementary valuations' as defined in the *Valuation of Land Act 1916 (NSW).*

(3) The 'percentage increase' is inclusive of the rate-peg percentage, and/or special variation and/or Crown land adjustment (where applicable).

(4) Carry-forward amounts which are in excess (an amount that exceeds the permissible income) require Ministerial approval by order published in the *NSW Government Gazette* in accordance with section 512 of the Act. The OLG will extract these amounts from Council's Permissible income for general rates Statement in the financial data return (FDR) to administer this process.

Permissible income for general rates

Permissible income for general rates: PLUS PDF inserted here

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Wentworth Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard $ '000	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council $ '000	2024/25 Required maintenance [a] $ '000	2024/25 Actual maintenance $ '000	Net carrying amount $ '000	Gross replacement cost (GRC) $ '000	Assets in condition as a percentage of gross replacement cost 1	2	3	4	5
Buildings	Buildings	20,090	20,009	419	687	54,870	105,315	62.0%	8.0%	11.0%	17.0%	2.0%
	Sub-total	**20,090**	**20,009**	**419**	**687**	**54,870**	**105,315**	**62.0%**	**8.0%**	**11.0%**	**17.0%**	**2.0%**
Other structures	Other structures	2,809	2,809	14	22	5,399	8,778	11.0%	21.0%	36.0%	18.0%	14.0%
	Sub-total	**2,809**	**2,809**	**14**	**22**	**5,399**	**8,778**	**11.0%**	**21.0%**	**36.0%**	**18.0%**	**14.0%**
Roads	Sealed roads	4,449	4,449	1,360	1,174	154,020	222,431	41.0%	49.0%	8.0%	1.0%	1.0%
	Unsealed roads	1,788	1,788	1,571	966	4,763	6,875	9.0%	42.0%	23.0%	14.0%	12.0%
	Bridges	426	213	5	–	14,166	21,261	44.0%	54.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%
	Footpaths	–	–	156	77	5,602	8,467	58.0%	39.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Bulk earthworks	–	–	–	–	154,838	154,838	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	**6,663**	**6,450**	**3,092**	**2,217**	**333,389**	**413,872**	**63.0%**	**30.6%**	**4.8%**	**0.8%**	**0.8%**
Water supply network	Water supply network	12,329	12,329	510	894	47,123	88,065	9.0%	58.0%	19.0%	10.0%	4.0%
	Sub-total	**12,329**	**12,329**	**510**	**894**	**47,123**	**88,065**	**9.0%**	**58.0%**	**19.0%**	**10.0%**	**4.0%**
Sewerage network	Sewerage network	8,997	8,997	155	262	34,532	59,978	28.0%	44.0%	13.0%	6.0%	9.0%
	Sub-total	**8,997**	**8,997**	**155**	**262**	**34,532**	**59,978**	**28.0%**	**44.0%**	**13.0%**	**6.0%**	**9.0%**
Stormwater drainage	Stormwater drainage	3,428	3,428	70	61	23,742	38,085	30.0%	29.0%	32.0%	7.0%	2.0%
	Sub-total	**3,428**	**3,428**	**70**	**61**	**23,742**	**38,085**	**30.0%**	**29.0%**	**32.0%**	**7.0%**	**2.0%**
Open space / recreational assets	Swimming pools	2,862	2,862	80	163	2,005	3,766	0.0%	24.0%	76.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Playgrounds	737	737	19	7	901	1,940	17.0%	15.0%	30.0%	30.0%	8.0%
	Sub-total	**3,599**	**3,599**	**99**	**170**	**2,906**	**5,706**	**5.8%**	**20.9%**	**60.4%**	**10.2%**	**2.7%**

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Wentworth Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025 (continued)

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard $ '000	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council $ '000	2024/25 Required maintenance [a] $ '000	2024/25 Actual maintenance $ '000	Net carrying amount $ '000	Gross replacement cost (GRC) $ '000	Assets in condition as a percentage of gross replacement cost 1	2	3	4	5
Other infrastructure assets	Weir, Wharf Banks	520	520	29	17	9,952	10,399	35.0%	55.0%	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	**520**	**520**	**29**	**17**	**9,952**	**10,399**	**35.0%**	**55.0%**	**5.0%**	**5.0%**	**0.0%**
	Total – all assets	**58,435**	**58,141**	**4,388**	**4,330**	**511,913**	**730,198**	**50.3%**	**31.8%**	**10.3%**	**5.3%**	**2.3%**

(a) Required maintenance is the amount identified in Council's asset management plans.

Infrastructure asset condition assessment 'key'

#	Condition	Integrated planning and reporting (IP&R) description
1	**Excellent/very good**	No work required (normal maintenance)
2	**Good**	Only minor maintenance work required
3	**Satisfactory**	Maintenance work required
4	**Poor**	Renewal required
5	**Very poor**	Urgent renewal/upgrading required

Wentworth Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (consolidated) *

	Amounts 2025 $ '000	Indicator 2025	Indicators 2024	Indicators 2023	Benchmark
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals [1]	**30,909**	**356.14%**	330.25%	161.91%	> 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	**8,679**				
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	**58,435**	**11.09%**	2.91%	12.77%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	**526,727**				
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance	**4,330**	**98.68%**	82.15%	84.67%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance	**4,388**				
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	**58,141**	**7.96%**	3.96%	8.65%	
Gross replacement cost	**730,198**				

(*) All asset performance indicators are calculated using classes identified in the previous table.

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

Wentworth Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2025

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (by fund)

	General fund		Water fund		Sewer fund		Benchmark
$ '000	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio							
Asset renewals [1] / Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	**458.78%**	405.38%	**22.56%**	148.17%	**61.45%**	124.79%	> 100.00%
Infrastructure backlog ratio							
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard / Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	**8.37%**	2.21%	**25.54%**	7.00%	**25.58%**	7.50%	< 2.00%
Asset maintenance ratio							
Actual asset maintenance / Required asset maintenance	**85.25%**	77.28%	**175.29%**	119.60%	**169.03%**	53.37%	> 100.00%
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level							
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council / Gross replacement cost	**6.32%**	3.29%	**14.00%**	7.00%	**15.00%**	7.50%	

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

9.6 ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS

File Number: RPT/25/572

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Mardi Cleggett - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

Council's Code of Conduct Policy requires Councillors and Designated Persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available return of interest.

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

As required by the Office of Local Government and the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW) (GIPA), the returns will be made available on Council's website after noting by Council.

Recommendation

That Council note the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons for the period 01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to table the annual Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

Background

Council's Code of Conduct Policy requires Councillors and Designated Persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available return of interest.

As per the requirement of the Code of Conduct, members of Council's Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) are considered Designated Persons of Council.

Report Detail

The following disclosures have been received and are now tabled for consideration of Council:

Councillors (see attachment 1)

- Mayor Daniel Linklater
- Cr Peter Crisp
- Cr Jody Starick
- Cr Jon Armstrong
- Cr Michael Weeding
- Cr Susan Nichols

- Cr Cecil Greg Evans
- Cr Jo Rodda
- Cr Brian Beaumont

Designated Persons (see attachment 2)

- Ken Ross - General Manager
- Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
- Geoff Gunn – Director Roads and Engineering
- George Kenende – A/Director Health and Planning
- Richard Waters – Manager Technology Services
- Lexi Stockman – Manager Tourism and Promotion
- Glen Norris – Manager Human Resources
- Jarrod Roberts – Manager Works
- Scott Barnes – Manager Engineering Services
- Rosanne Kava – Audit Risk and Improvement Committee
- Diane Schmidt – Audit Risk and Improvement Committee
- Caroline Smith – Audit Risk and Improvement Committee

Conclusion

By tabling this report, Council has met its annual compliance obligations as required by its Code of Conduct Policy and the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

Attachments

1. Disclosure of Interest Returns - Councillors⇩
2. Disclosure of Interest Returns - Designated Persons⇩

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Jon Armstrong

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 20-8-25 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 20-8-25

[*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
9 Lauren Close, GOL GOL NSW 2738	Residence, freehold

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)
Water Broker	Ruralco Water, 101 Deakin Avenue MILDURA VIC 3500	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

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

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

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)

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

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

J. Discretionary disclosures

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Peter Lawrence CRISP

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 21/7/25. in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 21/7/25.

[*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
12 Settlement Road, MERBEIN WEST VIC 3505	Partnership
310 V/162 Albert Street, EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002	Owner
61 Little Manly Road, CURLWAA NSW 2648	Owner
271 Reserve Road, COOMEALLA NSW 2717	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)
Plant & Machinery Operator – Landlord	Nifty Engineering, 81 Darling Street, Wentworth	
Crisp Services – Land lease	12 Settlement Road, Merbein West VIC 3505	

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
Rental property 310V/162 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002	$19,200
Water Sales	Variable <>$80,000
Crisp Services	Variable <> $5,000
Land Lease	$24,000
Share Portfolio	$5,000

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)
Nil			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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 th 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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Hazel Susan Nichols

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 23-7-2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 23-7-2025

[*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
Unit 5 226 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)
Nil		

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
Australian Super/Self Funded	@ $13000

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 Bowling Club	Member		Promote and play Lawn Bowls

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
Sporting Shooters Australia	Member
NSW 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
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 t 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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Jo Rodda

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 17-9-25 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 17-9-25

[*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
10 Rosedale Court Buronga NSW 2739	Own Home

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)
Event Coordinator	Self Employed	Event Management, Administration & Safety Services (EMASS)
CoreStaff	CoreStaff 324 Argent Street, BROKEN HILL NSW 2880	(Ceased Position 6/10/2024)

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

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)
N/A			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
Mildura Field Days	Contract Coordinator
Mildura Show Society	Contract Coordinator
Chailis Inc	Treasurer
Mildura Entertainment	Sub-contractor

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

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Cecil Gregory Evans

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 20-8-2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 20-8-2025

[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

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)
River Boat Master	Mildura PaddleSteamers 10 River Drive BURONGA NSW 2739	
Contractor/Engineer		G&J Evans Contracting
Music/Entertainment		Greg & Julia Entertainment

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

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

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor

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

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)

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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

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

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

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including t street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtainec either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

J. Discretionary disclosures

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Brian Fredrick Beaumont

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 12/8/25. in respect of the period from _____ to _____

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 26/8/25.

[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
9 Wharf Street, Wentworth NSW	Owner
2/2 David Street, Box Hill South VIC	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)
Nil		

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
N/A	

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

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)

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
N/A	

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 t 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

President, Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.,
Committee Member, Wentworth District Racing Club
Board Member, Wentworth District Community Medical Centre Volunteer, NSW Wentworth Standard

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Daniel James Linklater

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 11/8/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 11/8/2025

[*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
See Appendix 1	

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)
Primary Producer	Self	Daniel James Linklater & James Edward Linklater

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)
Refer to Appendix 2			

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
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 t street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtainec either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

Appendix 1

Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date	Nature of Interest
9 Wilga Road South Gol Gol NSW 2738 Lot 3 DP 1060701	Direct
Alfred Elms Road Trentham Cliffs NSW 2738 Lot 7 DP 1256363	Direct
Sturt Highway Mallee NSW 2738 Lot 1728 DP 763589	Indirect
5a and 17 Dawn Avenue Gol Gol NSW 2738 Lot 1 DP 1121446 Lot 2 DP 1121446 Lot 3 DP 1121446	Indirect

Appendix 2

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	Nature of Interest	Description of Position	Description of principal objects of corporation
Trentham Farms Pty Ltd		Director	
Trentham Holdings (NSW) Pty Ltd		Director	
Trentham Projects Pty Ltd		Director	
Rosewood Ridge Investments Pty Ltd		Director	
KLS Consortium Pty Ltd		Director	
KLS Independent Living Pty Ltd		Director	
Mildura City Garden Apartments Pty Ltd		Director	

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Michael Keith WEEDING

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 20/8/25. in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 20/8/25.

[*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
30 Gunn Street, WENTWORTH NSW 2648	Owner
26 Riverside Avenue, MILDURA VIC 3500	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)
Trainer Assessor	Far West Training Service Pty Ltd 1 Jacaranda Place BROKEN HILL NSW 2880	

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
Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club 1150 Silver City Highway DARETON NSW 2717	$2,700
Investment Property	$20,000

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)
Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club	Director	Vice President	

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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 tl 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

Wentworth Military Collection – Director
Wentworth Rifle & Pistol Club – Treasurer for both clubs
Friends of the Ruby - Treasurer

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Jody Starick

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 20/08/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 20/08/2025

[*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
10 Morris Place BURONGA NSW 2739	Joint 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)
Accountant	IgiQ GPO Box 1243 ADELAIDE SA 5001	

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
N/A	

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
IML Equity Income	$2,621 (approx.)
Solans Aust Equity Income Fund	$2, 723 (approx.)
Martin Currie Real Income	$2,782 (approx.)
Merlon Aust Share Income	$2,612 (approx.)
Perpetual ESG Aust Share	$2,233 (approx.)

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	

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
N/A		

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)
N/A			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
CPA Australia	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
N/A

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

N/A

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by GEOFF GUNN

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 25/7/25 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 25/7/25.

[*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
4 Lakeside Drive Cabarita VIC	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)
Director Roads & Engineering	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648	Full time employee

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)

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 th 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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by GLENDON GEOFFREY NORRIS

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 23 JULY 2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 23/07/2025

[*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
79 Cadell Street Wentworth NSW	Freehold

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)
Manager Human Resources	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, 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
N/A	

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
N/A	

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	

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
N/A		

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)
N/A			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
N/A	

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
N/A

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by SIMON PATRICK RULE

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 17/07/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 17/07/2025

[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
23 Fyans Street, South Geelong, VIC	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)
Director Corporate Services	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, 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		

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)

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 t 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

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by SCOTT BARNES

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 25/7/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 25/7/2025

[*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
10 Pevensey Grove Mildura VIC	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)
Manager Engineering Services	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, 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		

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)

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
Engineers Australia	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
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 t street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtainec 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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by RICHARD WATERS

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 23/7/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 23/7/2025

[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 Stockmans Drive Irymple VIC	Owner
36-38 Darling Street Wentworth NSW	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)
Manager Technology Services	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648	
Owner/Manager	Waters Computer Consultants	

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
N/A	

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
Rental income (36-38 Darling St Wentworth)	$10,000

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	

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
N/A		

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)
N/A			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
N/A	

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

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

N/A

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by LEXI MAREE STOCKMAN

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 21/8/25 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] 21/8/25

[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
11 Panuccio Rise Gol Gol NSW	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)
Manager Tourism & Promotion	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, 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
N/A	

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
N/A	

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	

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
N/A		

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)
N/A			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
N/A	

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
N/A

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including t street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtainec either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

N/A

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by George Kenende

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 29/07/2025 in respect of the period from 01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 29/07/2025

[*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

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)
Acting Director Health & Planning	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street 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

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

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor

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

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)

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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
Planning Institute of Australia (PIA)	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

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

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

J. Discretionary disclosures

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by KENNETH ANDREW ROSS

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 21/07/2025 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 21 JULY 2025

[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
6 Morrison Court Gol Gol NSW	Joint 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)
General Manager	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, Wentworth NSW 2648	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)

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 t 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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by JARROD ROBERTS

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 23/7/25 in respect of the period from 1/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

[return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 23/7/25

[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
16 The Cobb and Co Way Gol Gol NSW	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)
Manager Works	Wentworth Shire Council 61 Darling Street, 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
**	

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
N/A	

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	

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
N/A		

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)
N/A			

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
N/A	

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
N/A

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including tl 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

N/A

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Caroline SMITH

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 27.8.2025 in respect of the period from 1/7/2024 to 30/6/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 27.8.2025

[*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
26 Carramar Drive GOL GOL NSW 2738	Ownership
34 Cooray Street COBRAM VIC 3644	Ownership
U 1468 Cascade Condos, Kuna LAGUNA QUAYS QLD 4800	Beneficiary

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 2024

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Mallee District Aboriginal Services P/L	120 Madden Ave Mildura Vic 3500	N/A
PDS Plan Management / Accounting	26 Carramar Drive GOL GOLG NSW 2738	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
N/A	N/A

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
N/A	N/A

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	N/A

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
N/A		

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)
Mallee District Aboriginal Corporation	Executive Director	Executive Director Corporate Services	N/A
PDS Automation	Beneficiary	NIL	N/A

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
N/A	N/A

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
N/A

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
N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including th 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

N/A

J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

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

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by Rosanne Mary KAVA

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 29/9/2025 in respect of the period from 1/7/2024 to 30/6/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 28/8/2025

[*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
194 Minerva Rd, NEWTOWN, VIC, 3220	Freehold
49 Baker Street, BRAY PARK, QLD, 4500	Freehold

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)
Chair, Audit and Risk Committee	Swan Hill Rural City Council, 45 Splatt Street, SWAN HILL VIC 3585	
Management Consultant	Kava Konsulting P/L PO Box 7218 GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Sole Trader

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
	RM Kava Superannuation Fund PO Box 24394, MELBOURNE VIC 3001
GMG Accounting SWAN HILL VIC 3585	Rosanne Kava Family Trust Trustee: Rosanne Kava PO Box 7218 GEELONG WEST VIC 3218

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
Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme pension	$51,000

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)
NIL			

F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

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

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 Diane Joy Schmidt

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 14/9/25 in respect of the period from 1/7/2024 to 30/6/2025

[insert return date]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 14/09/2025

[*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
12 Murray Court, Wentworth NSW 2648	
64 Cadell Street, Wentworth NSW 2648	

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)
General Manager Corporate Services	Sunraysia Institute of TAFE 453 Benetook Avenue, Mildura VIC 3500	

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

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

C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor

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

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)

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

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

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

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including t street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtainec either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

J. Discretionary disclosures

9.7 USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY

File Number: RPT/25/571

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Corporate Services
Responsible Division: Corporate Services
Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* Council is required to review and adopt nominated policies with 12 months of a Council election. Council reviews its other policies every four years in accordance with best practice procedures.

Council's *Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy* has been reviewed in accordance with this review cycle. Minor amendments only from the previous version have been made.

Recommendation

That Council notes the revised *Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy* and adopts the Policy.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present to Council for adoption the revised *Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy*. This policy is intended to provide clear guidelines for Councillors and staff in their use of computers, email, internet, telephone and other electronic media and devices in the conduct of Council-related activities.

Background

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* Council is required to review and adopt nominated policies with 12 months of a Council election. Council reviews its other policies every four years in accordance with best practice procedures.

Council's *Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy* has been reviewed in accordance with this review cycle. Minor amendments only from the previous version have been made

Report Detail

Council has had a *Use of Communication Devices Policy* since 2008. The policy was last adopted on 16 February 2022.

Minor revision has been made from the previous version with updated legislative references, policy titles, and two new paragraphs inserted.

The new paragraphs provide guidelines on 'handling and care of Council issued devices' and provide a policy statement on the use of 'personal devices'. That statement reflects the significant risk associated with using personal devices for Council-related purposes - Council has reduced assurance in the integrity and security posture of devices that are not

corporately managed and will have regard to guidance issued by the Australian Signals Directorate - Australian Cyber Security Centre to help understand and mitigate risks in any future policy development in this regard.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy be adopted by Council.

Attachments

1. DRAFT Use of Information Technology and Communication Devices Policy GOV002⇩

COUNCIL POLICY

POLICY NUMBER & TITLE:	**GOV002**	**USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY**
WORD DOCUMENT ID:	DOC/25/19469	
VERSION:	1.3	
ADOPTED MEETING DATE:	Click or tap to enter a date.	
REVIEW DUE:	Four yearly or following change of legislation or incident	
VERSION AMENDMENTS:	Update of Policy Version 1.2 previously adopted February 2022	

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:	Corporate Services

USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY

POLICY OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy is to provide clear guidelines for staff and Councillors in their use of computers, email, internet, telephone and other electronic media and devices in the conduct of Council-related activities.

This policy seeks to:

- Preserve the integrity and efficiency of information technology and communication devices by providing guidelines to clarify what constitutes appropriate conduct and use of the equipment;
- Ensure the use of information technology and communication devices complies with Council's obligations to maintain a workplace that is efficient, harmonious and without risk of discrimination or harassment resulting from improper use; and
- Outline the ramifications of failing to abide by the guidelines contained in this policy.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Council recognises that access to information technology and communication devices is required as a convenient and effective means of communication, both internally between staff and business units, and externally with other councils, groups or individuals.

Council's position is that information technology and communication devices are necessary to conduct business activities, however Council also recognises the need to comply with its obligations in maintaining a workplace that is efficient, harmonious and without risk of discrimination or harassment resulting from improper use of the information technology and communication equipment supplied.

2. POLICY COVERAGE

This policy applies to all Councillors, and Council staff including, employees, casuals, consultants and contractors.

3. STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

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

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY

Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations.

4. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Term/Word	Definition
Council	Council of the Shire of Wentworth
Information technology and communication devices	Includes any electronic device or computer software provided to Councillors or staff for use in the performance of their duties.

5. POLICY CONTENT

It is the policy of this Council that where information technology and communication devices are provided to Councillors and staff for business purposes, Councillors and staff have a responsibility to ensure their proper use.

Councillors and staff must not use information technology and communication devices to:

- Conduct illegal activities;
- Conduct business that in any way would be likely to, or could, bring Council's name into disrepute;
- Send emails or messages which contain inappropriate or offensive material of a sexual, racial, defamatory, abusive, obscene or discriminatory nature;
- In a manner which is likely to be perceived as harassment, intimidation or an unwanted invasion of privacy; or
- To reveal or publicise confidential or proprietary information.

Personal usage

Council accepts that its information technology and communication devices may on occasion be used for personal reasons. However, Councillors and staff must remember that the primary purpose of Council's information technology and communication devices are as tools for conducting business and to enhance the overall effectiveness of the organisation.

The provision and maintenance of communication devices is a cost to Council, and excessive personal use can undermine the effectiveness of the organisation. Therefore, excessive personal use by a Councillor or a staff member may need to be reimbursed to Council by the user.

Councillors and staff must not use communication devices to maintain or support a personal business activity or improperly use these devices for the users benefit or the benefit of any other person or third party.

Handling and care of Council issued devices

Councillors and staff must use and care for the information technology and communication equipment in their possession in a responsible manner. Breakages, damage or loss of equipment must be reported by staff to their immediate supervisor and/or the IT Department.

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY

Information technology and communication devices are not to be left in vehicles while unattended. Information technology and communication equipment is issued for work purposes, not for 'family' use, and are therefore not to be used by family members for games or other applications under any circumstances.

Staff are required to keep information technology and communication equipment clean and in serviceable condition to the best of their ability

In instances of misuse or neglect, breakages, damage or loss of equipment may lead to the need for reimbursement to the Council of any associated costs incurred by Council in relation to the repair or replacement of the affected equipment.

Councillors and staff must not attempt to install or remove software on information technology and communication equipment in their possession without prior approval and direction from the Manager Technology Services

Copyright

All Councillors and staff must respect the copyright and any other intellectual property rights of third parties. Copyright protects the exclusive right of the copyright holder to copy, publish, perform, broadcast and sell copyrighted material. Councillors and staff must not download material from the internet or otherwise receive and use information that is owned by a third party unless they have the written permission of that party.

As a general rule, under copyright law downloading from the internet for personal research is allowed. However, downloading material for distribution to others or for business purposes will require the permission of the third-party owner.

Records Management

Electronic messages form part of the official business communication of Council, and as such, are governed by the same legislative requirements as all Council records.

For legal purposes emails and direct messages (e.g. SMS, MS Teams) are a formal document and have the same standing in court as paper documents. Councillors and staff should not expect that these communications are confidential or private. Therefore, when sending confidential information, careful consideration should be given as to whether alternative means of communication are preferable.

Personal Devices

Council cannot control the security and update of personally owned devices, therefore, access to council data and resources is restricted to council owned and enrolled devices.

Councillors and staff must not access council datasets, email or other council hosted data using personal or public devices.

Breach of Policy

Council reserves the right, at any time and without the consent of the user to inspect, monitor and examine a Councillor or staff members use of information technology and communication devices.

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY

Compliance with this policy is a condition of each staff member's employment with Council. A breach of any part of this policy may depending on the circumstances, be regarded as serious breach of the staff member's employment contract with Council.

A failure to comply with this policy and any relevant directions given by management may result in the following action being taken against a Councillor or staff member:

- Counselling (including intensive training on this policy and the appropriate use of devices);
- Disciplinary action regarding "inappropriate use" of the devices, including cancellation of access to any or all devices;
- Dismissal of staff where access and/or the distribution of material outlined in this policy are unacceptable; and
- A failure to comply with this policy may be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct, which could see the Councillor or staff member subject to the Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND LEGISLATION

Legislation

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
- *Work Health & Safety Act 2009* (NSW)
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2022* (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)
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* (NSW)
- *Evidence Act 1995* (NSW)
- *Defamation Act 2005* (NSW)
- *Employees Liability Act 1991* (NSW)
- *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* (Cth)
- *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth)
- *Crimes Act 1914* (Cth)
- *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth)
- *Defamation Act 1974* (Cth)
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth)
- *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Cth)

Council Policies

- GOV004 – Public Interest Disclosures Policy
- GOV007 – Privacy Management Policy
- GOV008 – Public Access to Information Held by Council Policy

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL POLICY

- GOV010 – Provision of Facilities & Payment of Expenses Policy
- GOV020 – Code of Conduct Policy
- GOV022 –Compliance Policy

Council Document

- Compliance Framework
- Governance Framework
- Privacy Management Plan
- Records & Information Management Policy (Operational)

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

8. DOCUMENT APPROVAL

This Council Policy is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on Click or tap 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.

Signed: _____ Click or tap to enter a date.

General Manager Wentworth Shire Council **Date**

DRAFT

9.8 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE FOR WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL - GOV018

File Number: RPT/25/603

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.3 Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership

Summary

Section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the requirements of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*. A new 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice for local councils has been released as part of the broader set of reforms to improve confidence, trust and transparency across NSW councils.

The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* has been updated to reflect that the 2025 Model Meeting Code, published in the Gazette on 29 August 2025, is prescribed for the purposes of the Act section 360(1).

All councils will need to adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the revised Model Code no later than 31 December 2025.

Recommendation

That Council

(a) endorse the attached draft Model Code of Meeting Practice Policy and place on public exhibition for 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft Code, and

(b) following the public consultation period, a further report be presented to Council for final adoption.

Detailed Report

Following extensive consultation, the new 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (2025 Model Meeting Code) has been finalised. A key focus of the changes made to the 2025 Model Meeting Code is to ensure meetings are conducted in a dignified and orderly way befitting to a chamber of democracy and to promote community confidence in councils and their decisions.

Key changes to the 2025 Model Meeting Code include:

- Changes to rules of debate, mayoral minutes and extraordinary meetings;
- Prohibition on briefing sessions being held to brief councillors on business listed in the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council;

- Encouraging councils to hold public forums before council meetings or committee of council meetings;
- Changes to absences from Council meetings including provisions governing attendance by councillors at meetings by audio-visual link;
- New rules of etiquette at meetings;
- Changes to dealing with disorder including by way of removing councillors or the members of the public;
- Requiring information considered at closed meetings to be made public after it ceases to be confidential;
- Requiring councils to give reasons when making decisions on planning matters that depart from staff recommendation (as recommended by ICAC); and
- Requiring council and committee of the council meetings to be live streamed.

More detailed information about the changes to council meeting practices made by the 2025 Model Meeting Code is provided in the FAQ document attached to Council Circular No 25-20 provided as Attachment 2

NSW Councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code by 31 December 2025. A Council's adopted Code of Meeting Practice may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code and other supplementary provisions. However, a Code of Meeting Practice adopted by a Council must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the revised Model Code.

Transitional provisions in the Regulation provide that if a council does not adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code by 31 December 2025, from 1 January 2026, any provision of the council's code of meeting practice that is inconsistent with a mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code will be automatically overridden by the relevant mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code.

In accordance with section 361 of the Act, before adopting a new code of meeting practice, councils must first exhibit a draft of the code of meeting practice for at least 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft code.

The provisions within the 2025 Model Meeting Code are presented as three separate elements:

- Mandatory provisions (indicated in black font);
- Non-mandatory provisions (indicated in red font) covering areas of meeting practice that are common to most councils but where there may be a need for some variation in practice between councils based on local circumstances. (Provisions specific to meetings of boards of joint organisations and county councils are marked in blue font); and
- Supplementary provisions in green font for the purposes of delineating that they are supplementary in the draft to Council.

Councils may include supplementary provisions in their adopted code of meeting practice, provided the supplementary provisions are not inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code.

Options

Option 1

As per the recommendation:

Council endorse the attached draft Model Code of Meeting Practice Policy and place on public exhibition for 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft code.

Option 2

Alternate recommendation:
Council endorse the attached draft Model Code of Meeting Practice Policy and place on public exhibition for 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft Code, including amendments to the following non-mandatory options and supplementary provisions prior to exhibition of the draft policy:

- Giving notice of business to be considered at council meetings

  3.10 The time frame inserted at 3.10 is that which is currently exercised by Council.

- Standard of dress

  5.2 Any other option to the included description (i.e. business causal) as determined by Council.

- Order of business for ordinary council meetings

  8.1 The general order of business inserted at 8.1 is that which is currently exercised by Council.

- Voting at council meetings

  Clause 11.11 is selected in lieu of clauses 11.6 - 11.9 and 11.15. Clause 11.11 is Council's current practice and is an alternative to those clauses. The alternate clauses 11.6 - 11.9 and 11.15 read:

  > *If a councillor who has voted against a motion put at a council meeting so requests, the general manager must ensure that the councillor's dissenting vote is recorded in the council's minutes.*
  >
  > *The decision of the chairperson as to the result of a vote is final unless the decision is immediately challenged and not fewer than two (2) councillors rise and call for a division.*
  >
  > *When a division on a motion is called, the chairperson must ensure that the division takes place immediately. The general manager must ensure that the names of those who vote for the motion and those who vote against it are recorded in the council's minutes for the meeting.*
  >
  > *When a division on a motion is called, any councillor who fails to vote will be recorded as having voted against the motion in accordance with clause 11.5 of this code*.
  >
  > *For the purpose of maintaining the register, a division is taken to have been called whenever a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the council or a council committee.*

- Representation by members of the public

  14.12 The described application process is that which is currently exercised by Council.

- Expulsion from meetings

  15.15 Option 15.15 is currently exercised by Council and is included in the recommended draft, the alternate being Clause 15.16 which reads:

  > *All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council are authorized under this code to expel any persons other than a councillor, from a*

council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act. Councillors may only be expelled by resolution of the council or the committee of the council.

- Rescinding or altering council decisions

  17.10 Remove or amend the currently exercised inclusion which reads:

  *A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution relating to a development application must be submitted to the general manager no later than the close of business **on the second business day** after the meeting at which the resolution was adopted.*

  17.12-17.14 are non-mandatory additional clauses that provide for rescinding or altering council decisions 'in cases of urgency'. Whilst Council currently exercises those clauses it should be noted there is some change of wording although the intent of these clauses, which is to provide for cases of urgency, remains the same.

- Time limits on council meetings

  18.1 The inserted time limit of 11pm is that which is currently exercised by Council.

- Minutes of council committee meetings

  Clause 20.25 is not selected. It is not currently exercised by Council. Clause 20.25 reads:

  All voting at meetings of committees of the council (including meetings that are closed to the public), must be recorded in the minutes of meetings with the names of councillors who voted for and against each motion or amendment, (including the use of the casting vote) being recorded.

- Supplementary Provisions

  These include the supplementary provision regarding storage of the Council seal as currently exercised by Council.

  Additional supplementary provisions include Council Acknowledgement; Giving Notice of business to be considered at council meetings; Webcasting and Recording of Meetings; Lay on the Table/Defer Items; and Public Participation at Council Meetings.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the draft Model Code of Meeting Practice Policy be endorsed by Council and placed on public exhibition for 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft code, and, following the public consultation period, a further report be presented to Council for final adoption.

Attachments

1. Council Circular 25-20 - Model Meeting Code⇩
2. Draft 2025 Code of Meeting Practice for Wentworth Shire Council GOV018⇩

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Office of Local Government

Circular to Councils

Subject/title	2025 Model Meeting Code
Circular Details	Circular No 25-20 / 29 August 2025 / A975455
Previous Circular	*Council Circular 24-23 Consultation on reforms to council meeting practices*
Who should read this	Mayors / Councillors / General Managers / Joint Organisation Executive Officers / Council governance staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Council to Implement

What's new or changing?

- Following extensive consultation, the new 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (2025 Model Meeting Code) has been finalised.
- The new 2025 Model Meeting Code has been published in the Government Gazette and is expected to be prescribed under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (the Regulation) shortly.
- The new 2025 Model Meeting Code is available on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW webpage on the Office of Local Government's (OLG) website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.
- Among other changes, the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code will prohibit pre-meeting briefings.
- Councils must also livestream meetings of the council and committees comprising wholly of councillors from 1 January 2026 using an audio-visual recording. Recordings of meetings must be published on the council's website for the balance of the council term or for 12 months, whichever is the later date.
- More detailed information about the changes to council meeting practices made by the 2025 Model Meeting Code is provided in the FAQ attached to this circular and available

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on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW webpage on OLG's website.

What will this mean for council?

- Councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code no later than 31 December 2025.
- Transitional provisions in the Regulation will provide that if a council does not adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code by 31 December 2025, from 1 January 2026, any provision of the council's code of meeting practice that is inconsistent with a mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code will be automatically overridden by the relevant mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code.
- Under section 361 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), before adopting a new code of meeting practice, councils must first exhibit a draft of the code of meeting practice for at least 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft code.

Key points

- The 2025 Model Meeting Code has two elements:
    - mandatory provisions (indicated in black font), and
    - non-mandatory provisions (indicated in red font) covering areas of meeting practice that are common to most councils but where there may be a need for some variation in practice between councils based on local circumstances. The non-mandatory provisions also operate to set a benchmark based on what OLG sees as best practice for the relevant area of practice.
- The 2025 Model Meeting Code also applies to meetings of the boards of joint organisations and county councils. The provisions that are specific to meetings of boards of joint organisations are indicated in blue font.
- In adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code, joint organisations should adapt it to substitute the terms "board" for "council", "chairperson" for "mayor", "voting representative" for "councillor" and "executive officer" for "general manager".
- In adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code, county councils should adapt it to substitute the term "chairperson" for "mayor" and "member" for "councillor".

Where to go for further information

- The 2025 Model Meeting Code is available on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW webpage of OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.
- More information about the 2025 Model Meeting Code and guidance on its adoption is provided in the FAQ attached to this circular and available on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW webpage of OLG's website.
- A webinar will be held in October to support councils in adopting the new Model Code of Meeting Practice. Notice will be provided to enable councils to register.
- For more information, contact the Council Governance Team by telephone on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary
Office of Local Government

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

NSW GOVERNMENT

2025 Model Meeting Code - FAQ

Implementation of the 2025 Model Meeting Code

When must the 2025 Model Meeting Code be adopted?

- Councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code no later than 31 December 2025.

What happens if the 2025 Model Meeting Code is not adopted by 31 December 2025?

- Transitional provisions in the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (the Regulation) provide that if a council does not adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code by 31 December 2025, then from 1 January 2026, any provision of the council's code of meeting practice that is inconsistent with a mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code will be automatically overridden by the relevant mandatory provision of the 2025 Model Meeting Code.

Are councils required to adopt the non-mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code?

- No. The non-mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code cover areas of meeting practice that are common to most councils but where there may be a need for some variation in practice between councils based on local circumstances. The non-mandatory provisions also operate to set a benchmark based on what OLG sees as best practice for the relevant area of practice.
- Councils are free to omit the non-mandatory provisions or to adapt them to meet their needs.

Can councils include supplementary provisions in their adopted code of meeting practice?

- Yes. There is nothing to prevent councils from including supplementary provisions in their adopted code of meeting practice to meet their needs, provided the supplementary provisions are not inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code.

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Are joint organisations and county councils required to adopt the 2025 Model Meeting Code?

- Yes. The 2025 Model Meeting Code also applies to meetings of the boards of joint organisations and county councils.
- The provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code that are specific to meetings of boards of joint organisations are indicated in blue font.
- In adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code, joint organisations should adapt it to substitute the terms “board” for “council”, “chairperson” for “mayor”, “voting representative” for “councillor” and “executive officer” for “general manager”.
- In adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code, county councils should adapt it to substitute the term “chairperson” for “mayor” and “member” for “councillor”.

What consultation must councils do before adopting a code of meeting practice?

- Under section 361 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), before adopting a new code of meeting practice, councils must first exhibit a draft of the code of meeting practice for at least 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft code.
- This requirement does not apply to joint organisations.

What are the key changes?

A key focus of the changes made to the 2025 Model Meeting Code is to ensure meetings are conducted in a dignified and orderly way befitting to a chamber of democracy and to promote community confidence in councils and their decisions.

The following is a summary of the key changes. It is not an exhaustive list of all the changes that have been made.

Extraordinary meetings

- The mayor may now call an extraordinary meeting without the need to obtain the signature of two councillors.

Dealing with urgent business at meetings

- The process for dealing with urgent business at both ordinary and extraordinary meetings has been simplified.
- Business may be considered at a meeting at which all councillors are present, even though due notice has not been given of the business, if the council resolves

to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council. The resolution must state the reasons for the urgency.

- If all councillors are not present at the meeting, the chairperson must also rule that the business is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

Prohibition on pre-meeting briefing sessions

- The 2025 Model Meeting Code prohibits briefing sessions being held to brief councillors on business listed on the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council.
- The prohibition on briefing sessions does not prevent a councillor from requesting information from the general manager about a matter to be considered at a meeting, provided the information is also available to the public. The information must be provided in a way that does not involve any discussion of the information.

Public forums

- The public forum provisions are now mandatory but leave it to councils to determine whether to hold public forums before council and committee meetings.
- Councils are also free to determine the rules under which public forums are to be conducted and when they are to be held. OLG will be issuing model best practice public forum rules that councils can use if they choose to.
- Public forums must be livestreamed.

Councillors' attendance at meetings by audio-visual link

- The provisions governing attendance by councillors at meetings by audio-visual link have been made mandatory and the option to attend meetings by audio-visual link has been restricted to where councillors are prevented from attending a meeting in person because of ill-health or other medical reasons or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities.

Absences from council meetings

- Changes have been made to the provisions governing absences from meetings.
- Where councillors are unable to attend one or more meetings of the council or committees of the council, the new provisions encourage them to:
    - submit an apology for the meetings they are unable to attend,
    - state the reasons for their absence from the meetings, and

- request that the council grant them a leave of absence from the relevant meetings.

- Where a councillor makes an apology, the council must determine by resolution whether to grant the councillor a leave of absence for the meeting. Councils are required to act reasonably when deciding whether to grant a leave of absence to a councillor. To ensure accountability, if the council resolves not to grant a leave of absence for the meeting, it must state the reasons for its decision in its resolution.

Livestreaming meetings

- As of 1 January 2026, councils are required to livestream their meetings using an audio-visual recording.
- Recordings of meetings must be published on the council's website for the balance of the council's term or for 12 months, whichever is the later date.
- OLG will be issuing updated guidance on the livestreaming of meetings.

New rules of etiquette at meetings

- Councils may determine standards of dress for councillors when attending meetings.
- Where physically able to, councillors and staff are encouraged to stand when the mayor enters the chamber and when addressing the meeting.
- The 2025 Model Meeting Code prescribes modes of address.

Mayoral minutes

- The restrictions on mayoral minutes under the previous code have been removed. A mayoral minute may be put to a meeting without notice on any matter or topic that the mayor determines should be considered at the meeting.

Rules of debate

- The rules of debate have been simplified and the rules governing the foreshadowing of motions and amendments have been removed. It remains open to councillors to foreshadow that they intend to move an amendment during the debate, but there are no longer formal rules governing this.
- An amendment has been made to clarify that there is nothing to prevent a further motion from being moved at a meeting on the same item of business where the original motion is lost, provided the motion is not substantially the same as the one that was lost.

- Councils will no longer have the option of reducing the duration of speeches to less than 5 minutes. However, councils continue to have other options to expedite business at meetings such as moving that a motion be put where the necessary conditions have been satisfied and to resolve to deal with items by exception.

Voting on planning decisions

- Consistent with the Independent Commission Against Corruption's (ICAC) recommendations, a council or a council committee must not make a final planning decision at a meeting without receiving a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation in relation to the matter put before the council for a decision.
- Where the council or a council committee makes a planning decision that is inconsistent with the recommendation made in a staff report, it must provide reasons for its decision and why it did not adopt the staff recommendation.

Representations by the public on the closure of meetings

- In the interests of simplifying the code, the rules governing representations by the public on the closure of meetings have been removed. However, there is nothing to prevent councils from adopting their own rules on this. OLG will be issuing model best practice rules for public representations that councils can use if they choose to.

Making information considered at closed meetings public

- Consistent with ICAC's recommendation, the general manager must publish business papers for items of business considered during meetings that have been closed to public on the council's website as soon as practicable after the information contained in the business papers ceases to be confidential.
- Before publishing this information, the general manager must consult with the council and any other affected persons and provide reasons for why the information has ceased to be confidential.

Dealing with disorder

- Councils will be required to determine on the adoption of the new code and at the commencement of each council term, whether to authorise the person presiding at a meeting to exercise a power of expulsion.
- The definition of acts of disorder by councillors have changed. The following constitute acts of disorder under the Regulation and the 2025 Model Meeting Code:

- contravening the Act, the Regulation, or the council's code of meeting practice,
- assaulting, or threatening to assault, another councillor or person present at the meeting,
- moving or attempting to move a motion or an amendment that has an unlawful purpose, or deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or committee or addressing or attempting to address the council or committee on or such a motion, amendment or matter,
- using offensive or disorderly words,
- making gestures or otherwise behaving in a way that is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise discriminatory, or if the behaviour occurred in the Legislative Assembly, would be considered disorderly,
- imputing improper motives, or unfavourably personally reflecting, on another council official or a person present at the meeting, or
- saying or doing anything that would promote disorder at the meeting or is otherwise inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting.

- Where a councillor fails to remedy an act of disorder at the meeting at which it occurs, they can be required to do so at each subsequent meeting until they remedy the act of disorder. On each occasion the councillor fails to comply with a direction by the chairperson to remedy an act of disorder, they can be expelled from the meeting and each subsequent meeting until they comply.
- Members of the public can be expelled from meetings for engaging in disorderly conduct. Disorderly conduct includes:
  - speaking at meetings without being invited to,
  - bringing flags, signs or protest symbols to meetings,
  - disrupting meetings,
  - making unauthorised recordings of meetings.
- The 2025 Model Meeting Code notes that failure by a councillor or members of the public to leave a meeting when expelled is an offence under section 660 of the Act. Section 660 provides that a person who wilfully obstructs a council, councillor, employee of a council or a duly authorised person in the exercise of any function under the Act, or Regulation is guilty of an offence. An offence under section 660 carries a maximum fine of $2,100.

Committees

- Meetings of committees of a council whose membership comprises only of councillors must be conducted in accordance with the council's adopted meeting code. Such committees will no longer have the option of determining that rules under the council's meeting code do not apply to them.

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WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL

CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

(Policy GOV018, based on the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice)

WSC CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

This Code of Meeting Practice is based on the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

Main Administration Office

Wentworth Visitor Centre
Street Address: 61 Darling Street, Wentworth, NSW 2648
OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday
8.30am to 5.00pm
Postal Address: PO Box 81, Wentworth, NSW 2648
Phone: 03 5027 5027
Fax: 03 5027 5000
Email: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Midway Service Centre
Street Address: Midway Drive, Buronga, NSW 2739
OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday
9.00am to 5.00pm
Postal Address: PO Box 81, Wentworth, NSW 2648
Phone: 03 5027 5027
Fax: 03 5027 5000
Email: council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Code of Meeting Practice is based on the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (the Model Meeting Code) is made under section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation).

This code applies to all meetings of councils and committees of councils of which all the members are councillors (committees of council). Council committees whose members include persons other than councillors may adopt their own rules for meetings unless the council determines otherwise.

In accordance with the requirements of the Act councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code.

A council's adopted code of meeting practice may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code and other supplementary provisions. However, a code of meeting practice adopted by a council must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of this Model Meeting Code.

Additional provisions made by resolution of the Wentworth Shire Council have been inserted using bold italicised font ***(bold italicised font)***.

A council and a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors must conduct its meetings in accordance with the code of meeting practice adopted by the council.

2. MEETING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Council and committee meetings should be:

Transparent: Decisions are made in a way that is open and accountable.

Informed: Decisions are made based on relevant, quality information.

Inclusive: Decisions respect the diverse needs and interests of the local community.

Principled: Decisions are informed by the principles prescribed under Chapter 3 of the Act.

Trusted: The community has confidence that councillors and staff act ethically and make decisions in the interests of the whole community.

Respectful: Councillors, staff and meeting attendees treat each other with respect.

Effective: Meetings are well organised, effectively run and skilfully chaired.

Orderly: Councillors, staff and meeting attendees behave in a way that contributes to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

3. BEFORE THE MEETING

Timing of ordinary council meetings

3.1 The council shall, by resolution, set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings.

Note: Under section 365 of the Act, councils are required to meet at least ten (10) times each year, each time in a different month unless the Minister for Local Government has approved a reduction in the number of times that a council is required to meet each year under section 365A.

Extraordinary meetings

3.2 If the mayor receives a request in writing, signed by at least two (2) councillors, the mayor must call an extraordinary meeting of the council to be held as soon as practicable, but in any event, no more than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the request. The mayor can be one of the two councillors requesting the meeting.

Note: Clause 3.2 reflects section 366 of the Act.

3.3 The mayor may call an extraordinary meeting without the need to obtain the signature of two (2) councillors.

Notice to the public of council meetings

3.4 The council must give notice to the public of the time, date and place of each of its meetings, including extraordinary meetings, and of each meeting of committees of the council.

Note: Clause 3.4 reflects section 9(1) of the Act.

3.5 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of a meeting of the council and of a committee of council must be published before the meeting takes place. The notice must be published on the council's website, and in such other manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the meeting to the attention of as many people as possible.

3.6 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of more than one (1) meeting may be given in the same notice.

Notice to councillors of ordinary council meetings

3.7 The general manager must send to each councillor, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the council, a notice specifying the time, date and place at which the meeting is to be held, and the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.

Note: Clause 3.7 reflects section 367(1) of the Act.

3.8 The notice and the agenda for, and the business papers relating to, the meeting may be given to councillors in electronic form, unless the council determines otherwise, but only if all councillors have facilities to access the notice, agenda and business papers in that form.

Note: Clause 3.8 reflects section 367(3) of the Act.

Notice to councillors of extraordinary meetings

3.9 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given to councillors of an extraordinary meeting of the council in cases of emergency.

Note: Clause 3.9 reflects section 367(2) of the Act.

Giving notice of business to be considered at council meetings

3.10 A councillor may give notice of any business they wish to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting by way of a notice of motion. To be included on the agenda of the meeting, the notice of motion must be in writing and must be submitted seven (7) business days before the meeting is to be held.

3.11 A councillor may, in writing to the general manager, request the withdrawal of a notice of motion submitted by them prior to its inclusion in the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered.

Questions with notice

3.12 A councillor may, by way of a notice submitted under clause 3.10, ask a question for response by the general manager about the performance or operations of the council.

3.13 A councillor is not permitted to ask a question with notice under clause 3.12 that would constitute an act of disorder.

3.14 The general manager or their nominee may respond to a question with notice submitted under clause 3.12 by way of a report included in the business papers for the relevant meeting of the council.

Agenda and business papers for ordinary meetings

3.15 The general manager must cause the agenda for a meeting of the council or a committee of the council to be prepared as soon as practicable before the meeting.

3.16 The general manager must ensure that the agenda for an ordinary meeting of the council states:

a. all matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of previous meetings of the council, and
b. if the mayor is the chairperson – any matter or topic that the chairperson proposes, at the time when the agenda is prepared, to put to the meeting, and
c. all matters, including matters that are the subject of staff reports and reports of committees, to be considered at the meeting, and
d. any business of which due notice has been given under clause 3.10.

3.17 Nothing in clause 3.16 limits the powers of the mayor to put a mayoral minute to a meeting without notice under clause 9.7.

3.18 The general manager must not include in the agenda for a meeting of the council any business of which due notice has been given if, in the opinion of the general manager, the business is, or the implementation of the business would be, unlawful. The general manager must report, without giving details of the item of business, any such exclusion to the next meeting of the council.

3.19 Where the agenda includes the receipt of information or discussion of other matters that, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public, the general manager must ensure that the agenda of the meeting:

a. identifies the relevant item of business and indicates that it is of such a nature (without disclosing details of the information to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public), and
b. states the grounds under section 10A(2) of the Act relevant to the item of business.

Note: Clause 3.19 reflects section 9(2A)(a) of the Act.

3.20 The general manager must ensure that the details of any item of business which, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, are included in a business paper provided to councillors for the meeting concerned. Such details must not be included in the business papers made available to the public and must not be disclosed by a councillor or by any other person to another person who is not authorised to have that information.

Availability of the agenda and business papers to the public

3.21 Copies of the agenda and the associated business papers, such as correspondence and reports for meetings of the council and committees of council, are to be published on the council's website, and must be made available to the public for inspection, or for taking away by any person free of charge at the offices of the council, at the relevant meeting and at such other venues determined by the council.

Note: Clause 3.21 reflects section 9(2) and (4) of the Act.

3.22 Clause 3.21 does not apply to the business papers for items of business identified under clause 3.19 as being likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public.

Note: Clause 3.22 reflects section 9(2A)(b) of the Act.

3.23 For the purposes of clause 3.21, copies of agendas and business papers must be published on the council's website and made available to the public at a time that is as close as possible to the time they are available to councillors.

Note: Clause 3.23 reflects section 9(3) of the Act.

3.24 A copy of an agenda, or of an associated business paper made available under clause 3.21, may in addition be given or made available in electronic form unless the council determines otherwise.

Note: **Clause 3.24 reflects section 9(5) of the Act.**

Agenda and business papers for extraordinary meetings

3.25 The council must ensure that the agenda for an extraordinary meeting of the council deals only with the matters stated in the notice of the meeting.

3.26 Nothing in clause 3.25 limits the powers of the mayor to put a mayoral minute to an extraordinary meeting without notice under clause 9.7.

3.27 Despite clause 3.25, business may be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the council at which all councillors are present, even though due notice has not been given of the

business, if the council resolves to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council. A resolution adopted under this clause must state the reasons for the urgency.

3.28 A motion moved under clause 3.27 can be moved without notice but only after the business notified in the agenda for the extraordinary meeting has been dealt with. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion moved under clause 3.27, and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

3.29 If all councillors are not present at the extraordinary meeting, the council may only deal with business at the meeting that councillors have not been given due notice of, where a resolution is adopted in accordance with clause 3.27 and the chairperson also rules that the business is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

3.30 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling of the chairperson under clause 3.29 on whether a matter is urgent.

Prohibition of pre-meeting briefing sessions

3.31 Briefing sessions must not be held to brief councillors on business listed on the agenda for meetings of the council or committees of the council.

Note: The prohibition on the holding of briefing sessions under clause 3.31 reflects the intent of Chapter 4, Part 1 of the Act which requires business of the council to be conducted openly and transparently at a formal meeting of which due notice has been given and to which the public has access. Pre-meeting briefing sessions are inconsistent with the principles of transparency, accountability and public participation and have the potential to undermine confidence in the proper and lawful decision-making processes of the council.

3.32 Nothing in clause 3.31 prevents a councillor from requesting information from the general manager about a matter to be considered at a meeting, provided the information is also available to the public. Information requested under this clause must be provided in a way that does not involve any discussion of the information.

4. PUBLIC FORUMS

4.1 The council may hold a public forum prior to meetings of the council and committees of the council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting. Public forums may also be held prior to meetings of other committees of the council.

4.2 The council may determine the rules under which public forums are to be conducted and when they are to be held. See Supplementary Provisions for adopted format.

4.3 The provisions of this code requiring the livestreaming of meetings also apply to public forums.

5. COMING TOGETHER

Attendance by councillors at meetings

5.1 All councillors must make reasonable efforts to attend meetings of the council and of committees of the council of which they are members.

Note: A councillor may not attend a meeting as a councillor (other than the first meeting of the council after the councillor is elected or a meeting at which the councillor takes an oath or makes an affirmation of office) until they have taken an oath or made an affirmation of office in the form prescribed under section 233A of the Act.

5.2 The council may determine standards of dress for councillors when attending meetings. The standard of dress for Councillors is business casual.

5.3 A councillor cannot participate in a meeting of the council or of a committee of the council unless personally present at the meeting, unless permitted to attend the meeting by audio-visual link under this code.

5.4 Not applicable – Refers to Joint Organisations/Councils

5.5 Where a councillor is unable to attend one or more meetings of the council or committees of the council, the councillor should submit an apology for the meetings they are unable to attend, state the reasons for their absence from the meetings and request that the council grant them a leave of absence from the relevant meetings.

5.6 The council must not act unreasonably when considering whether to grant a councillor's request for a leave of absence.

5.7 Where a councillor makes an apology under clause 5.5, the council must determine by resolution whether to grant the councillor a leave of absence for the meeting for the purposes of section 234(1)(d) of the Act. If the council resolves not to grant a leave of absence for the meeting, it must state the reasons for its decision in its resolution.

5.8 A councillor's civic office will become vacant if the councillor is absent from three (3) consecutive ordinary meetings of the council without prior leave of the council, or leave granted by the council at any of the meetings concerned, unless the holder is absent because they have been suspended from office under the Act, or because the council has been suspended under the Act, or as a consequence of a compliance order under section 438HA.

Note: Clause 5.8 reflects section 234(1)(d) of the Act.

The Quorum for a meeting

5.9 The quorum for a meeting of the council is a majority of the councillors of the council who hold office at that time and are not suspended from office.

Note: Clause 5.9 reflects section 368(1) of the Act.

5.10 Clause 5.9 does not apply if the quorum is required to be determined in accordance with directions of the Minister in a performance improvement order issued in respect of the council.

Note: Clause 5.10 reflects section 368(2) of the Act.

5.11 A meeting of the council must be adjourned if a quorum is not present:

a. at the commencement of the meeting where the number of apologies received for the meeting indicates that there will not be a quorum for the meeting, or
b. within half an hour after the time designated for the holding of the meeting, or
c. at any time during the meeting.

5.12 In either case, the meeting must be adjourned to a time, date, and place fixed:

a. by the chairperson, or
b. in the chairperson's absence, by the majority of the councillors present, or
c. failing that, by the general manager.

5.13 The general manager must record in the council's minutes the circumstances relating to the absence of a quorum (including the reasons for the absence of a quorum) at or arising during a meeting of the council, together with the names of the councillors present.

5.14 Where, prior to the commencement of a meeting, it becomes apparent that a quorum may not be present at the meeting, or that the health, safety or welfare of councillors, council staff and members of the public may be put at risk by attending the meeting because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency, the mayor may, in consultation with the general manager and, as far as is practicable, with each councillor, cancel the meeting. Where a meeting is cancelled, notice of the cancellation must be published on the council's website and in such other manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the cancellation to the attention of as many people as possible.

5.15 Where a meeting is cancelled under clause 5.14, the business to be considered at the meeting may instead be considered, where practicable, at the next ordinary meeting of the council or at an extraordinary meeting called by the mayor under clause 3.3.

Meetings held by audio-visual link

5.16 A meeting of the council or a committee of the council may be held by audio-visual link where the mayor determines that the meeting should be held by audio-visual link because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency. The mayor may only make a determination under this clause where they are satisfied that attendance at the meeting may put the health and safety of councillors and staff at risk. The mayor must make a determination under this clause in consultation with the general manager and, as far as is practicable, with each councillor.

5.17 Where the mayor determines under clause 5.16 that a meeting is to be held by audio-visual link, the general manager must:

a. give written notice to all councillors that the meeting is to be held by audio-visual link, and
b. take all reasonable steps to ensure that all councillors can participate in the meeting by

audio-visual link, and

c. cause a notice to be published on the council's website and in such other manner the general manager is satisfied will bring it to the attention of as many people as possible, advising that the meeting is to be held by audio-visual link and providing information about where members of the public may view the meeting.

5.18 This code applies to a meeting held by audio-visual link under clause 5.16 in the same way it would if the meeting was held in person.

Note: Where a council holds a meeting by audio-visual link under clause 5.16, it is still required under section 10 of the Act to provide a physical venue for members of the public to attend in person and observe the meeting.

Attendance by councillors at meetings by audio-visual link

5.19 Councillors may attend and participate in meetings of the council and committees of the council by audio-visual link with the approval of the council or the relevant committee where they are prevented from attending the meeting in person because of ill-health or other medical reasons or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities.

5.20 Clause 5.19 does not apply to meetings at which a mayoral election is to be held.

5.21 A request by a councillor for approval to attend a meeting by audio-visual link must be made in writing to the general manager prior to the meeting in question and must provide reasons why the councillor will be prevented from attending the meeting in person.

5.22 Councillors may request approval to attend more than one meeting by audio-visual link. Where a councillor requests approval to attend more than one meeting by audio-visual link, the request must specify the meetings the request relates to in addition to the information required under clause 5.21.

5.23 The council must comply with the Health Privacy Principles prescribed under the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002* when collecting, holding, using and disclosing health information in connection with a request by a councillor to attend a meeting by audio-visual link.

5.24 A councillor who has requested approval to attend a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio-visual link may participate in the meeting by audio-visual link until the council or committee determines whether to approve their request and is to be taken as present at the meeting. The councillor may participate in a decision in relation to their request to attend the meeting by audio-visual link.

5.25 A decision whether to approve a request by a councillor to attend a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio-visual link must be made by a resolution of the council or the committee concerned. The resolution must state the meetings the resolution applies to.

5.26 If the council or committee refuses a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link, their link to the meeting is to be terminated.

5.27 A decision whether to approve a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link is at the council's or the relevant committee's discretion. The council and committees of the

council must act reasonably when considering requests by councillors to attend meetings by audio-visual link.

5.28 The council and committees of the council may refuse a councillor's request to attend a meeting by audio-visual link where the council or committee is satisfied that the councillor has failed to appropriately declare and manage conflicts of interest, observe confidentiality or to comply with this code on one or more previous occasions they have attended a meeting of the council or a committee of the council by audio-visual link.

5.29 This code applies to a councillor attending a meeting by audio-visual link in the same way it would if the councillor was attending the meeting in person. Where a councillor is permitted to attend a meeting by audio-visual link under this code, they are to be taken as attending the meeting in person for the purposes of the code and will have the same voting rights as if they were attending the meeting in person.

5.30 A councillor must give their full attention to the business and proceedings of the meeting when attending a meeting by audio-visual link. The councillor's camera must be on at all times during the meeting except as may be otherwise provided for under this code.

5.31 A councillor must be appropriately dressed when attending a meeting by audio-visual link and must ensure that no items are within sight of the meeting that are inconsistent with the maintenance of order at the meeting or that are likely to bring the council or the committee into disrepute.

Entitlement of the public to attend council meetings

5.32 Everyone is entitled to attend a meeting of the council and committees of the council. The council must ensure that all meetings of the council and committees of the council are open to the public.

Note: Clause 5.32 reflects section 10(1) of the Act.

5.33 Clause 5.32 does not apply to parts of meetings that have been closed to the public under section 10A of the Act.

5.34 A person (whether a councillor or another person) is not entitled to be present at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council if expelled from the meeting:

a. by a resolution of the meeting, or
b. by the person presiding at the meeting if the council has, by resolution, authorised the person presiding to exercise the power of expulsion.

Note: Clause 5.34 reflects section 10(2) of the Act.

5.35 On the adoption of this code and at the commencement of each council term, the council must determine whether to authorise the person presiding at a meeting to exercise a power of expulsion.

Note: If adopted, clauses 15.15 and 15.16 confer a standing authorisation on all chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council to expel persons from meetings. If adopted, clause 15.15 authorises chairpersons to expel any person, including a councillor,

from a council or committee meeting. Alternatively, if adopted, clause 15.16 authorises chairpersons to expel persons other than councillors from a council or committee meeting.

Livestreaming of meetings

5.36 Each meeting of the council or a committee of the council is to be recorded by means of an audio-visual device.

5.37 At the start of each meeting of the council or a committee of the council, the chairperson must inform the persons attending the meeting that:

a. the meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on the council's website, and
b. persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

5.38 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website at the same time as the meeting is taking place.

5.39 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting or for the balance of the council's term, whichever is the longer period.

5.40 Clauses 5.36 - 5.39 do not apply to any part of a meeting that has been closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act.

Note: Clauses 5.36 – 5.40 reflect section 236 of the Regulation.

5.41 Recordings of meetings may be disposed of in accordance with the *State Records Act 1998*.

Attendance of the general manager and other staff at meetings

5.42 The general manager is entitled to attend, but not to vote at, a meeting of the council or a meeting of a committee of the council of which all of the members are councillors.

Note: Clause 5.42 reflects section 376(1) of the Act.

5.43 The general manager is entitled to attend a meeting of any other committee of the council and may, if a member of the committee, exercise a vote.

Note: Clause 5.43 reflects section 376(2) of the Act.

5.44 The general manager may be excluded from a meeting of the council or a committee while the council or committee deals with a matter relating to the standard of performance of the general manager or the terms of employment of the general manager.

Note: Clause 5.44 reflects section 376(3) of the Act.

5.45 The attendance of other council staff at a meeting, (other than as members of the public) shall be determined by the general manager in consultation with the mayor.

6. THE CHAIRPERSON

The chairperson at meetings

6.1 The mayor, or at the request of or in the absence of the mayor, the deputy mayor (if any) presides at meetings of the council.

Note: Clause 6.1 reflects section 369(1) of the Act.

6.2 If the mayor and the deputy mayor (if any) are absent, a councillor elected to chair the meeting by the councillors present presides at a meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 6.2 reflects section 369(2) of the Act.

Election of the chairperson in the absence of the mayor and deputy mayor

6.3 If no chairperson is present at a meeting of the council at the time designated for the holding of the meeting, the first business of the meeting must be the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting.

6.4 The election of a chairperson must be conducted:

a. by the general manager or, in their absence, an employee of the council designated by the general manager to conduct the election, or
b. by the person who called the meeting or a person acting on their behalf if neither the general manager nor a designated employee is present at the meeting, or if there is no general manager or designated employee.

6.5 If, at an election of a chairperson, two (2) or more candidates receive the same number of votes and no other candidate receives a greater number of votes, the chairperson is to be the candidate whose name is chosen by lot.

6.6 For the purposes of clause 6.5, the person conducting the election must:

a. arrange for the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes to be written on similar slips, and
b. then fold the slips so as to prevent the names from being seen, mix the slips and draw one of the slips at random.

6.7 The candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is the candidate who is to be the chairperson.

6.8 Any election conducted under clause 6.3, and the outcome of the vote, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Chairperson to have precedence

6.9 When the chairperson rises or speaks during a meeting of the council:

a. any councillor then speaking or seeking to speak must cease speaking and, if standing, immediately resume their seat, and

b. every councillor present must be silent to enable the chairperson to be heard without interruption.

7. MODES OF ADDRESS

7.1 Where physically able to, councillors and staff should stand when the mayor enters the chamber and when addressing the meeting.

7.2 If the chairperson is the mayor, they are to be addressed as 'Mr Mayor', 'Madam Mayor' or 'Mayor'.

7.3 If the chairperson is the deputy mayor, they are to be addressed as 'Mr Deputy Mayor', or 'Madam Deputy Mayor' or 'Deputy Mayor'.

7.4 Where the chairperson is not the mayor or deputy mayor, they are to be addressed as either 'Mr Chairperson' or 'Madam Chairperson' or 'Chair'.

7.5 A councillor is to be addressed as 'Councillor [surname]'**.**

7.6 A council officer is to be addressed by their official designation or as Mr/Ms/Mx [surname]**.**

8. ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS

8.1 At a meeting of the council, the general order of business is as fixed by resolution of the council.

The general order of business for an Ordinary Meeting of Council shall be:

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Prayer or Acknowledgement of Country
3. Apologies and Applications for Leave of Absence
4. Disclosures of Interest
5. Confirmation of Minutes
6. Outstanding Matters from Previous Meetings
7. Mayoral and Councillor Reports
8. Report from Committees
9. Reports to Council
10. Notices of Motions / Questions with Notice
11. Confidential Business – Adjournment into Closed Session
12. Open Council – Report from Closed Council
13. Conclusion of the Meeting

Next Meeting

8.2 The order of business as fixed under clause 8.1 may be altered for a particular meeting of the council if a motion to that effect is passed at that meeting. Such a motion can be moved without notice.

Note: If adopted, Part 13 allows council to deal with items of business by exception.

8.3 Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 8.2 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

9. CONSIDERATION OF BUSINESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Business that can be dealt with at a council meeting

9.1 The council must not consider business at a meeting of the council:

a. unless a councillor has given notice of the business, as required by clause 3.10, and
b. unless notice of the business has been sent to the councillors in accordance with clause 3.7 in the case of an ordinary meeting or clause 3.9 in the case of an extraordinary meeting called in an emergency.

9.2 Clause 9.1 does not apply to the consideration of business at a meeting, if the business:

a. is already before, or directly relates to, a matter that is already before the council, or
b. is the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting, or
c. is a matter or topic put to the meeting by way of a mayoral minute, or
d. is a motion for the adoption of recommendations of a committee of the council.

9.3 Despite clause 9.1, business may be considered at a meeting of the council at which all councillors are present even though due notice has not been given of the business to councillors, if the council resolves to deal with the business on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting. A resolution adopted under this clause must state the reasons for the urgency.

9.4 A motion moved under clause 9.3 can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 9.3 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

9.5 If all councillors are not present at a meeting, the council may only deal with business at the meeting that councillors have not been given due notice of, where a resolution is adopted in accordance with clause 9.3, and the chairperson also rules that the business is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting.

9.6 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 9.5.

Mayoral minutes

9.7 The mayor may, by minute signed by the mayor, put to the meeting without notice any matter or topic that the mayor determines should be considered at the meeting.

9.8 A mayoral minute, when put to a meeting, takes precedence over all business on the council's agenda for the meeting. The mayor may move the adoption of a mayoral minute without the motion being seconded.

9.9 A recommendation made in a mayoral minute put by the mayor is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.

Staff reports

9.10 A recommendation made in a staff report is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.

Reports of committees of council

9.11 The recommendations of a committee of the council are, so far as they are adopted by the council, resolutions of the council.

9.12 If in a report of a committee of the council distinct recommendations are made, the council may make separate decisions on each recommendation.

Questions

9.13 A question must not be asked at a meeting of the council unless it concerns a matter on the agenda of the meeting or notice has been given of the question in accordance with clauses 3.10 and 3.12, unless the council determines otherwise in accordance with this code.

9.14 A councillor may, through the chairperson, ask another councillor about a matter on the agenda.

9.15 A councillor may, through the mayor, ask the general manager about a matter on the agenda. The general manager may request another council employee to answer the question.

9.16 A councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is entitled to be given reasonable notice of the question and, in particular, sufficient notice to enable reference to be made to other persons or to information. Where a councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is unable to respond to the question at the meeting at which it is put, they may take it on notice and report the response to the next meeting of the council.

9.17 Councillors must ask questions directly, succinctly, and without argument.

9.18 The chairperson must not permit discussion on any reply to, or refusal to reply to, a question put to a councillor or council employee.

10. RULES OF DEBATE

Motions to be seconded

10.1 Unless otherwise specified in this code, a motion or an amendment cannot be debated unless or until it has been seconded.

Notices of motion

10.2 A councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 is to move the motion the subject of the notice of motion at the meeting at which it is to be considered.

10.3 If a councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 wishes to withdraw it, they may request its withdrawal at any time. If the notice of motion is withdrawn after the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered have been sent to councillors, the chairperson is to note the withdrawal of the notice of motion at the meeting unless the council determines to consider the notice of motion at the meeting.

10.4 In the absence of a councillor who has placed a notice of motion on the agenda for a meeting of the council:

a. any other councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move the motion at the meeting, or
b. the chairperson may defer consideration of the motion until the next meeting of the council.

Chairperson's duties with respect to motions

10.5 It is the duty of the chairperson at a meeting of the council to receive and put to the meeting any lawful motion that is brought before the meeting.

10.6 The chairperson must rule out of order any motion or amendment to a motion that is unlawful or the implementation of which would be unlawful.

10.7 Before ruling out of order a motion or an amendment to a motion under clause 10.6, the chairperson is to give the mover an opportunity to clarify or amend the motion or amendment.

Amendments to motions

10.8 An amendment to a motion must be moved and seconded before it can be debated.

10.9 An amendment to a motion must relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion before the council and must not be a direct negative of the original motion. An amendment to a motion which does not relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion, or which is a direct negative of the original motion, must be ruled out of order by the chairperson.

10.10 The mover of an amendment is to be given the opportunity to explain any uncertainties in the proposed amendment before a seconder is called for.

10.11 If an amendment has been lost, a further amendment can be moved to the motion to which the lost amendment was moved, and so on, but no more than one (1) motion and one (1) proposed amendment can be before council at any one time.

10.12 While an amendment is being considered, debate must only occur in relation to the amendment and not the original motion. Debate on the original motion is to be suspended while the amendment to the original motion is being debated.

10.13 If the amendment is carried, it becomes the motion and is to be debated. If the amendment is lost, debate is to resume on the original motion.

10.14 An amendment may become the motion without debate or a vote where it is accepted by the councillor who moved the original motion.

Limitations on the number and duration of speeches

10.15 A councillor who, during a debate at a meeting of the council, moves an original motion, has the right to speak on each amendment to the motion and a right of general reply to all observations that are made during the debate in relation to the motion, and any amendment to it at the conclusion of the debate before the motion (whether amended or not) is finally put.

10.16 A councillor, other than the mover of an original motion, has the right to speak once on the motion and once on each amendment to it.

10.17 A councillor must not, without the consent of the council, speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, or for longer than five (5) minutes at any one time.

10.18 Despite clause 10.17, the chairperson may permit a councillor who claims to have been misrepresented or misunderstood to speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, and for longer than five (5) minutes on that motion or amendment to enable the councillor to make a statement limited to explaining the misrepresentation or misunderstanding.

10.19 Despite clauses 10.15 and 10.16, a councillor may move that a motion or an amendment be now put:

a. if the mover of the motion or amendment has spoken in favour of it and no councillor expresses an intention to speak against it, or
b. if at least two (2) councillors have spoken in favour of the motion or amendment and at least two (2) councillors have spoken against it.

10.20 The chairperson must immediately put to the vote, without debate, a motion moved under clause 10.19. A seconder is not required for such a motion.

10.21 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is passed, the chairperson must, without further debate, put the original motion or amendment to the vote immediately after the mover of the original motion has exercised their right of reply under clause 10.15.

10.22 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is lost, the chairperson must allow the debate on the original motion or the amendment to be resumed.

10.23 All councillors must be heard without interruption and all other councillors must, unless otherwise permitted under this code, remain silent while another councillor is speaking.

10.24 Once the debate on a matter has concluded and a matter has been dealt with, the chairperson must not allow further debate on the matter.

10.25 Clause 10.24 does not prevent a further motion from being moved on the same item of business where the original motion is lost provided the motion is not substantially the same as the one that is lost.

10.26 Not applicable – Refers to Joint Organisations/Councils

11. VOTING

Voting entitlements of councillors

11.1 Each councillor is entitled to one (1) vote.

Note: Clause 11.1 reflects section 370(1) of the Act.

11.2 The person presiding at a meeting of the council has, in the event of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote.

Note: Clause 11.2 reflects section 370(2) of the Act.

11.3 Where the chairperson declines to exercise, or fails to exercise, their second or casting vote, in the event of an equality of votes, the motion being voted upon is lost.

11.4 Not applicable – Refers to Joint Organisations/Councils

Voting at council meetings

11.5 A councillor who is present at a meeting of the council but who fails to vote on a motion put to the meeting is taken to have voted against the motion.

11.6 Not selected.

11.7 Not selected.

11.8 Not selected.

11.9 Not selected.

11.10 Voting at a meeting, including voting in an election at a meeting, is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system). However, the council may resolve that the voting in any election by councillors for mayor or deputy mayor is to be by secret ballot.

11.11 All voting at Council meetings, (including meetings that are close to the public), must be recorded in the minutes of meetings with the names of Councillors who voted for and against each motion or amendment (including the use of the casting vote) being recorded.

Note: If clause 11.11 is adopted, clauses 11.6-11.9 and clause 11.15 may be omitted.

Voting on planning decisions

11.12 The council or a council committee must not make a final planning decision without receiving a staff report containing an assessment and recommendation in relation to the matter put before the council for a decision.

11.13 Where the council or a council committee makes a planning decision that is inconsistent with the recommendation made in a staff report, it must provide reasons for its decision and why it did not adopt the staff recommendation.

11.14 The general manager must keep a register containing, for each planning decision made at a meeting of the council or a council committee (including, but not limited to a committee of the council), the names of the councillors who supported the decision and the names of any councillors who opposed (or are taken to have opposed) the decision.

11.15 Not selected.

11.16 Each decision recorded in the register is to be described in the register or identified in a manner that enables the description to be obtained from another publicly available document.

11.17 Clauses 11.14–11.16 apply also to meetings that are closed to the public.

Note: Clauses 11.14–11.17 reflect section 375A of the Act.

Note: The requirements of clause 11.14 may be satisfied by maintaining a register of the minutes of each planning decision.

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

12.1 The council may resolve itself into a committee to consider any matter before the council.

Note: Clause 12.1 reflects section 373 of the Act.

12.2 All the provisions of this code relating to meetings of the council, so far as they are applicable, extend to and govern the proceedings of the council when in committee of the whole, except the provisions limiting the number and duration of speeches and encouraging councillors and staff to stand when addressing the meeting.

Note: Clauses 10.15 – 10.25 limit the number and duration of speeches.

Note: Clause 7.1 encourages councillors and staff to stand when addressing the meeting where they can.

12.3 The general manager or, in the absence of the general manager, an employee of the council designated by the general manager, is responsible for reporting to the council the proceedings of the committee of the whole. It is not necessary to report the proceedings in full, but any recommendations of the committee must be reported.

12.4 The council must ensure that a report of the proceedings (including any recommendations of the committee) is recorded in the council's minutes. However, the council is not taken to have adopted the report until a motion for adoption has been made and passed.

13. DEALING WITH ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

13.1 The council or a committee of council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together by way of a single resolution where it considers it necessary to expedite the consideration of business at a meeting.

13.2 Before the council or committee resolves to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together under clause 13.1, the chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or that they wish to speak on.

13.3 The council or committee must not resolve to adopt any item of business under clause 13.1 that a councillor has identified as being one they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or to speak on.

13.4 Where the consideration of multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 involves a variation to the order of business for the meeting, the council or committee must resolve to alter the order of business in accordance with clause 8.2.

13.5 A motion to adopt multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 must identify each of the items of business to be adopted and state that they are to be adopted as recommended in the business paper.

13.6 Items of business adopted under clause 13.1 are to be taken to have been adopted unanimously.

13.7 Councillors must ensure that they declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to items of business considered together under clause 13.1.

14. CLOSURE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS TO THE PUBLIC

Grounds on which meetings can be closed to the public

14.1 The council or a committee of the council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion or the receipt of any of the following types of matters:

a. personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
b. the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
c. information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
d. commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    i. prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    ii. confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    iii. reveal a trade secret,
e. information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,
f. matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property,
g. advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,
h. information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land,
i. alleged contraventions of the council's code of conduct.

Note: Clause 14.1 reflects section 10A(1) and (2) of the Act.

14.2 The council or a committee of the council may also close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public.

Note: Clause 14.2 reflects section 10A(3) of the Act.

Matters to be considered when closing meetings to the public

14.3 A meeting is not to remain closed during the discussion of anything referred to in clause 14.1:

a. except for so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security, and
b. if the matter concerned is a matter other than a personnel matter concerning particular individuals, the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer or a trade secret – unless the council or committee concerned is satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Note: Clause 14.3 reflects section 10B(1) of the Act.

14.4 A meeting is not to be closed during the receipt and consideration of information or advice referred to in clause 14.1(g) unless the advice concerns legal matters that:

a. are substantial issues relating to a matter in which the council or committee is involved, and
b. are clearly identified in the advice,
c. are fully discussed in that advice, and
d. are subject to legal professional privilege.

Note: Clause 14.4 reflects section 10B(2) of the Act.

14.5 If a meeting is closed during the discussion of a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public (as referred to in clause 14.2), the consideration of the motion must not include any consideration of the matter or information to be discussed in that other part of the meeting other than consideration of whether the matter concerned is a matter referred to in clause 14.1.

Note: Clause 14.5 reflects section 10B(3) of the Act.

14.6 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.

Note: Clause 14.6 reflects section 10B(4) of the Act.

14.7 In deciding whether part of a meeting is to be closed to the public, the council or committee

concerned must consider any relevant guidelines issued by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government.

Note: Clause 14.7 reflects section 10B(5) of the Act.

Notice of likelihood of closure not required in urgent cases

14.8 Part of a meeting of the council, or of a committee of the council, may be closed to the public while the council or committee considers a matter that has not been identified in the agenda for the meeting under clause 3.19 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed, but only if:

a. it becomes apparent during the discussion of a particular matter that the matter is a matter referred to in clause 14.1, and
b. the council or committee, after considering any representations made under clause 14.9, resolves that further discussion of the matter:
    i. should not be deferred (because of the urgency of the matter), and
    ii. should take place in a part of the meeting that is closed to the public.

Note: Clause 14.8 reflects section 10C of the Act.

Representations by members of the public

14.9 The council, or a committee of the 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.

Note: Clause 14.9 reflects section 10A(4) of the Act.

14.10 A representation under clause 14.9 is to be made after the motion to close the part of the meeting is moved and seconded.

14.11 Despite clauses 14.9 and 14.10, the council may resolve to close the meeting to the public in accordance with this Part to hear a representation from a member of the public as to whether the meeting should be closed to consider an item of business where the representation involves the disclosure of information relating to a matter referred to in clause 14.1.

14.12 Where the matter has been identified in the agenda of the meeting under clause 3.19 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, in order to make representations under clause 14.9, members of the public must first make an application to the council in the approved form. Applications must be received by **close of business, two (2) business days** before the meeting at which the matter is to be considered.

Expulsion of non-councillors from meetings closed to the public

14.13 If a meeting or part of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council is closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act and this code, any person who is not a councillor and who fails to leave the meeting when requested, may be expelled from the meeting as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act.

14.14 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

Obligations of councillors attending meetings by audio-visual link

14.15 Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must ensure that no other person is within sight or hearing of the meeting at any time that the meeting is closed to the public under section 10A of the Act.

Information to be disclosed in resolutions closing meetings to the public

14.16 The grounds on which part of a meeting is closed must be stated in the decision to close that part of the meeting and must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The grounds must specify the following:

a. the relevant provision of section 10A(2) of the Act,
b. the matter that is to be discussed during the closed part of the meeting,
c. the reasons why the part of the meeting is being closed, including (if the matter concerned is a matter other than a personnel matter concerning particular individuals, the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer or a trade secret) an explanation of the way in which discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Note: Clause 14.16 reflects section 10D of the Act.

Resolutions passed at closed meetings to be made public

14.17 If the council passes a resolution during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution public as soon as practicable after the meeting, or the relevant part of the meeting, has ended, and the resolution must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

14.18 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 14.17 during a part of the meeting that is livestreamed where practicable.

14.19 The general manager must cause business papers for items of business considered during a meeting, or part of a meeting, that is closed to public, to be published on the council's website as soon as practicable after the information contained in the business papers ceases to be confidential.

14.20 The general manager must consult with the council and any other affected persons before publishing information on the council's website under clause 14.19 and provide reasons for why the information has ceased to be confidential.

15. KEEPING ORDER AT MEETINGS

Points of order

15.1 A councillor may draw the attention of the chairperson to an alleged breach of this code by raising a point of order. A point of order does not require a seconder.

15.2 A point of order must be taken immediately it is raised. The chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting and permit the councillor raising the point of order to state the provision of this code they believe has been breached. The chairperson must then rule on the point of order – either by upholding it or by overruling it.

Questions of order

15.3 The chairperson, without the intervention of any other councillor, may call any councillor to order whenever, in the opinion of the chairperson, it is necessary to do so.

15.4 A councillor who claims that another councillor has committed an act of disorder, or is out of order, may call the attention of the chairperson to the matter.

15.5 The chairperson must rule on a question of order immediately after it is raised but, before doing so, may invite the opinion of the council.

15.6 The chairperson's ruling must be obeyed unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.

Motions of dissent

15.7 A councillor can, without notice, move to dissent from a ruling of the chairperson on a point of order or a question of order. If that happens, the chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting until a decision is made on the motion of dissent.

15.8 If a motion of dissent is passed, the chairperson must proceed with the suspended business as though the ruling dissented from had not been given. If, as a result of the ruling, any motion or business has been rejected as out of order, the chairperson must restore the motion or business to the agenda and proceed with it in due course.

15.9 Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion of dissent and the chairperson can speak to the motion before it is put. The mover of the motion does not have a right of general reply.

Acts of disorder

15.10 A councillor commits an act of disorder if the councillor, at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council:

a. contravenes the Act, the Regulation or this code, or
b. assaults or threatens to assault another councillor or person present at the meeting, or
c. moves or attempts to move a motion or an amendment that has an unlawful purpose or that deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or the committee,

or addresses or attempts to address the council or the committee on such a motion, amendment or matter, or

d. uses offensive or disorderly words, or
e. makes gestures or otherwise behaves in a way that is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise discriminatory, or, if the behaviour occurred in the Legislative Assembly, would be considered disorderly, or
f. imputes improper motives to or unfavourably personally reflects upon any other council official, or a person present at the meeting, except by a motion, or
g. says or does anything that would promote disorder at the meeting or is otherwise inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting.

Note: Clause 15.10 reflects section 182 of the Regulation.

Note: The Legislative Assembly's Speaker's Guidelines state that "Members are not to use language, make gestures, or behave in any way in the Chamber that is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise exclusionary or discriminatory. Such conduct may be considered offensive and disorderly, in accordance with Standing Order 74".

15.11 The chairperson may require a councillor:

a. to apologise without reservation for an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.10(a), (b), (d), (e), or (g), or
b. to withdraw a motion or an amendment referred to in clause 15.10(c) and, where appropriate, to apologise without reservation, or
c. to retract and apologise without reservation for any statement that constitutes an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.10(d), (e), (f) or (g).

Note: Clause 15.11 reflects section 233 of the Regulation.

15.12 A failure to comply with a requirement under clause 15.11 constitutes a fresh act of disorder for the purposes of clause 15.10.

15.13 Where a councillor fails to take action in response to a requirement by the chairperson to remedy an act of disorder under clause 15.11 at the meeting at which the act of disorder occurred, the chairperson may require the councillor to take that action at each subsequent meeting until such time as the councillor complies with the requirement. If the councillor fails to remedy the act of disorder at a subsequent meeting, they may be expelled from the meeting under clause 15.18.

How disorder at a meeting may be dealt with

15.14 If disorder occurs at a meeting of the council, the chairperson may adjourn the meeting for a period of not more than fifteen (15) minutes and leave the chair. The council, on reassembling, must, on a question put from the chairperson, decide without debate whether the business is to be proceeded with or not. This clause applies to disorder arising from the conduct of members of the public as well as disorder arising from the conduct of councillors.

Expulsion from meetings

15.15 All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council are authorised under this code to expel any person, including any councillor, from a council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act.

15.16 Not selected.

Note: Councils may use either clause 15.15 or clause 15.16.

15.17 Clause 15.15 does not limit the ability of the council or a committee of the council to resolve to expel a person, including a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, under section 10(2)(a) of the Act.

15.18 A councillor may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for having failed to comply with a requirement under clause 15.11 or clause 15.13. The expulsion of a councillor from the meeting for that reason does not prevent any other action from being taken against the councillor for the act of disorder concerned.

Note: Clause 15.18 reflects section 233(2) of the Regulation.

15.19 A member of the public may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for engaging in or having engaged in disorderly conduct at the meeting.

15.20 Members of the public attending a meeting of the council:

a. must remain silent during the meeting unless invited by the chairperson to speak,
b. must not bring flags, signs or protest symbols to the meeting, and
c. must not disrupt the meeting.

15.21 Without limiting clause 15.19, a contravention of clause 15.20 or an attempt to contravene that clause, constitutes disorderly conduct for the purposes of clause 15.19. Members of the public may, as provided by section 10(2) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting for a breach of clause 15.20.

15.22 Where a councillor or a member of the public is expelled from a meeting, the expulsion and the name of the person expelled, if known, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

15.23 If a councillor or a member of the public fails to leave the place where a meeting of the council is being held immediately after they have been expelled, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the councillor or member of the public from that place and, if necessary, restrain the councillor or member of the public from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

How disorder by councillors attending meetings by audio-visual link may be dealt with

15.24 Where a councillor is attending a meeting by audio-visual link, the chairperson or a person authorised by the chairperson may mute the councillor's audio link to the meeting for the purposes of enforcing compliance with this code.

15.25 If a councillor attending a meeting by audio-visual link is expelled from a meeting for an act of disorder, the chairperson of the meeting or a person authorised by the chairperson, may terminate the councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting.

Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings

15.26 Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.

15.27 A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.

15.28 Without limiting clause 15.19, a contravention of clause 15.27 or an attempt to contravene that clause, constitutes disorderly conduct for the purposes of clause 15.19. Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.27, may, as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act, be expelled from the meeting.

15.29 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using such force as is reasonably necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Note: Failure to comply with a direction to leave a meeting is an offence under section 660 of the Act carrying a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units.

16. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

16.1 All councillors and, where applicable, all other persons, must declare and manage conflicts of interest they have in matters being considered at meetings of the council and committees of the council in accordance with the council's code of conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

16.2 Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they have in matters being considered at the meeting in accordance with the council's code of conduct. Where a councillor has declared a conflict of interest in a matter being discussed at the meeting, the councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting must be suspended or terminated and the councillor must not be in sight or hearing of the meeting at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or at any time during which the council or committee is voting on the matter.

17. DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Council decisions

17.1 A decision supported by a majority of the votes at a meeting of the council at which a quorum is present is a decision of the council.

Note: Clause 17.1 reflects section 371 of the Act in the case of councils and section 400T(8) in the case of joint organisations.

17.2 Decisions made by the council must be accurately recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision is made.

Rescinding or altering council decisions

17.3 A resolution passed by the council may not be altered or rescinded except by a motion to that effect of which notice has been given in accordance with this code.

Note: Clause 17.3 reflects section 372(1) of the Act.

17.4 If a notice of motion to rescind a resolution is given at the meeting at which the resolution is carried, the resolution must not be carried into effect until the motion of rescission has been dealt with.

Note: Clause 17.4 reflects section 372(2) of the Act.

17.5 If a motion has been lost, a motion having the same effect must not be considered unless notice of it has been duly given in accordance with this code.

Note: Clause 17.5 reflects section 372(3) of the Act.

17.6 A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution, and a notice of motion which has the same effect as a motion which has been lost, must be signed by three (3) councillors if less than three (3) months has elapsed since the resolution was passed, or the motion was lost.

Note: Clause 17.6 reflects section 372(4) of the Act.

17.7 If a motion to alter or rescind a resolution has been lost, or if a motion which has the same effect as a previously lost motion is lost, no similar motion may be brought forward within three (3) months of the meeting at which it was lost. This clause may not be evaded by substituting a motion differently worded, but in principle the same.

Note: Clause 17.7 reflects section 372(5) of the Act.

17.8 The provisions of clauses 17.5–17.7 concerning lost motions do not apply to motions of adjournment.

Note: Clause 17.8 reflects section 372(7) of the Act.

17.9 A notice of motion submitted in accordance with clause 17.6 may only be withdrawn under clause 3.11 with the consent of all signatories to the notice of motion.

17.10 A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution relating to a development application must be submitted to the general manager no later than 1 day after the meeting at which the resolution was adopted.

17.11 A motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved on the report of a committee of the council and any such report must be recorded in the minutes of the

meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 17.11 reflects section 372(6) of the Act.

17.12 Subject to clause 17.7, in cases of urgency, a motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved at the same meeting at which the resolution was adopted, where:

a. a notice of motion signed by three councillors is submitted to the chairperson at the meeting, and
b. the council resolves to deal with the motion at the meeting on the grounds that it is urgent and requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.

17.13 A motion moved under clause 17.12(b) can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.12(b) and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

17.14 A resolution adopted under clause 17.12(b) must state the reasons for the urgency.

Recommitting resolutions to correct an error

17.15 Despite the provisions of this Part, a councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move to recommit a resolution adopted at the same meeting:

(a) to correct any error, ambiguity or imprecision in the council's resolution, or
(b) to confirm the voting on the resolution.

17.16 In seeking the leave of the chairperson to move to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.15(a), the councillor is to propose alternative wording for the resolution.

17.17 The chairperson must not grant leave to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.15(a), unless they are satisfied that the proposed alternative wording of the resolution would not alter the substance of the resolution previously adopted at the meeting.

17.18 A motion moved under clause 17.15 can be moved without notice. Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.15 and the chairperson, if they are not the mover of the motion, can speak to the motion before it is put.

17.19 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 17.15.

17.20 A motion moved under clause 17.15 with the leave of the chairperson cannot be voted on unless or until it has been seconded.

18. TIME LIMITS ON COUNCIL MEETINGS

18.1 Meetings of the council and committees of the council are to conclude no later than 11pm.

18.2 If the business of the meeting is unfinished at the time the council has determined, and the council does not resolve to extend the meeting, the chairperson must either:

(a) defer consideration of the remaining items of business on the agenda to the next ordinary meeting of the council, or
(b) adjourn the meeting to a time, date and place fixed by the chairperson.

18.3 Clause 18.2 does not limit the ability of the council or a committee of the council to resolve to adjourn a meeting at any time. The resolution adjourning the meeting must fix the time, date and place that the meeting is to be adjourned to.

18.4 Where a meeting is adjourned under clause 18.2 or 18.3, the general manager must:

(a) individually notify each councillor of the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene, and
(b) publish the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene on the council's website and in such other manner that the general manager is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the time, date and place of the reconvened meeting to the attention of as many people as possible.

19. AFTER THE MEETING

Minutes of meetings

19.1 The council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of meetings of the council.

Note: Clause 19.1 reflects section 375(1) of the Act.

19.2 At a minimum, the general manager must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the council's minutes:

a. the names of councillors attending a council meeting and whether they attended the meeting in person or by audio-visual link,
b. details of each motion moved at a council meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
c. the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment,
d. whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and
e. such other matters specifically required under this code.

19.3 The minutes of a council meeting must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the council.

Note: Clause 19.3 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.

19.4 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

19.5 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at the subsequent meeting.

Note: Clause 19.5 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.

19.6 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or

administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.

19.7 The confirmed minutes of a council meeting must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of its meetings on its website prior to their confirmation.

Access to correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, a meeting

19.8 The council and committees of the council must, during or at the close of a meeting, or during the business day following the meeting, give reasonable access to any person to inspect correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting.

Note: Clause 19.8 reflects section 11(1) of the Act.

19.9 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the correspondence or reports relate to a matter that was received or discussed or laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting when the meeting was closed to the public.

Note: Clause 19.9 reflects section 11(2) of the Act.

19.10 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the council or the committee resolves at the meeting, when open to the public, that the correspondence or reports are to be treated as confidential because they relate to a matter specified in section 10A(2) of the Act.

Note: Clause 19.10 reflects section 11(3) of the Act.

19.11 Correspondence or reports to which clauses 19.9 and 19.10 apply are to be marked with the relevant provision of section 10A(2) of the Act that applies to the correspondence or report.

Implementation of decisions of the council

19.12 The general manager is to implement, without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council.

Note: Clause 19.12 reflects section 335(b) of the Act.

20. COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Application of this Part

20.1 This Part only applies to committees of the council whose members are all councillors.

Council committees whose members are all councillors

20.2 The council may, by resolution, establish such committees as it considers necessary.

20.3 A committee of the council is to consist of the mayor and such other councillors as are elected by the councillors or appointed by the council.

20.4 The quorum for a meeting of a committee of the council is to be:

a. such number of members as the council decides, or
b. if the council has not decided a number – a majority of the members of the committee.

Functions of committees

20.5 The council must specify the functions of each of its committees when the committee is established but may from time to time amend those functions.

Notice of committee meetings

20.6 The general manager must send to each councillor, regardless of whether they are a committee member, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the committee, a notice specifying:

a. the time, date and place of the meeting, and
b. the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.

20.7 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given of a committee meeting called in an emergency.

Non-members entitled to attend committee meetings

20.8 A councillor who is not a member of a committee of the council is entitled to attend, and to speak at a meeting of the committee. However, the councillor is not entitled:

a. to give notice of business for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting, or
b. to move or second a motion at the meeting, or
c. to vote at the meeting.

Chairperson and deputy chairperson of council committees

20.9 The chairperson of each committee of the council must be:

a. the mayor, or
b. if the mayor does not wish to be the chairperson of a committee, a member of the committee elected by the council, or
c. if the council does not elect such a member, a member of the committee elected by the committee.

20.10 The council may elect a member of a committee of the council as deputy chairperson of the committee. If the council does not elect a deputy chairperson of such a committee, the committee may elect a deputy chairperson.

20.11 If neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson of a committee of the council is able or willing to preside at a meeting of the committee, the committee must elect a member of the committee to be acting chairperson of the committee.

20.12 The chairperson is to preside at a meeting of a committee of the council. If the chairperson

is unable or unwilling to preside, the deputy chairperson (if any) is to preside at the meeting. If neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson is able or willing to preside, the acting chairperson is to preside at the meeting.

Procedure in committee meetings

20.13 Subject to any specific requirements of this code, each committee of the council may regulate its own procedure. The provisions of this code are to be taken to apply to all committees of the council.

20.14 Whenever the voting on a motion put to a meeting of the committee is equal, the chairperson of the committee is to have a casting vote as well as an original vote unless the council or the committee determines otherwise in accordance with clause 20.13.

20.15 Not applicable – Refers to Joint Organisations/Councils

20.16 Voting at a council committee meeting is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system).

Mayoral minutes

20.17 The provisions of this code relating to mayoral minutes also apply to meetings of committees of the council in the same way they apply to meetings of the council.

Closure of committee meetings to the public

20.18 The provisions of the Act and Part 14 of this code apply to the closure of meetings of committees of the council to the public in the same way they apply to the closure of meetings of the council to the public.

20.19 If a committee of the council passes a resolution, or makes a recommendation, during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution or recommendation public as soon as practicable after the meeting or part of the meeting has ended and report the resolution or recommendation to the next meeting of the council. The resolution or recommendation must also be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

20.20 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 20.19 during a part of the meeting that is livestreamed where practicable.

20.21 The general manager must cause business papers for items of business considered during a meeting, or part of a meeting, that is closed to public, to be published on the council's website as soon as practicable after the information contained in the business papers ceases to be confidential.

20.22 The general manager must consult with the committee and any other affected persons before publishing information on the council's website under clause 20.21 and provide reasons for why the information has ceased to be confidential.

Disorder in committee meetings

20.23 The provisions of the Act, the Regulation, and this code relating to the maintenance of order in council meetings apply to meetings of committees of the council in the same way they apply to meetings of the council.

Minutes of council committee meetings

20.24 Each committee of the council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of its meetings. At a minimum, a committee must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the committee's minutes:

a. the names of councillors attending a meeting and whether they attended the meeting in person or by audio-visual link,
b. details of each motion moved at a meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
c. the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment,
d. whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and
e. such other matters specifically required under this code.

20.25 Not selected.

20.26 The minutes of meetings of each committee of the council must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.

20.27 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

20.28 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at the subsequent meeting.

20.29 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.

20.30 The confirmed minutes of a meeting of a committee of the council must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of meetings of committees of the council on its website prior to their confirmation.

21. IRREGULARITIES

21.1 Proceedings at a meeting of a council or a council committee are not invalidated because of:

a. a vacancy in a civic office, or
b. a failure to give notice of the meeting to any councillor or committee member, or
c. any defect in the election or appointment of a councillor or committee member, or
d. a failure of a councillor or a committee member to declare a conflict of interest, or to refrain from the consideration or discussion of, or vote on, the relevant matter, at a council or committee meeting in accordance with the council's code of conduct, or

e. a failure to comply with this code.

Note: Clause 21.1 reflects section 374 of the Act.

SUPPLEMEMENTARY PROVISIONS

COUNCIL SEAL

Note: This section has been inserted by Wentworth Shire Council and follows the provisions contained within section 400 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

22.1. Council's seal will be used only for documents that relate to the business of council, and without limiting the use of the seal, will normally only include specifically:

a. the exercise by Council of its functions in relation to the purchase, exchange, leasing, disposal of, and otherwise dealing with, real property, or
b. executing a contract of employment for the General Manager, or
c. completing agreements or contracts from state or federal government departments where they have requested the agreements or contracts be under seal, or
d. entering into planning agreements.

22.2 Council's seal will not be used for documents such as references or certificates of service for Council employees.

22.3 The seal of a council must be kept by the mayor or the general manager, as the council determines. To this end, in May 2025 Council resolved that the seal be kept in the office of the General Manager.

22.4 The seal of a council may be affixed to a document only in the presence of:

a. the mayor and the general manager, or
b. at least one councillor (other than the mayor) and the general manager, or
c. the mayor and at least one other councillor, or
d. at least 2 councillors other than the mayor.

22.5 The affixing of a council seal to a document has no effect unless the persons who were present when the seal was affixed (being persons referred to in subclause (2)) attest by their signatures that the seal was affixed in their presence.

22.6 The seal of a council must not be affixed to a document unless the document relates to the business of the council and the council has resolved (by resolution specifically referring to the document) that the seal be so affixed.

Council Acknowledgements – Refer to 3.25 and 8.1

23.1 Council Acknowledgements for Council Meetings include a prayer/affirmation and Acknowledgement of Country.

Giving notice of business to be considered at council meetings (Notice of Motion) – Refer to 3.10

24.1 A reasonable time for submitting a notice of motion is defined as 12 pm, five (5) business days before the meeting is to be held.

Lay on Table / Defer Items

25.1 A procedural device to bring about a temporary adjournment to a debate is to move the motion that the matter LAY ON THE TABLE.

a. If carried, the effect of this motion is to stop debate on the substantive motion, plus any proposed amendments to allow more information to be obtained. The matter may lie on the table until such time as a Councillor takes the initiative to give notice for it to be re-listed or if a period of three months has elapsed since the motion was carried by the Council (which ever may be the lesser).

b. The motion provides Council the opportunity to defer debate because of a lack of information, to enable an informed decision to be made. The motion, if carried, places the matter in abeyance until the information is provided at a further meeting.

c. With regard to the motion 'that the matter LAY ON THE TABLE' the following points need to be observed:
   i. Does not require a seconder.
   ii. The Councillor moving this motion must specify the nature and content of further information required.
   iii. There are no further debate or amendments permitted, although the Chairperson may allow up to three questions addressed to the mover of the motion, prior to putting the motion (with the mover providing responses to the questions).
   iv. The Chairperson may decline to accept the motion.
   v. IF not carried, it cannot be reintroduced.

Public Participation at Council Meetings – Refer to 4.2

26.1 To speak at a public forum, a person must first make an application to the council via email to council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au Applications to speak at the public forum must be received by the close of business two (2) business days before the date on which the public forum is to be held, and must identify the item of business on the agenda of the council meeting the person wishes to speak on, and whether they wish to speak 'for' or 'against' the item. (EXAMPLE: for a meeting at 4.00pm on a Wednesday, notice is to be received by 4pm the Monday prior)

26.2 A person may apply to speak on no more than two (2) items of business on the agenda of the council meeting.

26.3 A person cannot participate in a meeting of the Council or the Committee of a Council unless personally present at the meeting.

26.4 Legal representatives acting on behalf of others are not to be permitted to speak at a public forum unless they identify their status as a legal representative when applying to speak at the public forum.

26.5 The general manager or their delegate may refuse an application to speak at a public forum. The general manager or their delegate must give reasons in writing for a decision to refuse an application.

26.6 No more than three (3) speakers are to be permitted to speak 'for' or 'against' each item of business on the agenda for the council meeting.

26.7 If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to speak 'for' or 'against' any item of business, the general manager or their delegate may request the speakers to nominate from among themselves the persons who are to address the council on the item of business. If the speakers are not able to agree on whom to nominate to address the council, the general manager or their delegate is to determine who will address the council at the public forum.

26.8 If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to speak 'for' or 'against' any item of business, the general manager or their delegate may, in consultation with the mayor or the mayor's nominated chairperson, increase the number of speakers permitted to speak on an item of business, where they are satisfied that it is necessary to do so to allow the council to hear a fuller range of views on the relevant item of business.

26.9 The general manager or their delegate is to determine the order of speakers at the public forum.

26.10 Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to address the council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the chairperson.

26.11 Speakers at public forums must not digress from the item on the agenda of the council meeting they have applied to address the council on. If a speaker digresses to irrelevant matters, the chairperson is to direct the speaker not to do so. If a speaker fails to observe a direction from the chairperson, the speaker will not be further heard.

26.12 A councillor (including the chairperson) may, through the chairperson, ask questions of a speaker following their address at a public forum. Questions put to a speaker must be direct, succinct and without argument.

26.13 Speakers are under no obligation to answer a question put under clause 4.15. Answers by the speaker, to each question are to be limited to one (1) minute.

26.14 Speakers at public forums cannot ask questions of the council, councillors or council staff.

26.15 Where an address made at a public forum raises matters that require further consideration by council staff, the chairperson may recommend that the council defer consideration of the matter pending the preparation of a further report on the matters.

26.16 When addressing the council, speakers at public forums must comply with this code and all other relevant council codes, policies and procedures. Speakers must refrain from engaging in disorderly conduct, publicly alleging breaches of the council's code of conduct or making other potentially defamatory statements.

26.17 If the chairperson considers that a speaker at a public forum has engaged in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the chairperson may request the person to refrain from the inappropriate behaviour and to withdraw and unreservedly apologise for any inappropriate comments. Where the speaker fails to comply with the chairperson's request, the chairperson may immediately require the person to stop speaking.

26.18 Clause 4.21 does not limit the ability of the chairperson to deal with disorderly conduct by speakers at public forums in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of this code.

26.19 Where a speaker engages in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the general manager or their delegate may refuse further applications from that person to speak at public forums for such a period as the general manager or their delegate considers appropriate.

26.20 Councillors (including the mayor) must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to any item of business that is the subject of an address at a public forum, in the same way that they are required to do so at a council or committee meeting. The council is to maintain a written record of all conflict-of-interest declarations made at public forums and how the conflict of interest was managed by the councillor who made the declaration.

Note 1: If a public forum is held at a council meeting, it will occur immediately after the confirmation of minutes.
A record will be kept within the council minutes detailing the adjournment of the meeting, the names of those who addressed council, and whether they spoke "for" or "against" the item of business.

Webcasting and Recording of Meetings

27.1 No part may be copied or made available to others without prior written permission of Council.

DRAFT

28. DEFINITIONS

the Act	means the *Local Government Act 1993*
act of disorder	means an act of disorder as defined in clause 15.10 of this code
amendment	in relation to an original motion, means a motion moving an amendment to that motion
audio recorder	any device capable of recording speech
audio-visual link	means a facility that enables audio and visual communication between persons at different places
business day	means any day except Saturday or Sunday or any other day the whole or part of which is observed as a public holiday throughout New South Wales
chairperson	in relation to a meeting of the council – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by section 369 of the Act and clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of this code, and in relation to a meeting of a committee – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by clause 20.9 of this code
this code	means the council's adopted code of meeting practice
committee of the council	means a committee established by the council in accordance with clause 20.2 of this code (being a committee consisting only of councillors) or the council when it has resolved itself into committee of the whole under clause 12.1
council official	includes councillors, members of staff of a council, administrators, council committee members, delegates of council and any other person exercising functions on behalf of the council
day	means calendar day
division	means a request by two councillors under clause 11.7 of this code requiring the recording of the names of the councillors who voted both for and against a motion
livestream	a video broadcast of a meeting transmitted across the internet concurrently with the meeting
open voting	means voting on the voices or by a show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system or similar means
planning decision	means a decision made in the exercise of a function of a council under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* including any decision relating to a development application, an environmental planning instrument, a development control plan, a planning agreement or a development contribution plan under that Act, but not including the making of an order under Division 9.3 of Part 9 of that Act
performance improvement order	means an order issued under section 438A of the Act
quorum	means the minimum number of councillors or committee members necessary to conduct a meeting
the Regulation	means the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*
year	means the period beginning 1 July and ending the following 30 June

9.9 WENTWORTH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011 PLANNING PROPOSAL TO REZONE RU4 LAND TO R5 AND INTRODUCE A 1500SQM MLS GOL GOL

File Number: RPT/25/621

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager
Reporting Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

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

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) issued a Gateway Determination to proceed on 2 August 2024.

The Planning Proposal sought to amend the following provisions:

- Rezone subject land from RU4 Primary Production Small Lots to R5 Large Lot Residential

- Amend the Minimum Lot Size of the subject land from 10 ha to 1500 sqm

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

Minimal amendments have been made to the Planning Proposal as an outcome of public exhibition. The addition was for an additional permitted use over part of Lot 1 DP 439084 for Rural industry purposes, more specifically the regular servicing and repairs of plant and equipment used for the purposes of supporting rural enterprises.

This report seeks Council endorsement of the Planning Proposal and approval to proceed with finalisation of the amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 as Council are the plan-making authority.

Recommendation

a) That Council endorse the post exhibition documentation including amended planning proposal as outlined in this report.

b) That Council, support and resolve to proceed with the finalisation of the Planning Proposal in accordance with section 3.36 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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

Detailed Report

Purpose

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

Background

Council's Health and Planning Department lodged a planning proposal from Cadell Consulting Services on 11 April 2024 to introduce the R5 zoning and a MLS of 1,500sqms to ten (10) allotments in Gol Gol. The planning proposal was reported to Council at the 17 April 2024 ordinary meeting seeking a resolution to submit the Planning Proposal to DPHI requesting a Gateway Determination to proceed.

The Gateway Determination to proceed was issued by DPHI on 2 August 2024. The Gateway Determination contained six (6) conditions, all of which Council is obligated to comply. The next section of this report details the amendments to the Planning Proposal as a consequence of compliance with the conditions.

Matters under consideration

Gateway Determination

The Gateway Determination was issued 2 August 2024.

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

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

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

1. Revisions made to planning proposal with more accurate mapping that reflects a clearer map scale than provided in the original planning proposal
2. Public exhibition was conducted in accordance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination. Further details are provided below.
3. Consultation with the following agencies was conducted:
    a. Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture
    b. Transport for NSW
    c. Environment Protection Authority (EPA).
4. A public hearing was not required.
5. Council is authorised to exercise the functions of the Local Plan-making authority as the following were met:
    a. Council is satisfied that all gateway conditions have been met
    b. The planning proposal is consistent with the ministerial directions and all inconsistencies are justified
    c. Re are no outstanding written objectives from public authorities
6. The timeframe for completing the LEP is to be on or before 1 August 2025. An extension to the timeframe for completing the LEP was provided making the completion date 1 December 2025.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 3 – Alteration to Gateway Determination).

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 4 – Alteration to Gateway Determination letter).

Refer to **Attachment 2** Response from Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture

Refer to **Attachment 3** Response from Transport for NSW

Refer to **Attachment 4** Response from Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

All conditions of the Gateway Determination have been satisfied.

Public exhibition

In accordance with Schedule 1 Clause 4 Community participation requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and Condition 2 of the Gateway Determination, the planning proposal was placed on public exhibition from 13 September 2024 to 11 October 2024.

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

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

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

- Gateway Determination
- Gateway Determination Letter
- Amended Planning Proposal

One (1) community submission was received.

The following agencies were consulted:

a. Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture: No Objections, however advised that subsequent subdivisions of the land should incorporate buffers to avoid land use conflict between agriculture and residential

b. Transport for NSW: No objections, for subsequent subdivision a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA), prepared by a suitably qualified traffic consultant should be drafted for the whole residential release.

c. Environment Protection Authority (EPA): No objection, but identified areas of concern around land use conflict, contamination and water quality.

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

An amendment was made to the planning proposal in response to the submissions. The amended planning proposal was re-notified only to the public person who made the submission. No submission was received in response to the amended planning proposal.

Refer to **Attachment 1** Section 3.36 Planning Report (Attachment 5 – Submission Table).

Refer to **Attachment 5** Additional Permitted use map

Refer to **Attachment 6** Planning Proposal for finalization

Next Process

The Gateway Determination authorises Council as the local plan-making authority.

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

Council to proceed with the finilisation process of the planning proposal as Council are the Local Plan-making Authority

Options

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

a) Resolve to support and proceed with finilisation of the Planning Proposal.
   Or
b) Resolve to not proceed with the finilisation of the Planning Proposal.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The options contained in this report ensure that Council:

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

There are no known financial or policy implications for Council.

Conclusion

It is concluded that the most appropriate course of action is to support and proceed finalisation of the proposal and notification of the amendment on the legislative website.

Attachments

1. Section 3.36 Planning Report Potters Drive⇩
2. DPIRD Agriculture Response (under separate cover)⇨
3. Transport for NSW Response (under separate cover)⇨
4. Environment Protection Authority (EPA) (under separate cover)⇨
5. Additional Permitted Use Map⇩
6. Planning Proposal for finalization⇩

SECTION 3.36 PLANNING REPORT

Planning proposal:

PP-2023-2156 (L1/100)

Planning proposal summary:

Amend the following in the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011:

- Rezone subject land from RU4 Primary Production Small Lots to R5 Large Lot Residential
- Amend the Minimum Lot Size of the subject land from 10 ha to 1500 sqm

Post exhibition amendments to the planning proposal:

- An additional permitted use for rural industry was added to a section of Lot 1 DP 439084

Date of Gateway determination:

2 August 2024.

1 GATEWAY DETERMINATION

The Gateway Determination was issued 2 August 2024.

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

Refer to **Attachment 2** Gateway Determination.

Refer to **Attachment 3** Alteration to Gateway Determination

Refer to **Attachment 4** Alteration Letter to Council

The original timeframe for completing the LEP was to be by 1 August 2025. An extension to the timeframe for completing the LEP was provided making the completion date 1 December 2025.

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

1. Revisions made to planning proposal with more accurate mapping that reflects a clearer map scale than provided in the original planning proposal

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

3. Consultation with the following agencies was conducted in accordance with the conditions of the Gateway Determination with further details provided in Section 3 of this report:
   a. Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture
   b. Transport for NSW
   c. Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

4. A public hearing was not required or deemed necessary.

5. Council is authorised to exercise the functions of the Local Plan-making authority as the following were met:
    a. Council is satisfied that all gateway condition have been met
    b. The planning proposal is consistent with the ministerial directions and all inconsistencies are justified
    c. Re are no outstanding written objectives from public authorities

6. The timeframe for completing the LEP was extended from 1 August 2025 to 1 December 2025. The planning proposal is on track to be completed within this timeframe.

All conditions of the Gateway Determination have been satisfied.

2 CONSULTATION

In accordance with Schedule 1 Clause 4 Community participation requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, the planning proposal amended as per condition 1 of the gateway was placed on public exhibition for 20 working days to the public 13 September 2024 to 11 October 2024.

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

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

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

- Planning Proposal with attachments
- Department of Planning and Environment's Gateway Determination.

1 submission was received from the public. Amendments were made to the planning proposal in relation to the comments provided in the submission

The planning proposal amended taking into consideration feedback from the submitter was re-notified to the submitter from 1 September 2025 to 29 September 2025. No comments were received from the submitter during the exhibition period and no further amendments to the planning proposal were made.

3 VIEWS OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

The Gateway Determination conditioned consultation with Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture. However, due to other matters identified within the planning proposal, the following agencies were consulted:

a. Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture: No Objections, however advised that subsequent subdivisions of the land should incorporate buffers to avoid land use conflict between agriculture and residential
b. Transport for NSW: No objections, for subsequent subdivision a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA), prepared by a suitably qualified traffic consultant should be drafted for the whole residential release.
c. Environment Protection Authority (EPA): No objection, but identified areas of concern around land use conflict, contamination and water quality.

Comments were received from all 3 agencies during notification.

Refer to **Attachment 5** Submissions table.

In response to the agency comments, changes were made to the planning proposal.

4 PLANNING PROPOSAL AMENDMENTS POST EXHIBITION/CONSULTATION

A change was made to the planning proposal based on the feedback received from agencies and public submission. The change made was:

- Adding an additional permitted use over part of Lot 1 DP 439084 for Rural industry purposes, more specifically the regular servicing and repairs of plant and equipment used for the purposes of supporting rural enterprises.

The land on which this additional permitted use will be applied, will be approximately 8,000 square metres, which will also assist with the provision of a buffer between a large-scale rural industry west of the subject site and the proposed future large lot residential development.

5 CONSISTENCY WITH S.9.1 DIRECTIONS & OTHER STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

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

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

6 PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL OPINION

As Council are the nominated Local Plan-Making Authority (LPMA), Opinion from Parliamentary Counsel will be conducted by Council.

7 OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS

Nil.

8 MAPPING

The planning proposal seeks to amend the LEP zoning and minimum lot size maps.

A request will be forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for drafting and review of mapping before finalisation of the LEP Amendment by Council as the LPMA.

9 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the LEP amendment is made.

ATTACHMENT 1

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

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

Our ref: PP-2023-2156 (IRF24/1200)

Dear Mr Ross

Planning proposal PP-2023-2156 to amend Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011

I am writing in response to the planning proposal you have forwarded to the Minister under section 3.34(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) in respect of the planning proposal to rezone and amend minimum lot size on land at Potters Drive, Gol Gol.

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

I have also agreed, as delegate of the Secretary, the inconsistency of the planning proposal with applicable directions of the Minister under Section 9.1 of the Act, being Directions 9.1 Rural Zones and 9.2 Rural Lands, is justified in accordance with the terms of the Direction. No further approval is required in relation to the Directions.

Considering the nature of the planning proposal I have determined that Council may exercise local plan-making authority functions in relation to the planning proposal.

Parliamentary Counsel's Office is not responsible for the drafting of map-only amendments to LEPs. Requests for legal drafting for map-only amendments must instead be sent to mapinstrument.drafting@dpie.nsw.gov.au. A copy should be included to westernregion@planning.nsw.gov.au. The request must include the drafting instruction template, planning proposal and Gateway determination.

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

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

Should you have any enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Rebecca Martin to assist you. Ms Martin can be contacted on 58526810.

Yours sincerely

2/8/2024

Chantelle Chow
Acting Director, Southern, Western and Macarthur Region
Local Planning and Council Support

Encl: Gateway determination

ATTACHMENT 2

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Gateway Determination

***Planning proposal (Department Ref: PP-2023-2156)**: rezone to R5 Large Lot Residential Zone and apply a 1,500m^2 lot size on land at Potters Drive, Gol Gol.*

I, the A/Director, Southern, Western and Macarthur Region at the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, as delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, have determined under section 3.34(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) that an amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 to rezone to R5 Large Lot Residential Zone and apply a 1,500m^2 lot size on land at Potters Drive, Gol Gol, should proceed subject to the following:

Gateway Conditions

1. Prior to exhibition, the planning proposal is to be amended to include accurate mapping that reflects a clearer map scale than provided in the original planning proposal.
2. Public exhibition is required under section 3.34(2)(c) and clause 4 of Schedule 1 to the Act as follows:

    (a) the planning proposal is categorised as standard as described in the *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline* (Department of Planning and Environment, August 2023) and must be made publicly available for a minimum of 20 working days; and

    (b) the planning proposal authority must comply with the notice requirements for public exhibition of planning proposals and the specifications for material that must be made publicly available along with planning proposals as identified in *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline* (Department of Planning and Environment, August 2023).

3. Consultation is required with Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture under section 3.34(2)(d) of the Act. Department of Primary Industries – Agriculture is to be provided with a copy of the planning proposal and any relevant supporting material and given at least 30 working days to comment on the proposal.
4. A public hearing is not required to be held into the matter by any person or body under section 3.34(2)(e) of the Act. This does not discharge Council from any obligation it may otherwise have to conduct a public hearing (for example, in response to a submission or if reclassifying land).
5. The Council as planning proposal authority is authorised to exercise the functions of the local plan-making authority under section 3.36(2) of the Act subject to the following:

    (a) the planning proposal authority has satisfied all the conditions of the gateway determination;

    (b) the planning proposal is consistent with applicable directions of the Minister under section 9.1 of the Act or the Secretary has agreed that any inconsistencies are justified; and

    (c) there are no outstanding written objections from public authorities.

6. The LEP should be completed on or before 1 August 2025.

Dated 2 August 2024

Chantelle Chow
Acting Director, Southern, Western and Macarthur Region
Local Planning and Council Support
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

PP-2023-2156 (IRF24/1200)

ATTACHMENT 3

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Alteration of Gateway Determination

Planning proposal (Department Ref: IRF25/1637) PP-2023-2156

I, Acting Manager, Southern, Western and Macarthur Region at the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, as delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, have determined under section 3.34(7) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to alter the Gateway determination dated 2 August 2024 for the proposed amendment to the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 as follows:

1. Delete:

   Condition 6: “The LEP should be completed on or before 1 August 2025”

   and replace with:

   a new condition 6: “The LEP should be completed on or before 1 December 2025”

Dated 01/08/2025.

Meredith McIntyre
Acting Manager
Southern, Western and Macarthur Region
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

ATTACHMENT 4

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Our ref: PP-2023-2156
(IRF25/1637)

Mr Ken Ross
General Manager
Wentworth Shire Council
PO Box 81
WENTWORTH NSW 2648
council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

1 August 2025

Subject: **Planning proposal PP-2023-2156 – Alteration of Gateway Determination**

Dear Mr Ross

I refer to your letter in relation to seeking an extension of time to complete planning proposal PP-2023-2156 to rezone and amend minimum lot size on land at Potters Drive, Gol Gol.

I have determined as the delegate of the Minister, in accordance with section 3.34(7) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, to alter the Gateway determination dated 2 August 2024 for PP-2023-2156. The Alteration of Gateway determination is enclosed.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, I have arranged for Rebecca Martin to assist you. Ms Martin can be contacted on 5852 6810.

Yours sincerely

Meredith McIntyre
Acting Manager
Local Planning and Council Support

Encl: Alteration of Gateway Determination

ATTACHMENT 5

CCS CADELL CONSULTING SERVICES

12 August 2025

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

Dear Ken

RE: PP-2023-2156 POTTERS DRIVE PLANNING PROPOSAL - RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

Wentworth Shire Council has advised that four submissions were received during exhibition of the abovementioned planning proposal.

Council has provided an opportunity for the proponents (landholders) to prepare and submit a response to the submissions.

Three submissions from state agencies and one community submission were received at the close of exhibition*. It should be noted that none of the submissions included an objection to the planning proposal.*

Following in depth discussions with the proponents, a response to each of the main issues raised in the submissions are provided below:

Submission	Issue(s)	Response(s)
1. Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development	Final design should incorporate buffer areas and other mitigation measures to achieve physical separation between agricultural and future residential land uses	In addition to the existing 20 metre road reserve of Gol Gol North Road, the following mitigation methods will be undertaken to achieve a buffer between the existing and proposed uses: - Approximately 125 metres of the western boundary of the subject site will include retaining a large lot (approximately 8,000sqm) on the corner of Gol Gol North and Kingfisher Roads. This lot will form a buffer between the large, existing rural industry (processing and packaging plant) located west of Gol Gol North

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0429 021 494

		Road and the future large lot residential development. - The subdivision design for lots created to the north and east of the abovementioned lot, will include road design and larger sized lots, in order to protect the interface between future large lot residential and agricultural and rural industry activities. The final subdivision design (for each stage) will be prepared in consultation with Council's planning department, to ensure buffer and infrastructure requirements are satisfied. - A solid, sound proof fence will be erected on the northern and eastern boundaries of the large lot to form a partial buffer between the existing and future uses. Refer to the figure below:

Aerial photo of the existing Rural Industry sites

2. Transport for NSW	Any future application (subdivision) should include a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) to ensure consideration and assessment of the impacts of the traffic generated by the full residential release	A TIA for the entire subject site will be submitted with the first stage subdivision application for Council's and Transport for NSW review and assessment.
3. Environmental Protection Authority	a) Potential land use conflict	Proposed mitigation methods are provided above.
	b) Land contamination	The PSI identified specific sites/areas that may be potentially contaminated. Sites will be remediated prior to their inclusion in a subsequent subdivision application. The remediation works will be conducted under *Section 4.11 Category 2 remediation work: work not needing consent* of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.*
	c) WMI EPL 4659 and stormwater management	It is unsure exactly where the WMI EPL 4659 is located. However, stormwater infrastructure will be installed, in accordance with Council's requirements, to fully service the development and to ensure that stormwater will not negatively impact the licensed area, surrounding development, or local surface or groundwater.
4. Submission	a) Economic impact to agriculture	The impact from the rezoning of the site will be a loss to the local economy. The planning proposal aims to increase the land area available for future large lot residential development, therefore, it must be consistent with land use plans and strategies that particularly relate to the site, the township and future residential development. This site was nominated for future urban development in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020.
	b) Far West Regional Plan 2036	The planning proposal is consistent with the directions under *Goal 3 Strong and connected communities* of the FWRP, as addressed in Section 3 of the Planning Proposal.
	c) Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041	The planning proposal is consistent with the strategies of *Part 2 People and communities* of the Draft FWRP, as addressed in Section 3 of the Planning Proposal.

	d) Local Strategic Planning Statement	The planning proposal is consistent with *Priority 6 – Sustainable Settlements* of the LSPS. This has been addressed in Section 3 of the Planning Proposal.
	e) Community Strategic Plan	The planning proposal is consistent with the Wentworth CSP as addressed in Section 3 of the Planning Proposal.
	f) Land use conflict	Proposed mitigation measures are outlined above to address and respond to possible future land use conflict between existing and proposed uses and development. In addition, the *NSW Right to Farm Policy* provides advice to landholders and Council's on methods of managing land use conflict. One method proposed is including an information sheet on rural land use rights when issuing S10.7 Planning Certificates to prospective purchasers of land where there is existing agriculture in the area. Council may elect to undertake this measure in future to alleviate concerns and potential complaints.
	g) Transport issues	A TIA for the entire subject site will be submitted with the first stage subdivision application for Council's and Transport for NSW review and assessment.

It is proposed that through the subdivision design submitted at the Development Application stage, the land use conflict concerns raised in the submissions will be addressed through the creation of larger allotments on the interface, together with lot orientation and road reserve design.

Additionally, to allow for the formal approval and continued use of the land on the corner of Gol Gol North and Kingfisher Road, the Planning Proposal has been amended to include an *Additional Permitted Use (APU) (Rural Industry - the regular servicing or repairing of plant or equipment used for the purposes of a rural enterprise)* under *Schedule 1 Additional permitted uses* of the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011,* on part of Lot 1 DP439084, as shown in the aerial image above.

As the site is currently being utilised for Rural Industry, there will not be any changes to the on-ground activities as a result of the proposed minor amendment to the Planning Proposal. Nor will the rezoning originally proposed be amended. It is considered that the minor amendment should not require the full exhibition timeframe of the Planning Proposal as originally conditioned in the Gateway Determination.

It is respectfully requested that Council continues to support this Planning Proposal to provide a future supply of large lot residential allotments in Gol Gol, and resolves to finalise the rezoning of the subject site at its earliest convenience.

The attached amended Planning Proposal reflects the proposed amendments outlined above and is now submitted to Council for endorsement and resolution, to refer to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for finalisation.

It is understood that the original expiry timeframe date of 1 August 2025, as conditioned by the Gateway Determination, has been extended to 1 December 2025. We anticipate that this timeframe will allow for sufficient time for Council to prepare and undertake a second notification period, finalise assessment reports, consult with Parliamentary Counsel for an Opinion and seek assistance from the Department of Planning with the preparation of the digital mapping.

Should you have any questions or need to discuss this matter in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Michele Bos
Cadell Consulting Services
PIA Planning Institute Australia
Registered Planner

CCS CADELL CONSULTING SERVICES

23 April 2024

Mr George Kenende
Acting Director Health & Planning
Wentworth Shire Council
PO Box 81
Wentworth NSW 2648

Dear George

PROPONENT RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION RECEIVED FROM EPA FOR CORBETT AVENUE PLANNING PROPOSAL

On behalf of, and following consultation with, our client, CCS has prepared a response to the NSW EPA submission to the Corbett Avenue Planning Proposal.

The submission states that *the proposal has the potential to:*

- *Increase the number of noise, odour and air emitting industrial facilities located adjacent to residential land zoned as RU5; and*

  Proponent response:

  The proposed subdivision concept design for the additional E4 General Industrial zoned land, does show multiple lots along the southern and western boundaries, adjacent to the RU5 Village zone.

  However, as indicated in the Planning Proposal, the strip of land on the southern boundary is a crown land reserve, which will form part of a buffer zone with an adjoining road that will service the future residential development to the south. As such, the crown land reserve will not be developed for residential purposes.

  Additionally, the lots appearing to be adjacent to the RU5 zone on the western boundary, will, in fact, be adjacent to a future drainage reserve, which will be part of the proposed future development of that allotment.

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Therefore, there will be no development of industrial lots adjacent to residential development, which will ensure that the amenity of the surrounding residential development is not detrimentally impacted.

- *Interact with the existing EPA licensed activity currently being undertaken on the subject site (Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 4659). This licence is for irrigated agriculture and will require variation once the subject site ceases to be used for the current activity.*

  Proponent response:

  It would be anticipated that prior to the redevelopment of the subject site, the landowner/operator would consult with NSW EPA with regards to the change in use and any variation required to the current EPL.

We anticipate that the above responses satisfy the concerns and issues submitted by the NSW EPA.

Should you require any further information or clarification relating to this matter or the Planning Proposal, please do not hesitate to contact CCS.

Kind regards

Michele Bos
Cadell Consulting Services
PIA Planning Institute Australia Registered Planner

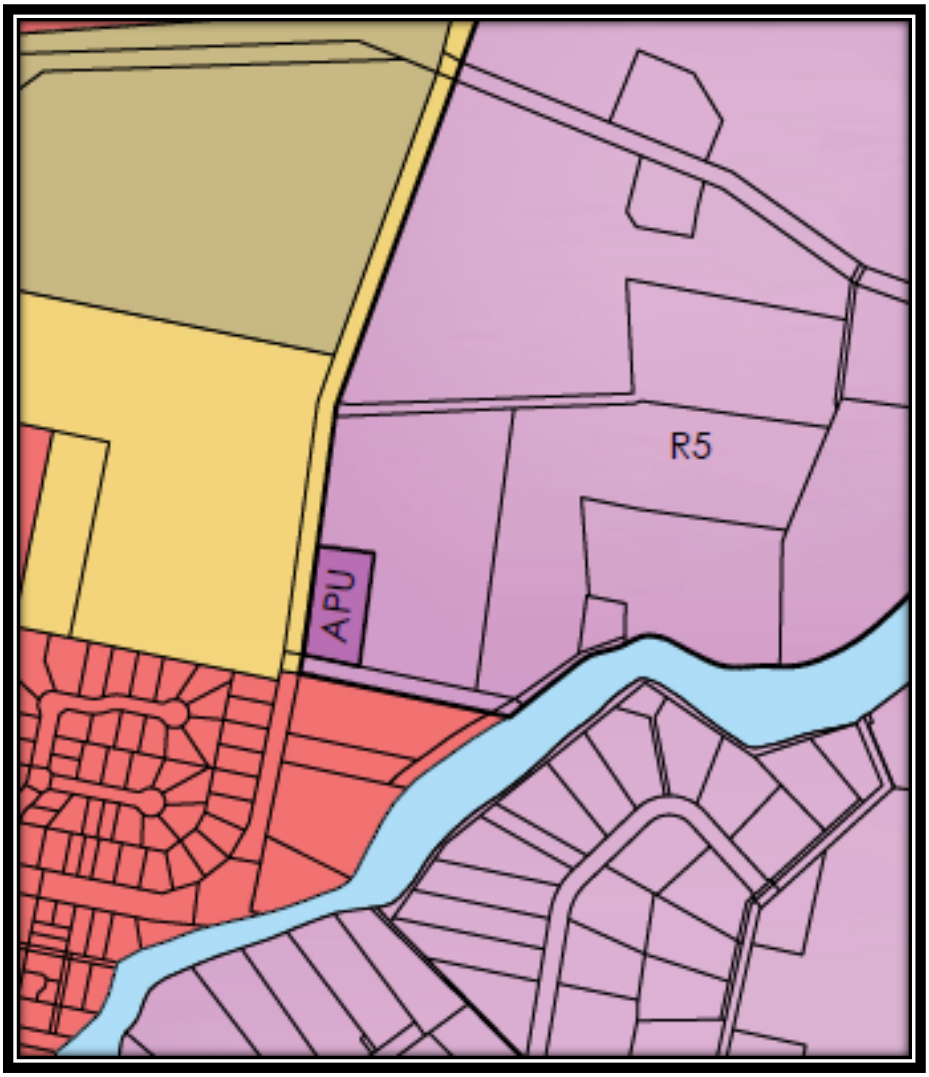

Figure 9 Additional Permitted Use map

CCS CADELL CONSULTING SERVICES

PLANNING PROPOSAL

REZONE LAND FROM RU4 PRIMARY PRODUCTION SMALL LOT TO R5 LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL, AMEND MINIMUM LOT SIZE, INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL PERMITTED USE

POTTERS DRIVE, GOL GOL

Michele Bos

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Version	Date	Author	Approved
Pre-lodgement	26 May 2023	Michele Bos	Cadell Consulting Services
Lodgement	28 September 2023	Michele Bos	Cadell Consulting Services
Final	15 December 2023	Michele Bos	Cadell Consulting Services
Exhibition	12 August 2024	Michele Bos	Cadell Consulting Services
Post Exhibition	12 August 2025	Michele Bos	Cadell Consulting Services

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Attachment 1 – Subdivision Concept Plan V1 & V2

Attachment 2 – State Environmental Planning Policy Assessment

Attachment 3 – Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions Assessment

Attachment 4 – Senversa Pty Ltd Preliminary Site Investigation (Separate)

Attachment 5 – Letter to Wentworth Shire Council – Response to submissions (Separate)

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

This Planning Proposal has been prepared by Cadell Consulting Services on behalf of MH^2 Engineering & Architectural Services and the landowners.

The Proposal seeks to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP) by:

- Rezoning the subject site from RU4 Primary Production Small Lots to R5 Large Lot Residential zone
- Amending the minimum lot size of 10 hectares to 1,500 square metres
- Introduce an Additional Permitted Use for a Rural Industry – Servicing plant/equipment for rural enterprise.

This Planning Proposal has been prepared in accordance with Section 3.33 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), together with satisfying the requirements of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline August 2023* (DPIE Guideline).

The Planning Proposal is classified as a 'Standard' application for administrative purposes.

1.2 Format of the Planning Proposal

This Planning Proposal has been structured as follows:

- Section 1 introduces the Planning Proposal and supporting documentation
- Section 2 provides a description of the subject site, its locality and the surrounding land uses
- Section 3 contains the Planning Proposal prepared in accordance with the DPIE Guideline
- Section 4 includes a Supply and Demand analysis for R5 zoned land

1.3 Supporting Documentation

The following documentation and plans have been prepared to support this Planning Proposal. These attachments are identified in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Attachments to Planning Proposal

Attachment Name		Prepared by
1.	Subdivision Concept Plan V1 & V2	MH^2 Engineering & Architectural Services Pty Ltd
2.	Consistency with State Environmental Planning Policies	Cadell Consulting Services
3.	Consistency with Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions	Cadell Consulting Services
4.	Preliminary Site Investigation	Senversa Pty Ltd
5.	Letter to Wentworth Shire Council - Response to submissions	Cadell Consulting Services

2. Site & Locality Details

2.1 Site Location

The subject site is located on the eastern fringe of Gol Gol in south western New South Wales.

Gol Gol is situated approximately 7 kilometres from the central business district of the north western regional city of Mildura, Victoria.

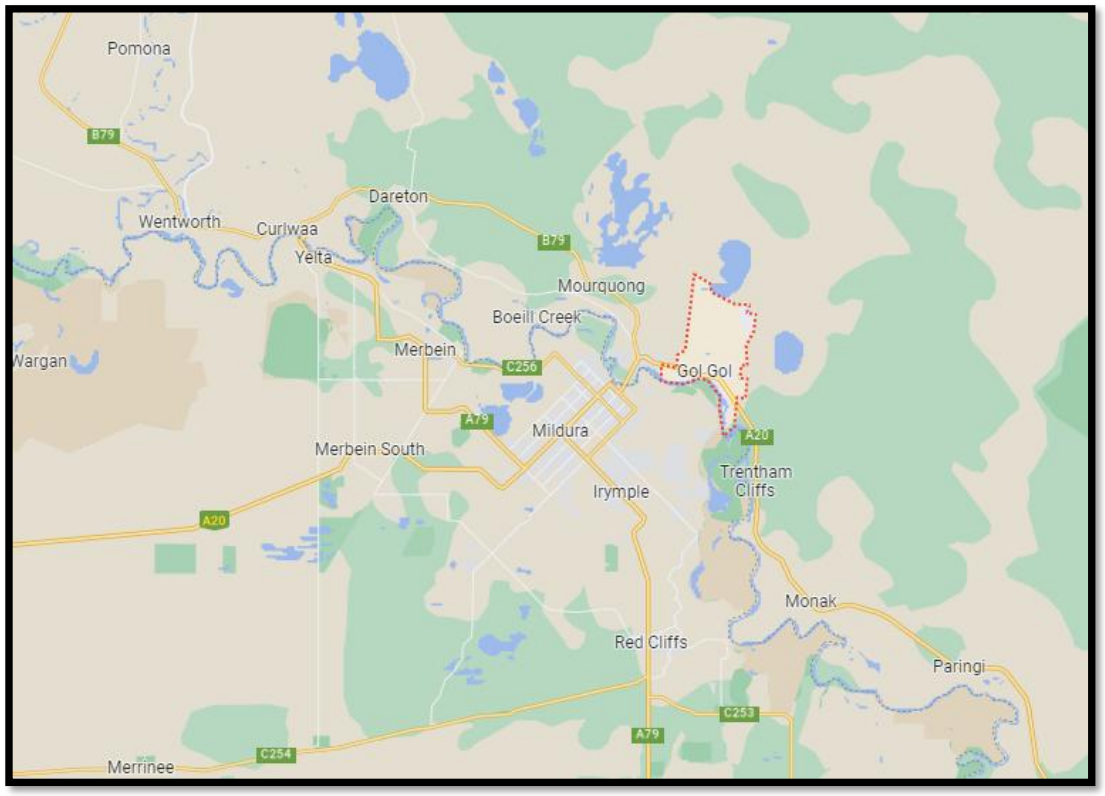


Figure 1 Locality Map (Source: Google Maps)

2.2 Site Description

The subject site is zoned RU4 Primary Production Small Lots with a minimum lot size of 10 hectares.

The site is bounded by Gol Gol North Road to the west, Kingfisher Drive to the south, Potters Drive to the north and the Gol Gol Creek to the east.

The subject site includes 10 allotments encompassing approximately 62 hectares.

The current uses of the overall subject site are a blend of horticultural and rural residential uses, the majority of the site, approximately 41 hectares, is under horticulture crop. There is an existing shed in the south west corner of the overall site that is currently being used for the purposes of a rural industry, being repairs and modifications to irrigation pumps and associated infrastructure.

There are seven dwellings with associated outbuildings, situated throughout the subject site.

Other than the horticultural crops, the vegetation on the subject site includes some native species along the Gol Gol Creek boundary, with the balance of vegetation being ornamental and introduced species.

The list of allotments and addresses are provided below in Table 2:

Table 2 Lot Identifier & Addresses

Lot Identifier	Address
Lot 1 DP1152903	21 Potters Drive
Lot 2 DP1152903	Potters Drive
Lot 1 DP1259848	22 Potters Drive
Lot 2 DP1259848	Gol Gol North Road
Lot 1 DP1269246	56 Gol Gol North Road
Lot 2 DP1269246	Gol Gol North Road
Lot 3 DP236223	38 Kingfisher Road
Lot 5 DP236223	48B Potters Drive
Lot 2 DP1200627	35 Kingfisher Road
Lot 1 DP439084	36 Gol Gol North Road

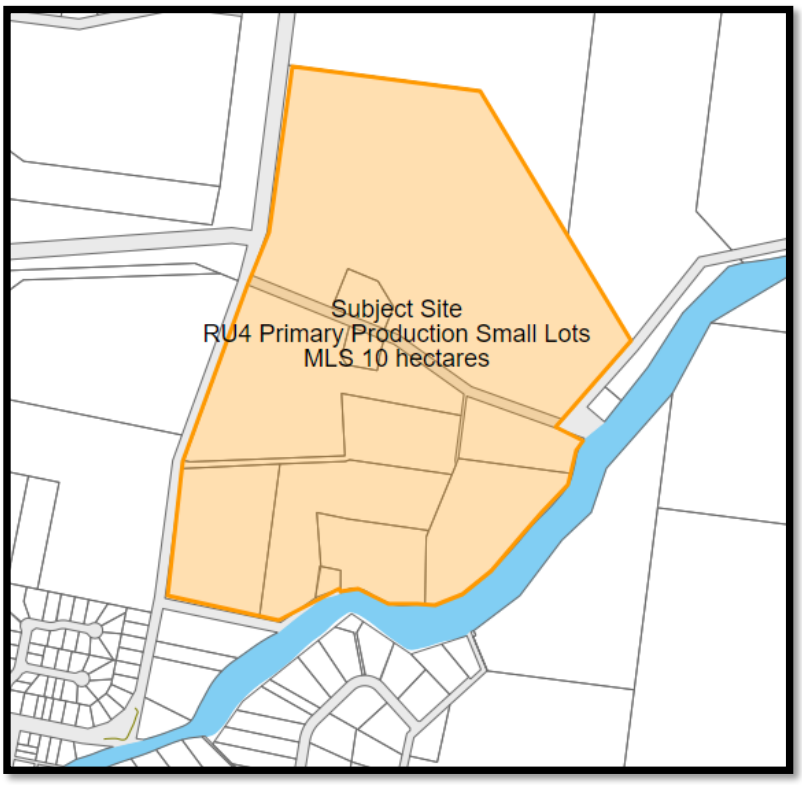


Figure 2 Site Map (Source: Intramaps)

The subject site is not affected by bushfire prone land mapping or flooding.

2.3 Surrounding Development

The subject site is located in a semi-rural area on the north eastern fringe of Gol Gol.

To the north and west is land under active horticultural production. A small area of rural living development is occurring on the north eastern boundary along the Gol Gol Creek.

On the south western boundary is the RU5 Village zone where a vacant lot is in the process of being developed for residential purposes. Further to the south west is the township of Gol Gol.

Figure 3 Aerial Map (Source: Nearmap)

The Gol Gol Creek runs along the south eastern boundary of the site. It should be noted that Figure 2 above shows the subject site boundary at the water's edge of the Gol Gol Creek. In fact, more accurate mapping on Sixmaps below, shows that the south eastern boundary of the subject site and Kingfisher Road contain varying setbacks from the Gol Gol Creek watercourse.

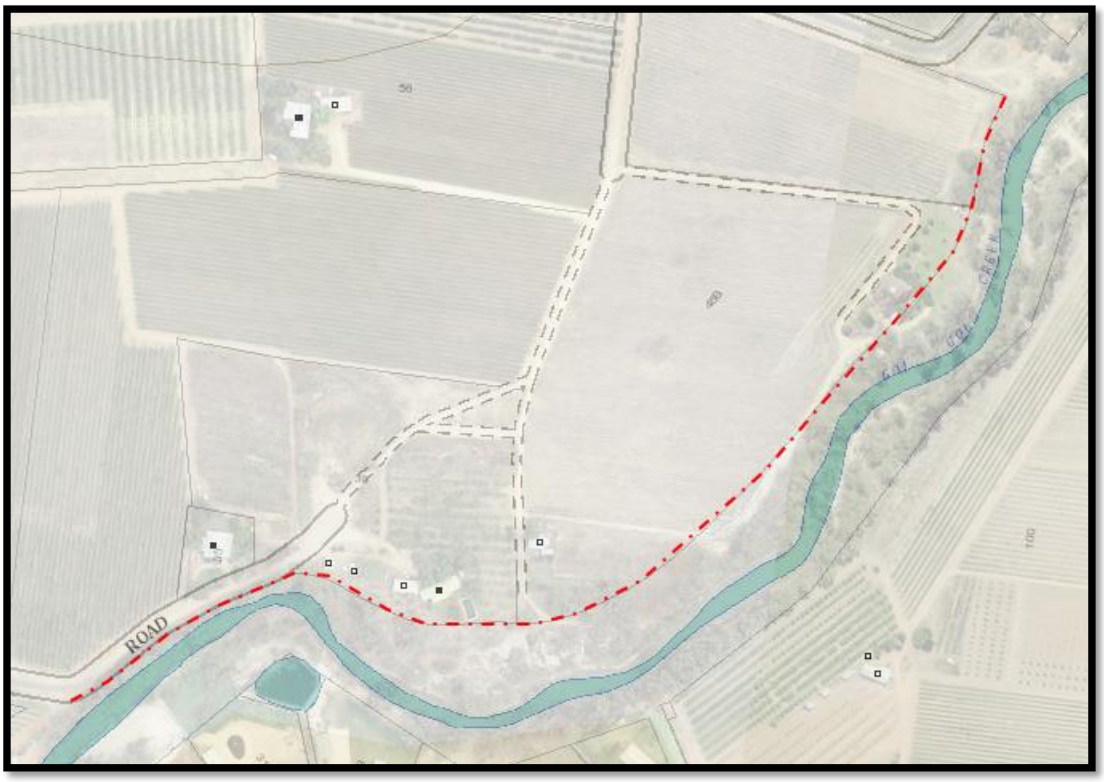


Figure 4 Watercourse Map (Source: Six Maps NSW)

3. Planning Proposal

3.1 Objectives or Intended Outcomes

The objective of this Planning Proposal is to amend the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 by:

- rezoning the subject site from RU4 Primary Production Small Lots zone to R5 Large Lot Residential zone
- amending the minimum lot size from 10 hectares to 1,500 sqm
- adding an additional permitted use over part of Lot 1 DP 439084 for Rural industry purposes, more specifically the regular servicing and repairs of plant and equipment used for the purposes of supporting rural enterprises.

The intended outcome is to take advantage of and satisfy the current and growing demand for large residential lots in Gol Gol. This will be achieved by providing lots that are larger than the average, urban residential lot size, that are fully serviced and located within a short distance from the town centre.

By adding the 1,500 sqm minimum lot size in to the Wentworth LEP 2011, the subject site can be subdivided in to allotments of 1,500 sqm or larger.

The additional permitted use will facilitate and support the formal approval of a current rural industry enterprise on part of the site. The land on which this use will be applied, will be approximately 8,000 square metres, which will also assist with the provision of a buffer between a large-scale rural industry west of the subject site and the proposed future large lot residential development.

3.2 Explanation of Provisions

To achieve the objective and intended outcomes of the Planning Proposal, the table below outlines the amendments required to the Wentworth LEP 2011:

Table 3 Proposed Amendments to Planning Portal Spatial Viewer mapping

Amend ***Digital Land Zoning Map***
Amend ***Sheet LSZ_004G***
Add ***Sheet APU_004G***
Amend ***Schedule 1 Additional permitted uses*** ***7 Use of certain land at Gol Gol North Road, Gol Gol –*** ***(1) This clause applies to part of Lot 1 DP439084, identified as "Item 7" on the Additional Permitted Uses Map*** ***(2) Development for the purposes of Rural Industry - the regular servicing or repairing of plant or equipment used for the purposes of a rural enterprise***

The figures below show the existing zone and minimum lot size, proposed zone and minimum lot size, and additional permitted uses mapping in context with the Buronga and Gol Gol area.

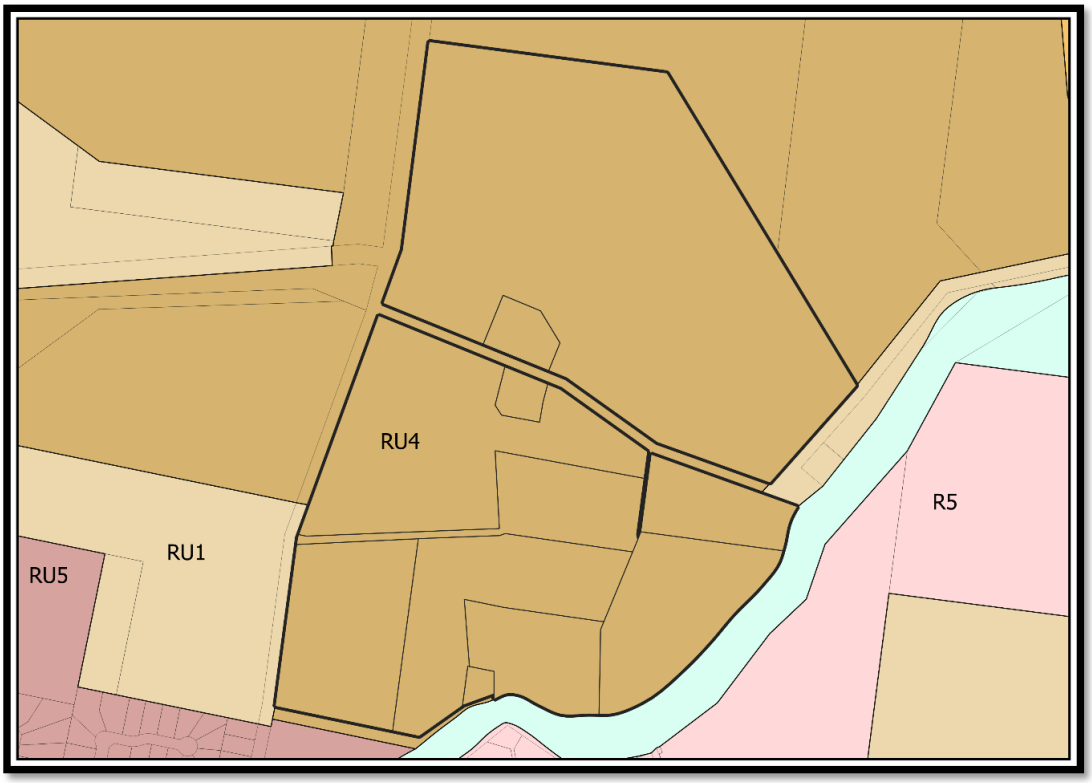


Figure 5 Existing zone RU4

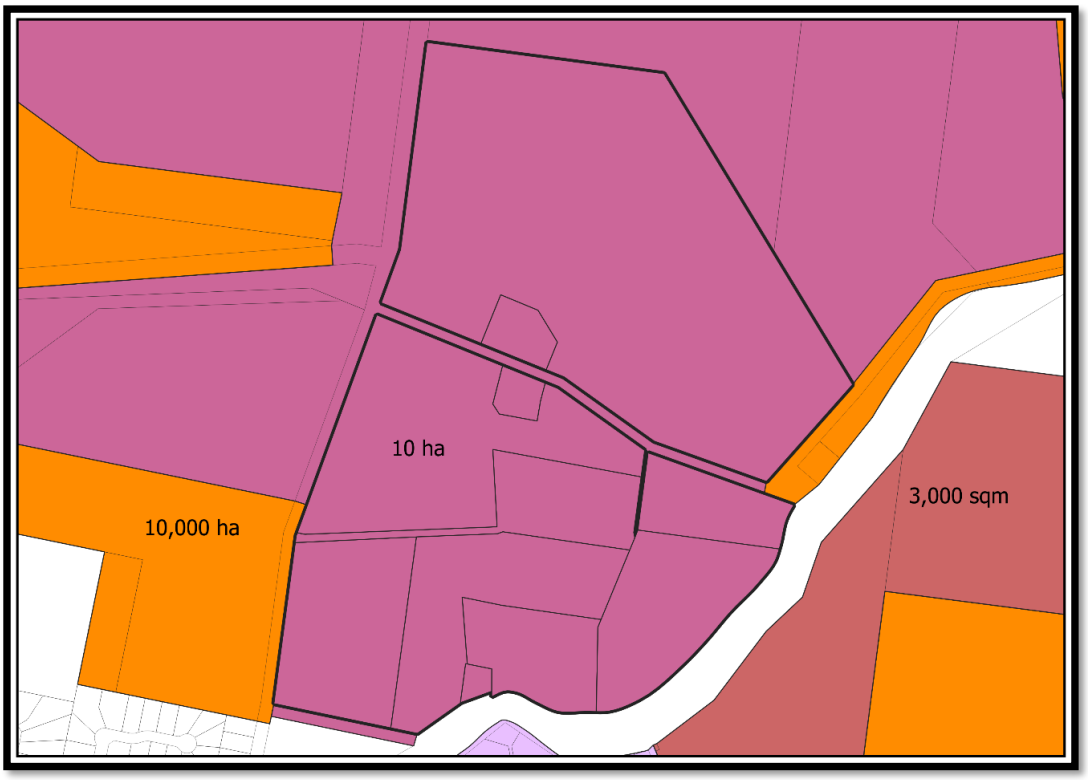


Figure 6 Existing MLS 10ha

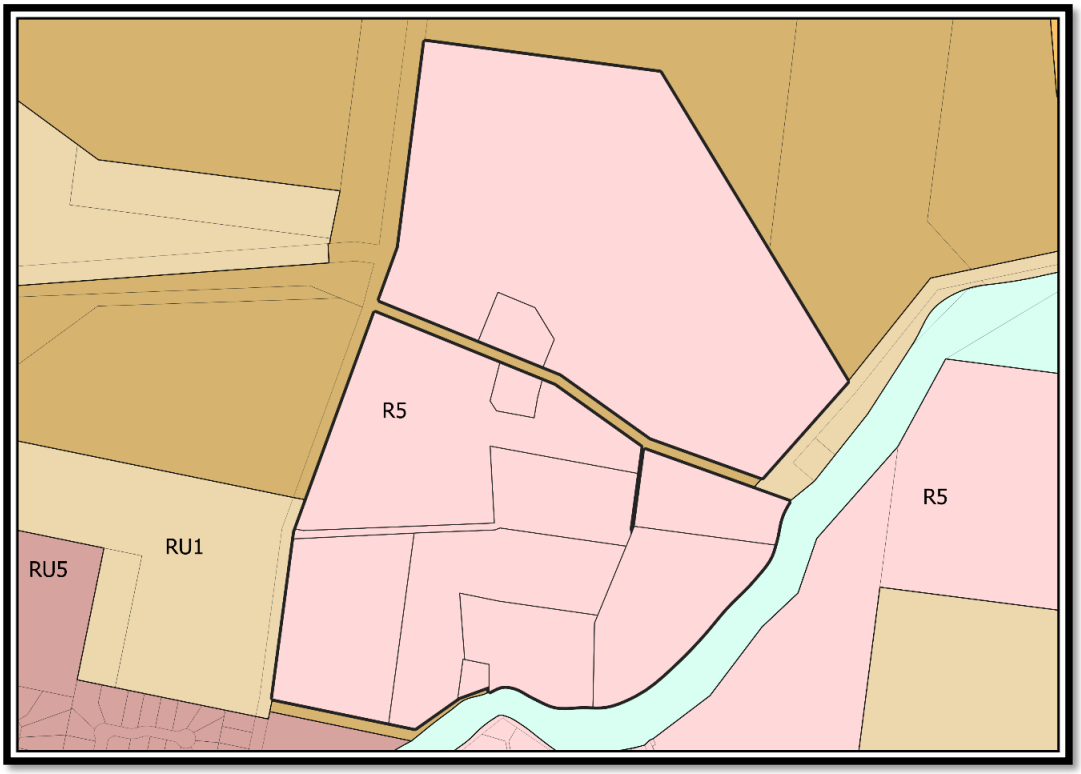


Figure 7 Proposed zone R5

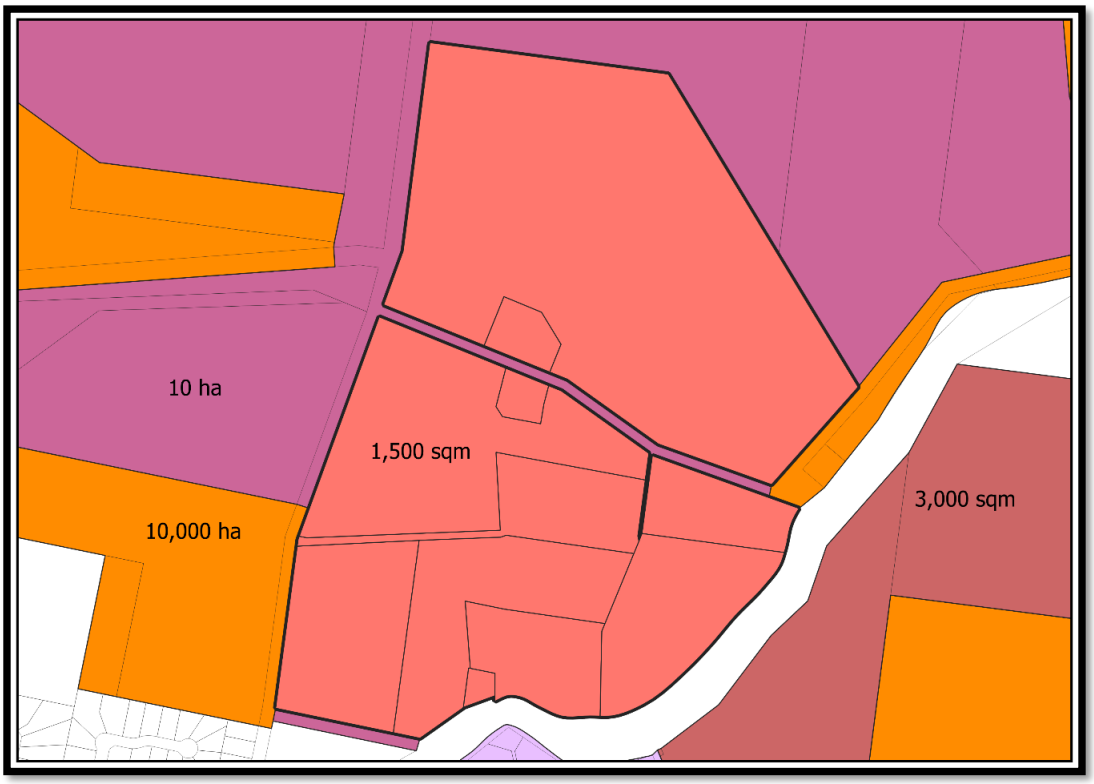


Figure 8 Proposed MLS 1,500sqm

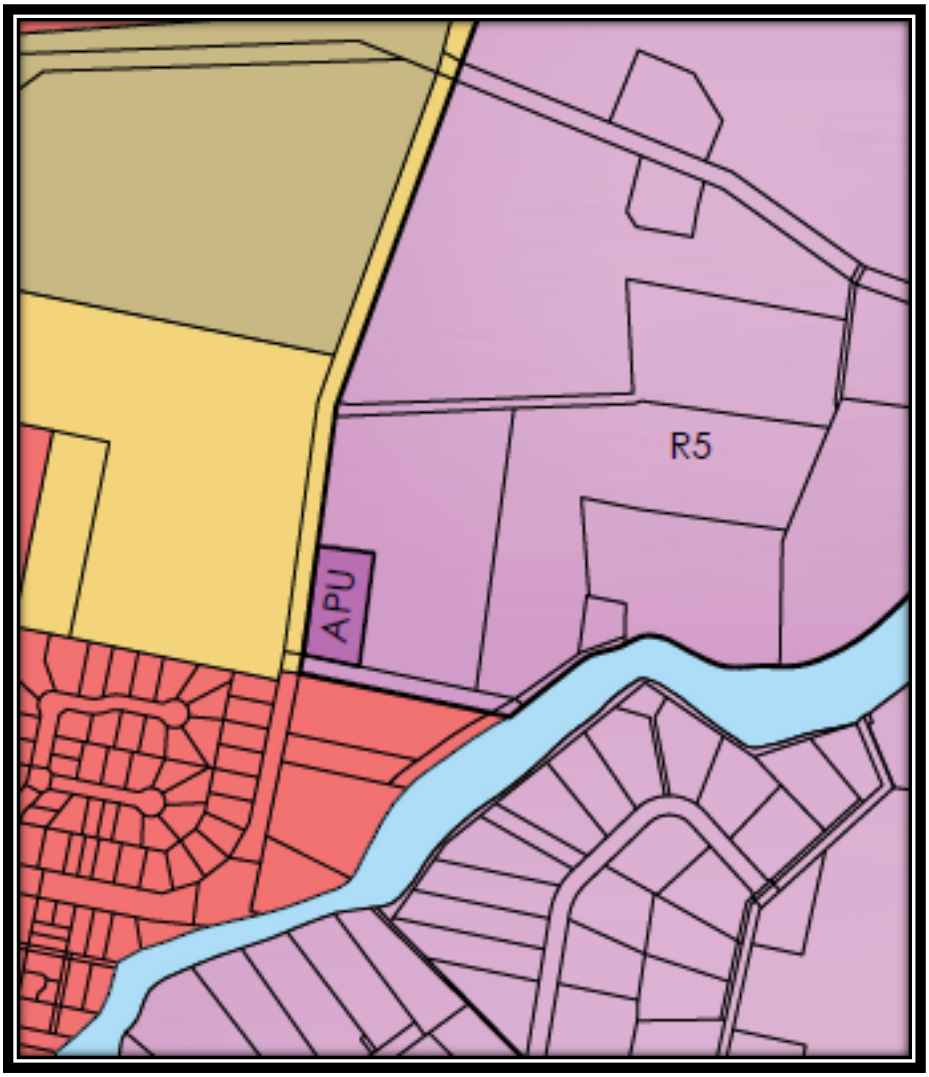


Figure 9 Additional Permitted Use map

3.3 Justification

Section A – Need for the Planning Proposal

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

Local Strategic Planning Statement

Under Priority 6 - Sustainable Settlements, the Primary Settlement Areas Strategy for new urban development in Buronga and Gol Gol directs:

- All new urban development to be located within the identified settlement boundary.
  Response - The subject site falls within the settlement boundary.
- Rural residential development to be provided in suitable locations, subject to further investigation.
  Response: Map 5 in the LSPS shows that the subject site was nominated as being suitable for future large lot residential development. This was also supported and recommended in the endorsed Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020.

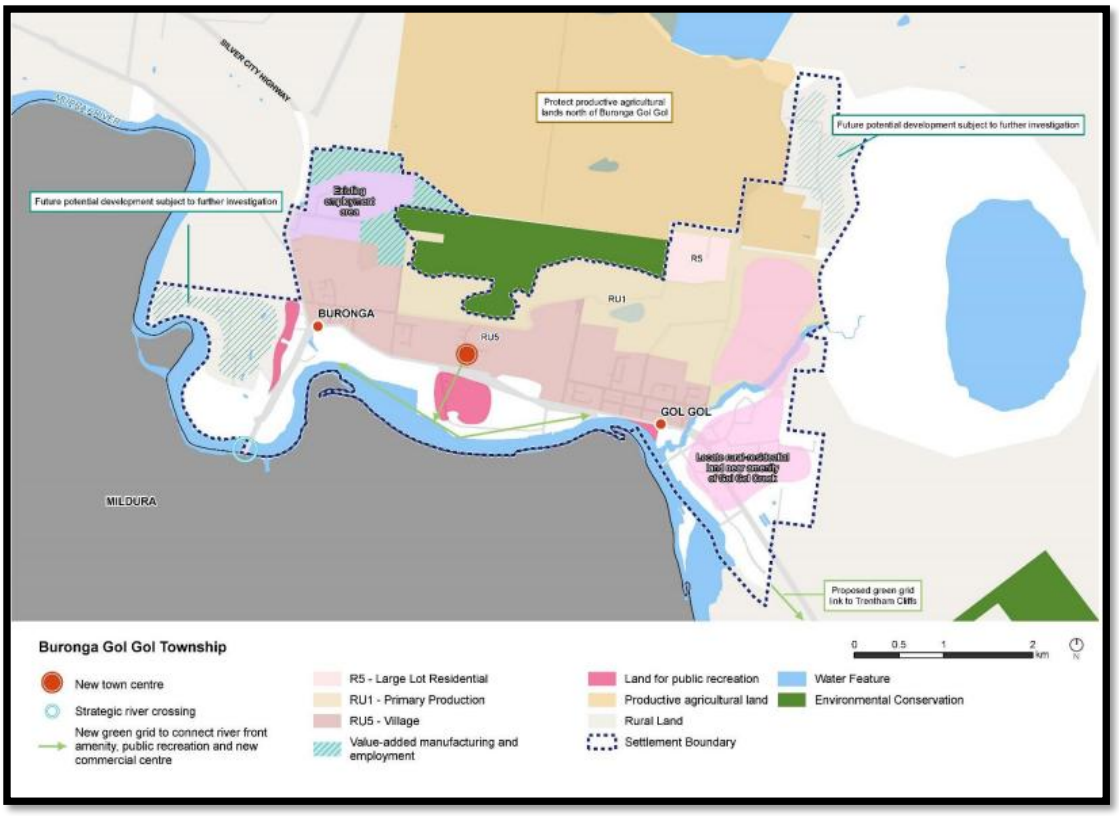


Figure 10 Buronga Gol Gol Settlement Boundary (Source: LSPS Map 5)

Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan

The Planning Proposal is consistent and is a direct consequence of a recommendation of the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020 (BGGSP).

The BGGSP was adopted by Wentworth Shire Council at its Ordinary Meeting held 16 September 2020.

The BGGSP was endorsed by the Department of Planning & Environment 5 November 2021.

Recommendation 14 recommended that the R5 Large Lot Residential zone be applied to the subject site and additional land, north of and adjacent to the subject site. The entire area recommended to be rezoned is shown as orange in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan Future Land Use Zones in Figure 6 below.

The recommendation did not include a nominated minimum lot size to be applied to the new R5 Large Lot Residential zone.

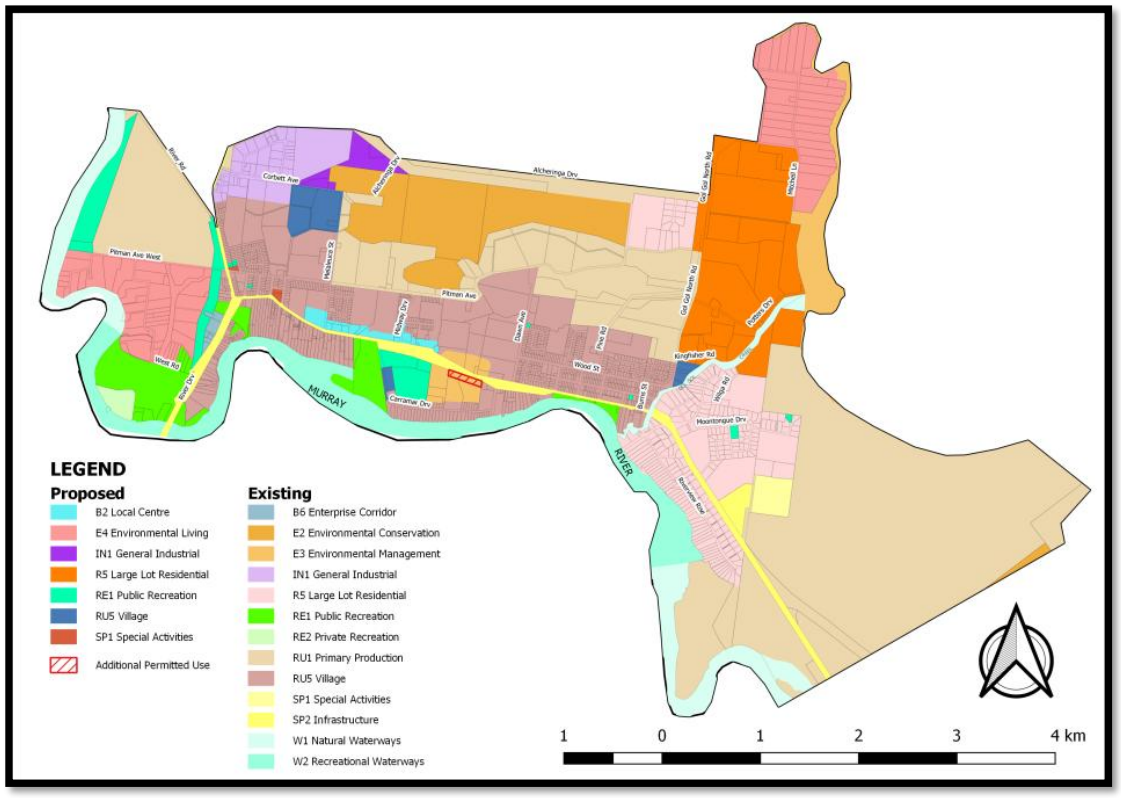


Figure 11 Future Land Use Zones (Source: BGGSP Figure 4.1)

Recommendation 14 included the timeframe estimated for enacting upon the recommendation was *Ongoing as per Urban Land Release Staging Plan.* Refer to Figure 7 below.

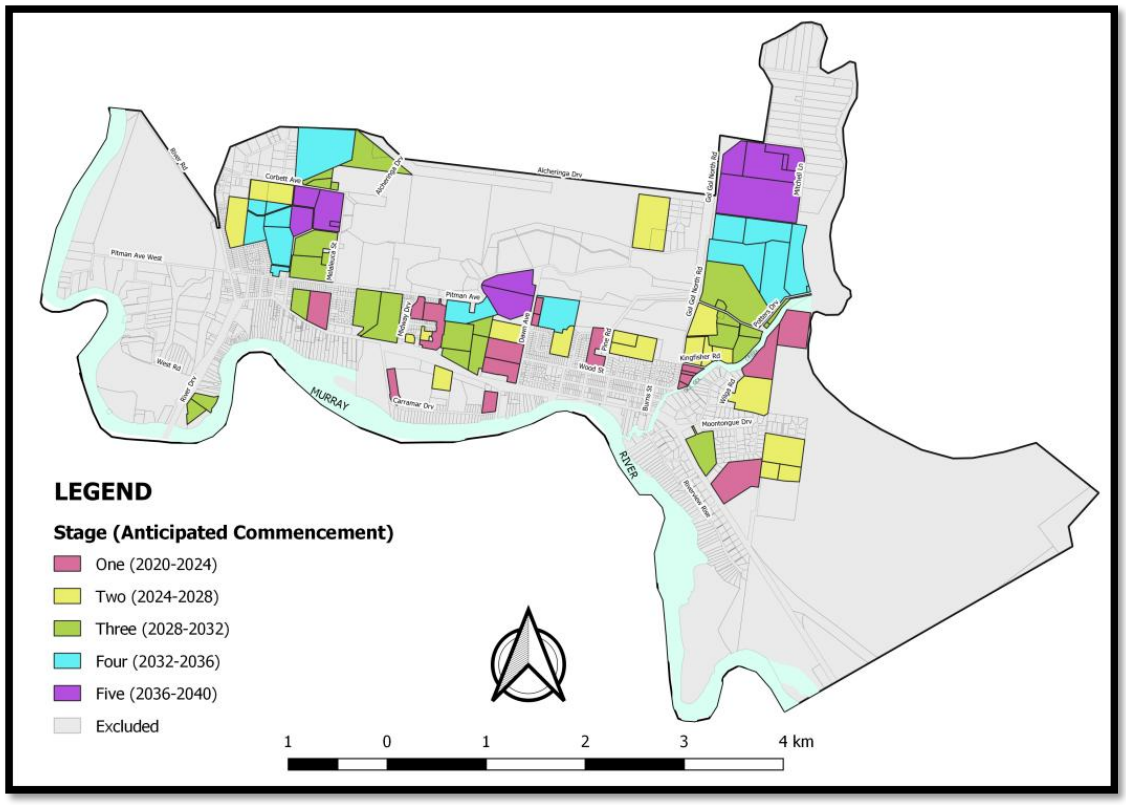


Figure 12 Urban Land Release Staging Plan (Source: BGGSP Figure 4.4)

The staging plan estimated that the anticipated timeframe for commencement of the southern section of the subject site would be short term, while the northern section would be medium term.

The area related to the medium term, Stage 3 (2028-2032), has been included in this Planning Proposal due to continued high demand for land in this zone in Gol Gol. Further details of the supply and demand are provided in Section 4 Supply and Demand for R5 Zone Land.

The proposal is also consistent with the BGGSP Land Use Principles for residential development as outlined on page 37 and the Urban Land Release Staging Plan on page 49.

The Land Use Principles for residential areas that directly apply this Planning Proposal, include:

iii. 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.

Response: The Planning Proposal will facilitate the provision of a greater variety of lot sizes than currently supplied. This will respond to the current and growing demand for lot sizes that are generally larger than those supplied in the RU5 Village zone and in the residential zones in Mildura.

vi. Determine a Staged Development Plan to co-ordinate the roll out of development to assist with planning of road connectivity, infrastructure and services.

The subject site is located within the staging plan on page 49 of the BGGSP. The anticipated timeframe for commencement for the subject site falls within Stage 2 (2024-2028) and Stage 3 (2028-2032).

The current development of the property south of Kingfisher Drive in the RU5 zone will ensure that infrastructure and services will be readily accessible to facilitate development of the southern end of the subject site. The roll out of development of the subject site will then progress north as demand for supply continues.

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

The Planning Proposal is the best means of achieving the objectives and intended outcomes for the proposed development.

The current zone, RU4 Primary Production Small Lots and the minimum lot size applied to the subject site do not permit the development of land for large lot residential purposes.

The APU will allow for formalisation of the current rural enterprise being conducted in a shed on the site.

Hence, the recommendation for rezoning of the subject site as outlined in the BGGSP.

Section B – Relationship to Strategic Planning Framework

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

Far West Regional Plan 2036 (FWRP)

The Planning Proposal gives effect to two directions and their relevant actions under *Goal 3 Strong and connected communities* of the FWRP.

Direction 21: Strengthen communities of interest and cross-regional relationships

The townships of Buronga and Gol Gol are often referred to, or thought of, as northern suburbs to Mildura. The short drive to Mildura's central business district attracts people who work in the Victorian regional city, but reside in Buronga and Gol Gol, because of its ease of access and availability to employment, educational, health, commercial and retail services.

The Planning Proposal provides a cross-border resolution to new residents wishing to live in New South Wales or in a small town/village environment, but within close proximity to work, businesses and services provided by Mildura.

Direction 27: Provide greater housing choice

The Planning Proposal is consistent with this direction, in that it responds to the ongoing and growing demand for lots larger than the average urban residential lot size, and will provide a supply of developable land to satisfy the short to medium term demand.

The Planning Proposal is also consistent with this direction as it aims to systematically release land consistently with the BGGSP urban land release staging plan and in response to the demand for R5 zoned land, whilst ensuring the development is supported with adequate infrastructure and services.

Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041 (DFWRP)

The Planning Proposal gives effect to two objectives of the DFWRP under *Part 2 People and communities.*

Part 2 Objective 6: Plan for housing supply, diversity, affordability and resilience

The proposal is consistent with this objective as it will provide for and *promotes a diversity of housing choices so that people have more options at different stages of their life and at different affordability levels.*

The proposal is consistent with Strategy 6.1:

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

The Planning Proposal aims to apply the 1,500 sqm minimum lot size to subject site, adding variety to the existing applicable lot sizes for the R5 Large Lot Residential zone. This will provide a greater diversity for residential development on the eastern fringe of the Gol Gol township.

• *aligning infrastructure and service provision to housing supply needs*

The Planning Proposal is consistent with the recommended urban land release staging plan in the BGGSP. This will ensure that infrastructure and service provision will adequately support the subsequent development.

Further details on the provision of infrastructure and services is provided in Section 3.3.11 of the Planning Proposal.

3.3.4 Is the Planning Proposal consistent with a Council Local Strategic Planning Statement that has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary or Greater Sydney Commission, or another strategy or strategic plan?

Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)

The Planning Proposal is consistent with development strategies as identified for Buronga and Gol Gol under Planning Priority 6. The subject site also falls within the identified settlement boundary of Buronga and Gol Gol.

The *Strategic vision, intent and priorities* applicable to the Planning Proposal of the LSPS include:

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

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

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

The Planning Proposal is consistent with the *Strategic vision, intent and priorities* of the LSPS, as it:

- Leverages the demand for larger residential lots which will facilitate population growth.
- Facilitates population growth, which will inevitably increase the economic activity and social opportunities and capacity of the Gol Gol and Buronga townships.
- Ensures that the proposed development will be well planned, with adequate services and infrastructure within close proximity to Gol Gol's economic and community services.

Wentworth Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (WCSP)

The WCSP has been developed as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework NSW requirements. The plan aims to reflect a holistic vision of the shire community and acts as a guide and reference point for decision making by elected representatives, community members and council staff.

The four key strategies of the CSP include:

Economic – A vibrant, growing and thriving region

Social – A great place to live

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

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

The Planning Proposal is consistent with the CSP, as it facilitates social and economic growth and capacity through population growth. This is particularly apparent through the provision of higher density residential allotments, than what is already provided in the current R5 zone and recommended to be applied as part of a recommendation in the BGGSP.

However, the proposed lot sizes are large enough to leverage the demand for residential allotments that are larger than typical or current urban residential allotments.

3.3.5 Is the Planning Proposal consistent with any other applicable State and regional studies or strategies?

Housing 2041 – NSW Housing Strategy (NSWHS)

The NSWHS aims to achieve four objectives, two of which are considered to be applicable to this Planning Proposal.

To deliver housing supply in the right locations at the right time

While the Planning Proposal is not directly delivering housing, it is:

- providing the continuity of land supply for large lot residential development,
- located in a strategically identified and suitable location, and
- being rezoned in accordance with the staging plan of the BGGSP.

To provide housing that is diverse and meets varied and changing needs

While there is a trend statewide for smaller residential allotments, the opposite is occurring in Gol Gol and Buronga. In these townships, the demand for larger residential allotments continues to equal the demand for the range of allotments as provided in the villages. Therefore, the Planning Proposal is providing a supply of land that has been and continues to be, a popular lifestyle choice for the Gol Gol community.

3.3.6 Is the Planning Proposal consistent with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)?

An assessment of the Planning Proposal to the State Environmental Planning Policies is provided in Attachment 2.

3.3.7. Is the Planning Proposal consistent with applicable Ministerial Directions (Section 9.1 Directions)?

An assessment of the Planning Proposal to the Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions is provided in Attachment 3.

Section C – Environmental, social and economic impact

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

Other than horticultural crops and ornamental or introduced vegetation, the subject site is otherwise devoid of native vegetation and associated habitats.

All native vegetation within the water front area of the creek will be not be impacted by the proposal. In that, construction works will not be permitted outside the property boundary during the development of the subject site.

Subject to the discretion of the consent authority, development approval of a subdivision that involves allotments along the creek frontage may include a condition requiring those allotments to be fenced (post and wire) prior to the certification certificate being issued. This process would mirror the requirements that were applied on the opposite side of the creek – to the east – where the R5 zoned land has been developed adjacent to the creek.

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

The proposed development subsequent of the rezoning of the subject site, will not have any detrimental impact on the Gol Gol Creek or its function to provide irrigation water to horticultural properties north of the site.

The Gol Gol Creek is a regulated waterway providing irrigation water to Gol Gol North horticulturalists. The creek is not used for recreational purposes ie. Boats, fishing, skiing. As the flow of water is managed, unlike typical rivers in times of flood and high-water flows, there is minimal likelihood that the creek bank will be damaged or compromised due to erosion.

Development applications associated with any allotments that are adjacent to the Gol Gol Creek will be assessed in accordance with *Clause 7.7 Riparian land and Murray River and other watercourses – general principles* in the Wentworth LEP 2011.

The development of the site will be planned and managed to ensure that no stormwater, effluent or waste water is directed to, or discharged, in to the creek.

3.3.10 Has the Planning Proposal adequately addressed any social and economic effects?

Social and economic benefits have been addressed in Section B in response to consistency with the LSPS and WCSP.

Section D – State and Commonwealth interests

3.3.11 Is there adequate public infrastructure for the planning proposal?

The development of the subject site will include the following infrastructure to service the use of the subject site for large lot residential purposes, as directed and conditioned by the consent authority:

- Water, sewer and stormwater
- Safe access in and out of the subject site

- Adequate road construction and widths
- Shared pathways
- Street lighting
- Street trees
- Fire hydrants
- Public open space(s)

It has been confirmed by Wentworth Shire Council that all of the above infrastructure and services can be provided to adequately support and service the proposed development of the subject site.

The advice received also included that the subject site will need to be developed from the southern boundary and progress north to ensure a co-ordinated and sustainable approach to the servicing of the entire site. This is also due to a slightly elevated ridge running through the site, from east to west.

The first stage, being the southern portion of the subject site, will have access to infrastructure and services (mains water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure) via land south of Kingfisher Road. This area has recently been rezoned and is currently under subdivision development.

The northern portion of the site will require additional infrastructure to be constructed and/or installed and then connected to the water and sewer infrastructure within the southern portion of the site.

Stormwater management for the southern portion of the site will be managed to the south into the existing system. Whilst stormwater from the northern portion of the site will be managed on site with the overflow directed to the west in to a large drainage basin. Alternatively, it may be connected in to the system developed to the south.

Cost of provision of services will be the responsibility of the landholders/developers in accordance with the current WSC Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan, WSC Section 64 Development Servicing Plan No 1 Water Supply and Sewerage Services and WSC Section 64 Development Servicing Plan No 2 Stormwater Infrastructure.

3.3.12 What are the views of State and Commonwealth public authorities consulted in accordance with the Gateway Determination?

Early consultation with DPI Agriculture was undertaken by Wentworth Shire Council.

DPI Agriculture has not objected to the proposal, particularly as the proposal is a consequence of Recommendation 14 of the BGGSP. However, they have raised concern regarding the potential land use conflict issue between the proposed residential use and horticultural activity.

Despite many intensive agricultural enterprises located on land adjacent to both urban and large lot residential land in the Buronga and Gol Gol area, historically, there has been little, to no issues raised.

However, in response to the submissions received from public authorities and others during exhibition, and to ensure that land use conflict is avoided and mitigated in the future, details of buffer mitigation methods are outlined in Attachment 5. These include, proposed larger allotments and future consideration of road alignments, particularly in the south western corner of the subject site, adjacent to the Gol Gol North Road. The final subdivision design for the south western corner will be prepared in consultation with Council, for its approval, to ensure that the design includes methods to mitigate any potential future land use conflict with surrounding uses.

Refer to Attachment 5 Letter to Wentworth Shire Council - Response to Submissions.

3.4 Mapping

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the following maps in the Wentworth LEP 2011, as they apply to the subject site on the NSW Planning Portal Spatial Viewer:

Amend Digital Land Zoning Map

Amend Sheet LSZ_004G

Add Sheet APU_004G

3.5 Community Consultation

In accordance with Section 3.33(2)(e) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, community consultation may need to be conducted.

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

For this Planning Proposal, the following consultation process may include:

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

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

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

Consultation with any relevant state agencies will be determined by the Gateway Determination.

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

Outcome from Community Consultation

Refer to Attachment 5 Letter to Wentworth Shire Council - Response to Submissions.

3.6 Project Timeline

The *NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Local Planning Guideline August 2023* sets a benchmark timeframe for completion of the Planning Proposal process.

For a 'Standard' Planning Proposal, the benchmark is a total of 320 days for all stages of the process to be completed. This timeframe does not include pre-lodgement of the Planning Proposal with Council.

There are many factors that can influence the timeframe process. However, the following table provides indicative timeframes for each stage:

Table 4 Planning Proposal Timeframes

Stage	Timeframe
Pre-lodgement	May 2023
Lodgement of Planning Proposal	September 2023, December 2023, August 2024
Gateway Determination	August 2024
Post Gateway	August 2024
Public Exhibition & Assessment	September to November 2024
Finalisation	February 2024

The consideration and subsequent response to submissions, together with resultant amendments made to the draft Planning Proposal, have been carefully considered and discussed with both Council and the Department of Planning.

This consultation process has taken considerable time, and has caused significant delays to the indicative timeframes outlined in Table 4 above.

The Gateway Determination conditioned a timeframe of 1 August 2025 for completion. However, that timeframe was not adhered to for finalisation, due to the extended consultation process and Council's staffing resources.

Therefore, an extension to the timeframe was requested and has been granted to 1 December 2025. This will allow Council to re-exhibit the amended planning proposal, consult with Parliamentary Counsel for an Opinion, and the Department of Planning for assistance with the digital mapping, to enable the finalisation and notification of the amendment to Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011.

4. Supply and Demand for R5 Zone Land

4.1 2021 ABS Statistics

The population statistics outlined in the BGGSP were based on the 2016 ABS Census statistics and the estimated annual growth rate was determined to be approximately 2.8%.

Following an analysis of the 2021 ABS Census statistics, the annual growth rate collectively for Buronga and Gol Gol is now 3.44%. The annual population growth rate for Gol Gol, individually, is 5.6%.

The table below shows the growth rate of the combined villages of Buronga and Gol Gol and their individual population growth rates.

The estimated population statistics up to 2026 have been calculated based on the annual growth rates experienced between 2016 and 2021, taken from the 2016 and 2021 ABS Census statistics.

Due to the continued increase in population growth, the estimated population has only been calculated to 2026. Following the release of the 2026 ABS Census statistics, it is strongly recommended that a review of the population statistics is conducted.

Table 5 Estimated Population Statistics

Locality	2016	2021	Increase	Estimated 2026
Buronga Gol Gol	2,735	3,205	470 (+17.2%)	3,758
Buronga	1,212	1,252	40 (+3.3%)	1,294
Gol Gol	1,523	1,956	433 (+28.4%)	2,511

The median age of residents in Buronga and Gol Gol has remained consistent at 37 to 38 years since 2011. Meanwhile, Shire wide, the average number of people per dwelling sits at 2.5 persons, with an average of 2.6 persons per dwelling in Buronga and an average of 2.9 persons per dwelling in Gol Gol.

The ABS Census statistics show that 31% of the population of Gol Gol were aged 19 years and younger in both 2021 and 2016. In 2016 there were 481 persons in this cohort, whereas, statistics show that there were 606 persons in the school aged cohort in Gol Gol at the time of the 2021 Census.

The number of private dwellings in Gol Gol increased by 165, between 2016 and 2021, an average of 33 new dwellings per year. It is noted that this statistic is applicable to both the R5 and the RU5 zone.

4.2 The Proposed Minimum Lot Size

The application of the existing minimum lot size of 1,500 sqm to the subject site will facilitate the development of lots ranging from 1,500 sqm and larger, and will, in accordance with Wentworth Shire Council requirements, be fully serviced with both filtered and raw water, mains sewer and stormwater infrastructure.

When comparing the existing and proposed minimum lot size, two key elements have been considered:

- the expectation of Council for the provision of all services to the subject site for the development for large lot residential purposes, and the cost to the developer to provide the full suite of infrastructure and services, and
- the continuing and growing demand for lots larger than the average urban residential allotment in Gol Gol.

The proponents have met and discussed the proposal and subsequent development, and all share the opinion that provision of fully serviced lots in the R5 zone at 3,000 sqm or 5,000 sqm is not cost-effective or practical in terms of investment and financial outcome.

However, the provision of and servicing of allotments at 1,500 sqm is considered beneficial to both the proponents and the local community, by providing another option of fully serviced residential land for development. This will encourage a growing population and economic base for Gol Gol, as intended in the *Strategic vision, intent and priorities* of the *Local Strategic Planning Statement.*

4.3 Supply and Demand

The subject site encompasses approximately 62 hectares. When determining an estimated resultant lot yield, the general rule is that approximately 30% of the site will be set aside and used for access, services and infrastructure, including easements, stormwater management and public open space.

Using the same methodology as applied in the preparation of the BGGSP 2020 (as per Table 2.3 on Page 14 of the Plan), the following table presents a comparison of the existing supply of R5 zoned land between 2020 and 2023, and the additional supply of R5 zoned land as an outcome of this Planning Proposal, under the current average annual demand.

Table 6 Existing and Proposed R5 zone land supply under current average annual demand

R5 zone	Total area (ha)	Developed (ha)	Undeveloped (ha)	Developable (ha)	Av lot size (m²)	Lot Yield	Av Annual demand	Years Supply
BGGSP 2020	226	133	93	65	3500	186	19	10
2023	244	171	73	51	3500	145	29	5
PP	62	4	58	40	1500	266	29	9
Total	**306**	**175**	**131**	**91**	N/A	**411**	**29**	**14**

Note:
Further consideration should also be given to land that will not be developed in the short term as anticipated in Figure 4.4 – Urban Land Release Staging Plan of the BGGSP. The table above includes all land that is zoned R5, despite two landholders advising that they will not be developing their land in the short to medium term. Therefore, if excluding those lots which encompass 19 hectares, yielding 38 lots, the resultant supply would equate to a 13-year supply.

The table above shows there was an increase in the R5 zoned land supply, which was a consequence of a finalised planning proposal in February 2021. However, despite the increase in area, the number of years of supply to 2023 has decreased as the annual demand, as estimated in the BGGSP, has increased from 19 to an average of 29 lots per year.

The annual demand for lots in the R5 zone for this Planning Proposal has been determined by examining the NSW Property Sales Data (NSWPSD) which can be accessed via this link: https://nswpropertysalesdata.com/

The statistics collated from NSWPSD to support this Planning Proposal, only apply to vacant lots that do not contain a dwelling and are located in the R5 zone..

The NSWPSD statistics shows that there were 26 vacant lots in the R5 zone sold during the 2019 calendar year. Whereas in 2022 there were 32 vacant lots in the R5 zone that were sold. Hence, the application of the average demand estimated at 29 lots per year.

The data also shows that the sale of these R5 zoned lots involved contracts of sale being entered into around 18 months before settlement of the sale was conducted. This is consistent with verbal information provided from real estate agents, land developers and purchasers, particularly relating to the sale of lots 'off the plan'. Many prospective purchasers elect to purchase early or 'off the plan', to avoid missing out on acquiring lots in this zone. It is very common for all lots in a subdivision to be sold prior to titles being released.

The spike in the sale of lots also correlates with the timeframe of when subdivisions or lots are made available for sale, or at least, are known to be available through their listing with local real estate agents.

Development approvals for the years 2018 to 2023 are shown in the table below:

Table 7 Development Approvals in R5 Zone Gol Gol

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
R5 zone Development Approvals for Gol Gol	16	21	32	32	11	11 to date

As demand for R5 zoned land remains strong, it is anticipated that when lots in the R5 zone become available, they will continue to sell quickly, either from 'off the plan' or shortly thereafter.

Therefore, on the basis of the information provided above, the current R5 zone land supply together with the land proposed to be rezoned by this Planning Proposal, together with the average annual demand for lots, there would be an estimated 14 years supply of R5 zone land.

A 14-year supply is not considered excessive, particularly as the process to rezone, obtain approvals for development and civil works, obtain a subdivision certificate for registration and new titles, can take approximately 5 years.

In addition to the above statistics and information, the BGGSP also deemed it necessary and pre-emptive of future demand for R5 zone land, to increase the average annual demand from 19 to 37 lots per year.

The following has been taken directly from the BGGSP, Page 45 –

As the fast pace of development experienced in Buronga Gol Gol in recent times is expected to continue, it would be premature to conclude that this residential land supply will be sufficient for future residential land demand in the study area. It is therefore necessary that future developable residential land supply is assessed using a growth rate higher than the current rate to pre-empt a future residential land shortage. As a result, higher residential land demand rates of 91 lots per year for RU5 Village and ***37 lots per year for R5 Large Lot Residential****, which are the highest annual land take up rate recorded for each of these zones in the last five years, have been assumed as the future land take up rates and are used to determine future residential land supply and availability in Buronga Gol Gol as shown in Table 4.2.*

As land in the R5 zone is sold quickly, and more often than not 'off the plan', it is not premature to assume that should there be a greater number of lots available for purchase, the average annual take-up rate would also increase. On that basis, the following table shows the future R5 zone land supply under an anticipated demand rate of 37 lots per year.

Table 8 Future R5 Zone Land Supply under Anticipated Demand Rate

R5 zone	Total area (ha)	Developed (ha)	Undeveloped (ha)	Developable (ha)	Av lot size (m^2)	Lot Yield	Anticipate Annual demand	Years Supply
2023	244	171	73	51	3500	145	37	4
PP	62	4	58	40	1500	266	37	7
Total	**306**	**175**	**131**	**95**	N/A	**411**	**37**	**11**

4.4 Summary

Gol Gol continues to be a location of choice for new residents, this is reflected in the significant population growth experienced between 2016 and 2021. This trend is not expected to decrease any time soon, as the 'growth spill over' continues from Mildura.

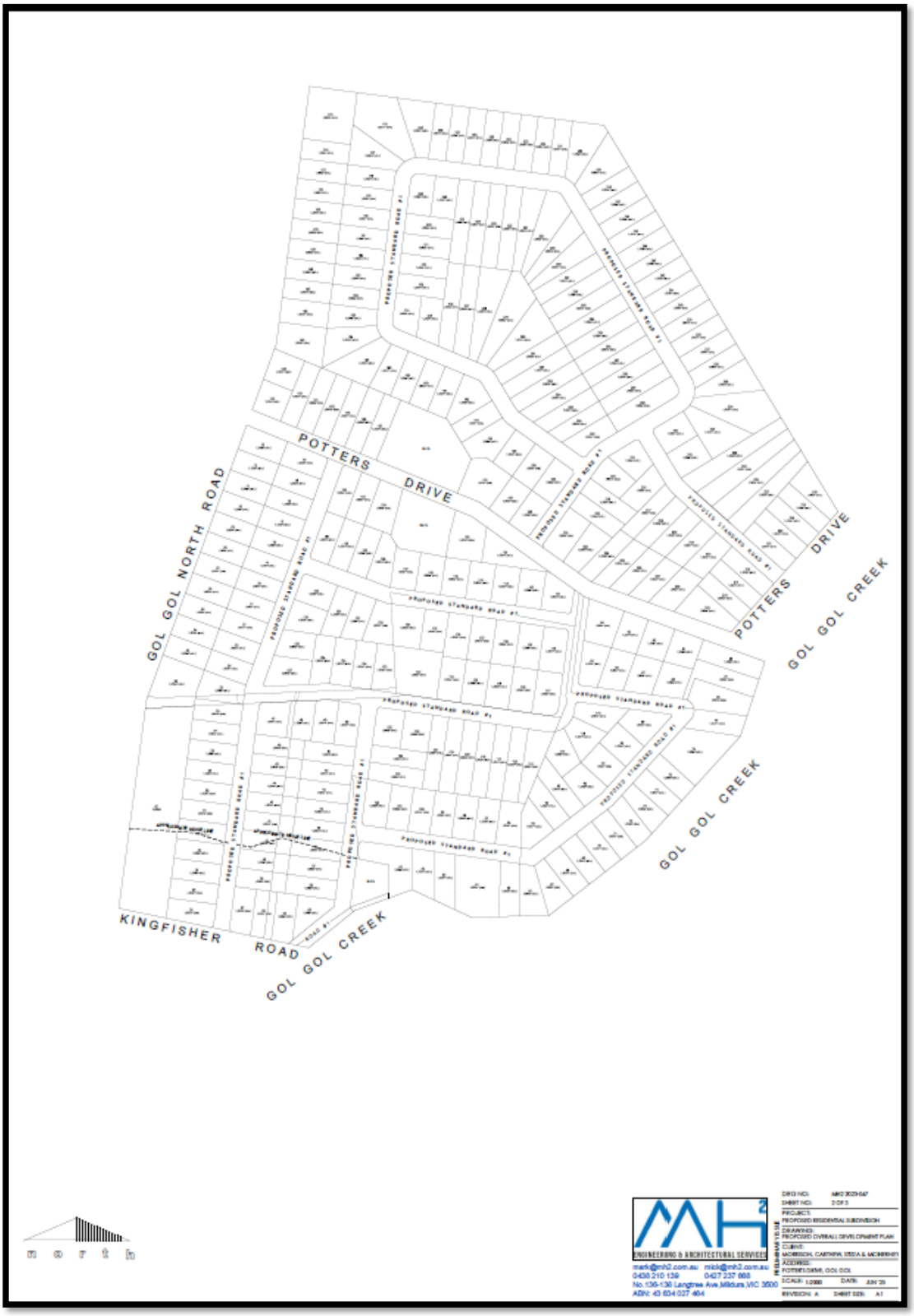
It is imperative to ensure there is an ongoing supply of residential land in Gol Gol to attract and accommodate the growing population. The R5 Large Lot Residential zone is a location of choice for many new residents in the Gol Gol area.

This section has shown that there is currently only a 4-year supply of land in the R5 zone in Gol Gol under the estimated demand rate. Meanwhile, the population is projected to increase a further 28% between 2021 and 2026 to approximately 2,511 people.

This Planning Proposal has the potential to add approximately 260 lots to the potential lot yield in the R5 zone in Gol Gol, thereby adding approximately, a further 7-year supply of land for large lot residential development.

Attachment 1 – Subdivision Concept Plan V1

Subdivision Concept Plan V2



Attachment 2 – State Environmental Planning Policy Assessment

State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP)	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Comments/Justification
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021	Y	Y	<u>Chapter 2 – Vegetation in non-rural areas</u> Not applicable. <u>Chapter 3 – Koala habitat protection 2020</u> The aim of this SEPP is to *encourage the proper conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for koalas…and reverse the current trend of koala population decline.* The Planning Proposal is consistent with this SEPP as the subject site is devoid of all native vegetation, other than remnant vegetation along the Gol Gol Creek watercourse. All existing native vegetation along the creek will be protected. <u>Chapter 4 – Koala habitat protection 2021</u> The aim of this SEPP is to *encourage the conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for koalas to support a permanent free-living population over their present range…* The Planning Proposal is consistent with this SEPP as the subject site is devoid of all native vegetation, other than ornamental or introduced species. The remnant, native vegetation along the Gol Gol Creek will not be harmed by the future development of the site. <u>Chapter 5 – River Murray lands</u> The aims of this SEPP *are to conserve and enhance the riverine environment of the River Murray for the benefit of all users.* The subject site is identified as being included in Map 35 of the Murray Regional Environmental Plan No. 2 – Riverine Land. It is considered that the Planning Proposal is consistent with this SEPP as the subject site is well setback from the Murray River and therefore, any impacts (if any) would be very low. <u>Chapter 6 – Water catchments</u> Not applicable.

			<u>Chapter 13 - Strategic conservation planning</u> No applicable.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004	Y	Y	Applies to all land in NSW. The Planning Proposal does not detract from the aims of this policy.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal does not detract from the aims of this policy.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021	Y	Y	Applies to all land in NSW. The Planning Proposal does not detract from the aims and principles of this policy.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021	Y	Y	<u>Chapter 2 - Western Sydney employment area</u> Not applicable. <u>Chapter 3 – Advertising and signage</u> There will be no advertising or signage as a consequence of this Planning Proposal.
State Environmental Planning Policy No 65 Design Quality of Residential Apartment Development	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	Y	Y	<u>Chapter 2 – State and regional development</u> The proposed development is not identified as state or regionally significant. <u>Chapter 3 – Aboriginal land</u> The subject site is not owned by an Aboriginal Land Council. <u>Chapter 4 – Concurrences and consents</u> The Planning Proposal does not detract from the aims and principles of this policy.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Central River City) 2021	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Eastern Harbour City) 2021	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Regional) 2021	N		

State Environmental Planning Policy (Western Parkland City) 2021	N		
State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021	Y	Y	Chapter 2 – Primary production and rural development The subject site is not classified or mapped as state significant agricultural land and has been identified as a suitable location for the expansion of the R5 zone as recommended in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020. Chapter 3 Central coast plateau areas Not applicable.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	Y	Y	Chapter 2 Coastal management Not applicable. Chapter 3 Hazardous & offensive development Not applicable. Chapter 4 Remediation of land The Planning Proposal seeks to enable residential development, therefore Council is required to consider if the subject site is contaminated as a result of previous uses. The subject site has been historically used for agricultural/horticultural purposes, which is a use listed in Table 1 of the Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines. As such, a Preliminary Site Investigation report has been prepared by Senversa Pty Ltd and a full copy has been submitted with the Planning Proposal. Any required remediation work will be carried out in accordance with Section 4.11 of the SEPP.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Resources and Energy) 2021	Y	Y	Chapter 2 – Mining, petroleum production and extractive industries The Planning Proposal does not propose any mining, petroleum production or extractives industries. The Planning Proposal does not detract from the aims of this policy.
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021	Y	Y	Chapter 2 Infrastructure The aim of this SEPP is to ensure there is an effective delivery of infrastructure to support the development. Consultation with Council has already commenced, to ensure that the roll out of the development of the site will be fully serviced and accessed.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Sustainable Buildings) 2022	Y	Y	This policy commences on 1 October 2023.

Attachment 3 – Section 9.1 Ministerial Directions Assessment

Section 9.1 Direction	Applicable (Y/N)	Consistent (Y/N)	Comments/Justification
1. Planning Systems			
1.1 Implementation of Regional Plans	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal is consistent with the goals, directions and actions of the *Far West Regional Plan 2036* and the *draft Far West Regional Plan 2041.* Further details provided in Section 3.3.3 of the Planning Proposal.
1.2 Development of Aboriginal Land Council land	N		
1.3 Approval and Referral Requirements	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal does not propose any referral or concurrence requirements, nor does it nominate any development as 'designated development'.
1.4 Site Specific Provisions	N		The Planning Proposal does not propose any site-specific provisions.
1.5 Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy	N		
1.6 Implementation of North West Priority Growth Area Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.7 Implementation of Greater Parramatta Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.8 Implementation of Wilton Priority Growth Area Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan	N		
1.9 Implementation of Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor	N		
1.10 Implementation of the western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan	N		
1.11 Implementation of Bayside West Precincts 2036 Plan	N		

1.12 Implementation of Planning Principles for the Cooks Cove Precinct	N		
1.13 Implementation of St Leonards and Crows Nest 2036 Plan	N		
1.14 Implementation of Greater Macarthur 2040	N		
1.15 Implementation of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy	N		
1.16 North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy	N		
1.17 Implementation of the Bays West Place Strategy	N		
1.18 Implementation of the Macquarie Park Innovation Precinct	N		
1.19 Implementation of the Westmead Place Strategy	N		
1.20 Implementation of the Camellia-Rosehill Place Strategy	N		
1.21 Implementation of South West Growth Area Structure Plan	N		
1.22 Implementation of the Cherrybrook Station Place Strategy	N		
2. Design and Place			
2.1			
3. Biodiversity and Conservation			
3.1 Conservation Zones	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal is consistent with this Direction as it does not involve land identified as environmentally sensitive and does not seek to reduce any environmental protect standards.
3.2 Heritage Conservation	Y	Y	There are no known heritage items, relics, objects or sites applicable to the subject site.
3.3 Sydney Drinking Water Catchments	N		
3.4 Application of C2 and C3 Zones and Environmental Overlays in Far North Coast LEPs	N		

3.5 Recreation Vehicle Areas	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal does not enable the land to be developed for the purposes of a recreation vehicle area, as defined by the *Recreation Vehicles Act 1983.*
3.6 Strategic Conservation Planning	N		The subject site is not identified as avoided land or a strategic conservation area.
3.7 Public Bushland	N		
3.8 Willandra Lakes Region	N		The subject site not located within the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Property.
3.9 Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Waterways Area	N		
3.10 Water Catchment Protection	N		
4. Resilience and Hazards			
4.1 Flooding	N		The subject site is not identified as being flood prone.
4.2 Coastal Management	N		
4.3 Planning for Bushfire Protection	N		The subject site is not identified as being bushfire prone land on the NSW Rural Fire Service map.
4.4 Remediation of Contaminated Land	Y	Y	A Preliminary Site Investigation has been undertaken on the subject site. The subject site has been historically used for agricultural/horticultural purposes, which is a use listed in Table 1 of the Contaminated Land Planning Guidelines. As such, a Preliminary Site Investigation report has been prepared by Senversa Pty Ltd and a full copy has been submitted with the Planning Proposal. Any required remediation work will be carried out in accordance with Section 4.11 of the SEPP.
4.5 Acid Sulfate Soils	N		
4.6 Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land	N		
5. Transport and Infrastructure			
5.1 Integrating Land Use and Transport	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal seeks to rezone the subject site to a large lot residential zone. The proposed zone has been selected on the basis of its accessibility and the recommendation made in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020.
5.2 Reserving Land for Public Purposes	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal does not propose to remove or propose any land to be dedicated for public purposes.

5.3 Development Near Regulated Airports and Defence Airfields	N		The subject site is not located near an airport or defence airfield.
5.4 Shooting Ranges	N		The subject site is not located near a shooting range.
6. Housing			
6.1 Residential Zones	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal is consistent with this direction as it seeks to provide a supply of additional large residential lots not currently provided for in the WLEP 2011. The subject site has the capacity and access to adequate infrastructure for servicing the proposed development.
6.2 Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates	Y	Y	The Planning Proposal does not reduce the opportunities for caravan parks and manufactured homes estates.
7. Industry and Employment			
7.1 Business and Industrial Zones	N		
7.2 Reduction in Non-Hosted Short-term Rental Accommodation period	N		
7.3 Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway North Coast	N		
8. Resources and Energy			
8.1 Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries	N		
9. Primary Production			
9.1 Rural Zones	Y	N	The Planning Proposal is inconsistent with this Direction, in that it proposes to rezone land from a rural zone to a residential zone. The inconsistency is justified, in that the rezoning is recommended in the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020 and is a consequence of Recommendation 14 of that Plan. The BGGSP is an endorsed plan. Additionally, the inconsistency is also justified through consistency with the Wentworth Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032, Far West Regional Plan 2036 and the draft Far West Regional Plan 2041.

9.2 Rural Lands	Y	N	The Planning Proposal is inconsistent with this Direction, in that it affects land in an existing rural zone. The inconsistency is justified, for the following reasons: a) The Planning Proposal is consistent with the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan 2020, as well as the Wentworth Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032, Far West Regional Plan 2036 and the draft Far West Regional Plan 2041. b) A large portion of the subject site has, and is presently, contributing to the regional production of agricultural produce for the Sunraysia region. While the land is a loss to agricultural production, there is a necessity for larger rural landholdings for financial sustainability and this is encouraging new horticultural development outside of the existing irrigation districts. c) The Planning Proposal does not pose a threat to the biodiversity of the Gol Gol Creek, native vegetation, cultural heritage or water resources. d) The site is considered suitable for the proposed resultant development and will not be constrained due to topography, size, location, soil conditions and access to a water supply. e) Wentworth Shire Council recognises the importance of rural activities and will continue to promote opportunities for growth and new investment of sustainable and productive rural activities. f) This Planning Proposal will not inhibit or prevent farmers from exercising their right to farm. g) The subject site will be rezoned as a whole, and developed in stages as required by Council and in

			response to the demand for large residential allotments. This will allow for some parts of the subject site to continue to be agriculturally productive. Ongoing monitoring of potential land use conflict will be necessary. However, as there is a historical precedence of the roll out of new residential land adjacent to agricultural activity with no issues, it is anticipated that land use conflict or issues will be manageable and addressed at the subdivision design and DA stage. h) The subject site is not identified as being state significant agricultural land. i) The community will benefit from the resultant outcome of this Planning Proposal through population growth which drives economic growth for the township and surrounds and the proposal will not have a detrimental impact on any environmental areas that are attractive to both the resident community and visitors.
9.3 Oyster Aquaculture	N		
9.4 Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast	N		

Attachment 4 – Preliminary Site Investigation (Senversa Pty Ltd)

Refer to separate attachment.

Attachment 5 – Letter to Wentworth Shire Council – Response to submissions

Refer to separate attachment.

9.10 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DETERMINATION REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/551

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

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy: 4.2 We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations

Summary

For the month of September 2025, a total of thirteen (13) Development Applications and six (6) Modification Application were determined.

The estimated value of the determined developments was $2,027,178.30 This brings the year to date total to 32 Development Applications with an estimated development value of $7,830,925.07 and 9 Modification Applications.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the report for the Determined Development Applications for the month of September 2025.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a list of Development Applications as tabled in the attachment, determined in the month of September 2025.

Conclusion

The total value of determinations was $2,027,178.30 for the month of September 2025. The average determination time was 51 days.

Attachments

1. September 2025 Determinations⇩

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025

FILE NUMBER	APPLICANT	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	VALUE (EX GST)	DETERMINATION DATE	COMMUNITY VIEWS	ACTIVE DAYS
DA2025/084 PAN 530205	Cadell Consulting Services	119B Logoon Road Lot 119 DP 756994 Wentworth	Deferred commencement of a dwelling	$755,000.00	17/09/25	No submissions received	0
S4-55/2025/018 (1A) PAN 530233	Danielle Linklater	20 Alderton Drive Lot 3 DP 867591 Gol Gol	Modify DA2021/169 Demolition & replacement of existing storage shed	$0.00	2/09/25	No submissions received	84
DA2025/108 PAN 530858	James Golsworthy Consulting	130 Pomona Road Lot 12 DP 756964 Pomona	Land use approval of a Mooring site using existing pontoon	$0.00	8/09/25	No submissions received	76
DA2025/111 PAN 545897	Jackson Planning	74 Carramar Drive Lot 10 DP 1275528 Gol Gol	Storage Shed	$120,000.00	5/09/25	No submissions received	72
DA2025/113 PAN 544660	Muir Design & Drafting	Unit 1 / 74 Adams Street Lot 1 SP 41363 Wentworth	Demolition of existing Verandah & replacement of New Verandah with Fire Rated Wall on boundary	$38,500.00	5/09/25	1 submission received, assessed and considered	64
DA2025/114 PAN 533969	James Golsworthy Consulting	Pump Station Road Lot 659 DP 756961 & Lot 660 DP 756961 Coomealla	Construction of Warehouse with Office and ongoing industrial use	$200,000.00	8/09/25	No submissions received	64

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025

S4-55/2025/020 (1A) PAN 531249	Wentworth Shire Council	6 Wharf Street Lot 1464 DP 763434 Wentworth	Modify DA2018/067 Extension to Boat Shed - Amend Approved Plans	$0.00	2/09/25	No submissions received	62
DA2025/117 PAN 551251	The Shed Company Mildura	Beverley Street Lot 7351 DP 1178836 Wentworth	Storage Shed	$84,490.00	9/09/25	2 submissions received, assessed and considered	58
S4-55/2025/022 (1A) PAN 551550	The Trustee for James D Harwood Trust	43 Livingstone Drive Lot 46 DP 1296843 Gol Gol	Modify DA2025/030 Dwelling with Garage & Storage Shed - Amend Approved Plans dwelling façade & internal walls & revised size to Storage Shed	$0.00	9/09/25	No submissions received	62
DA2025/096 PAN 535059	Roy Costa Planning & Development	8 Woodside Drive Lot 36 DP 1298329 Gol Gol	Dwelling with Garage - Storage shed & Retaining wall with Colorbond Fencing	$288,231.30	2/09/25	No submissions received	96
S4-55/2025/023 (1A) PAN 553751	Roy Costa Planning & Development	53-57 Wentworth Street Lot 1 DP 740949 Wentworth	Modify DA2024/080 TWO (2) Lot Subdivision - Amend Lot sizes to change size	$0.00	24/09/25	No submissions received	60
DA2025/125 PAN 554245	Earthworx Pty Ltd	372 Low Darling Road Lot 3 DP 1250369 Pomona	Land use approval for existing Storage Shed with wet area	$0.00	2/09/25	No submissions received	34
DA2025/130 PAN 557156	The Trustee for James D Harwood Trust	14 Woodside Drive Lot 33 DP 1298329 Gol Gol	Retaining wall and Fencing	$35,000.00	30/09/25	No submissions received	54

Wentworth SHIRE COUNCIL

DETERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025

S4-55/2025/024 PAN 557180	Mh2 Engineering & Architectural Services Pty Ltd	Wilga Road Lot 25 DP 1298247 Gol Gol	Modify DA2023/016 Dwelling with Garage - Pergola & Outdoor area a Swimming Pool with safety barrier & a Storage Shed (Deferred Commencement)	$0.00	30/09/25	No submissions received	0
DA2025/131 PAN 557150	The Shed Company Mildura	5 Wilga Road Lot 4 DP 867591 Gol Gol	Storage Shed	$247,790.00	24/09/25	No submissions received	46
DA2025/132 PAN 557449	BW&A National Building Consultants	39 Gol Gol North Road Lot 83 DP 756946 & Lot 90 DP 756946 Gol Gol	Removal of existing garden shed & construction of Two (2) Storey Storage Shed	$130,372.00	30/09/25	No submissions received	45
DA2025/134 PAN 544552	Dann Golitschenko	West Road Lot 915 DP 756961 Buronga	Storage shed	$69,400.00	24/09/25	No submissions received	47
DA2025/120 PAN 554108	The Shed Company Mildura	145 Pooncarie Road Lot 1 DP 1239541 Wentworth	Storage shed	$58,395.00	12/09/25	No submissions received	48
S4-55/2025/029 (1) PAN 570560	Matt Miller	15 Modikerr Way Lot 16 DP 1103697 Gol Gol	Modify DA2025/104 Secondary Dwelling with attached Carport – Amend Approved Plans & Conditions	$0.00	12/09/2025	No submissions received	2

9.11 RE-ESTABLISHEMENT OF ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

File Number: RPT/25/563

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
Strategy: 2.3 To have a safe community

Summary

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, an Alcohol Free Zone may be re-established from time to time for further periods each not exceeding four years.

The expiry date for all Alcohol Free Zones was 30 June 2025. Therefore, Council needs to endorse the re-establishment of the current Alcohol Free Zones in place for Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands for a further period of four years.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zones at Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands for a further period of four years as identified in the attached maps and exhibits the documentation for community consultation for a period 28 days.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to endorse the re-establishment of the current Alcohol Free Zones in place for Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands.

Background

The establishment of Alcohol Free Zones is required in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*. In this instance, the re-establishment of the zones is a requirement of section 644B(4). In addition to the Act there are ministerial guidelines that supplement the provisions of the Act.

An Alcohol Free Zone may comprise a public road or part of a public road. The attached maps indicate the areas in which this report seeks to re-establish the zones in Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement to publicly exhibit the re-establishment of the alcohol-free zones.

Background

The establishment of Alcohol Free Zones is required in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*. In this instance, the re-establishment of the zones is a requirement of section 644B (4). In addition to the Act there are ministerial guidelines that supplement the provisions of the Act.

An Alcohol Free Zone may comprise a public road or part of a public road. The attached maps indicate the areas in which this report seeks to re-establish the zones in Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands.

Matters under consideration

In the process of the re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zones at Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands Council must undertake public consultation in the following form:

- By notice published in a manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring the notice to the attention of members of the public in the area that includes the zone, declare the proposal to re-establish the zone indicating the location of the zone, and the proposed period for which it will operate.
- Invite representations and objections from persons and groups within the area.
- Provide a copy of the proposal to:
  - The officer in charge of the police station within or nearest to the zone.
  - Each holder of a licence in force under the *Liquor Act 2007* for premises that border on, or adjoin or are adjacent to the Alcohol Free Zone.

Options

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

a) Proceed with re-establishing the Alcohol Free Zones at Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands, and undertake the required public consultation.

b) Do not proceed with the re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zones at Wentworth, Dareton and the Buronga Wetlands.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

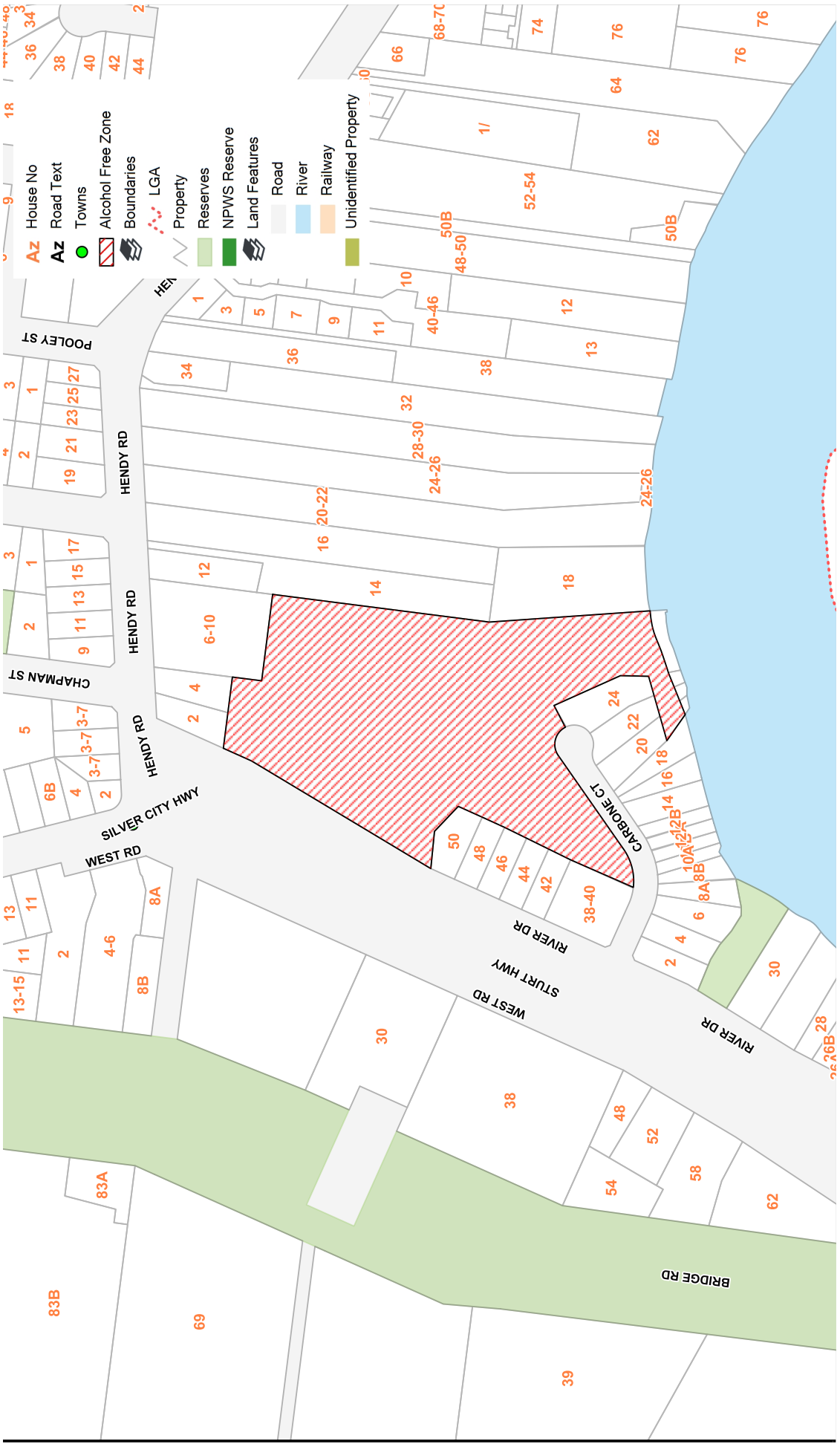
The establishment of Alcohol Free Zones is an important measure used to curtail irresponsible behavior by individuals on the streets throughout the year thereby promoting the feeling of safety in public places. Removal of these zones can compromise the safe use of these public roads and footpaths for members of the public.

Conclusion

The re-establishment of the Alcohol Free Zones is permissible under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Prior to the Council resolving to do so, a level of public consultation is required in accordance with the Act.

Attachments

1. Map of AFZ - Buronga⇩
2. Map of AFZ - Dareton⇩
3. Map of AFZ - Wentworth⇩



Map of Alcohol Free Zone - Buronga

Map Scale: 1:4000 at A4

Projection: GDA2020 / MGA zone 54

Date: 17/09/2025

Created By: Samantha Wall

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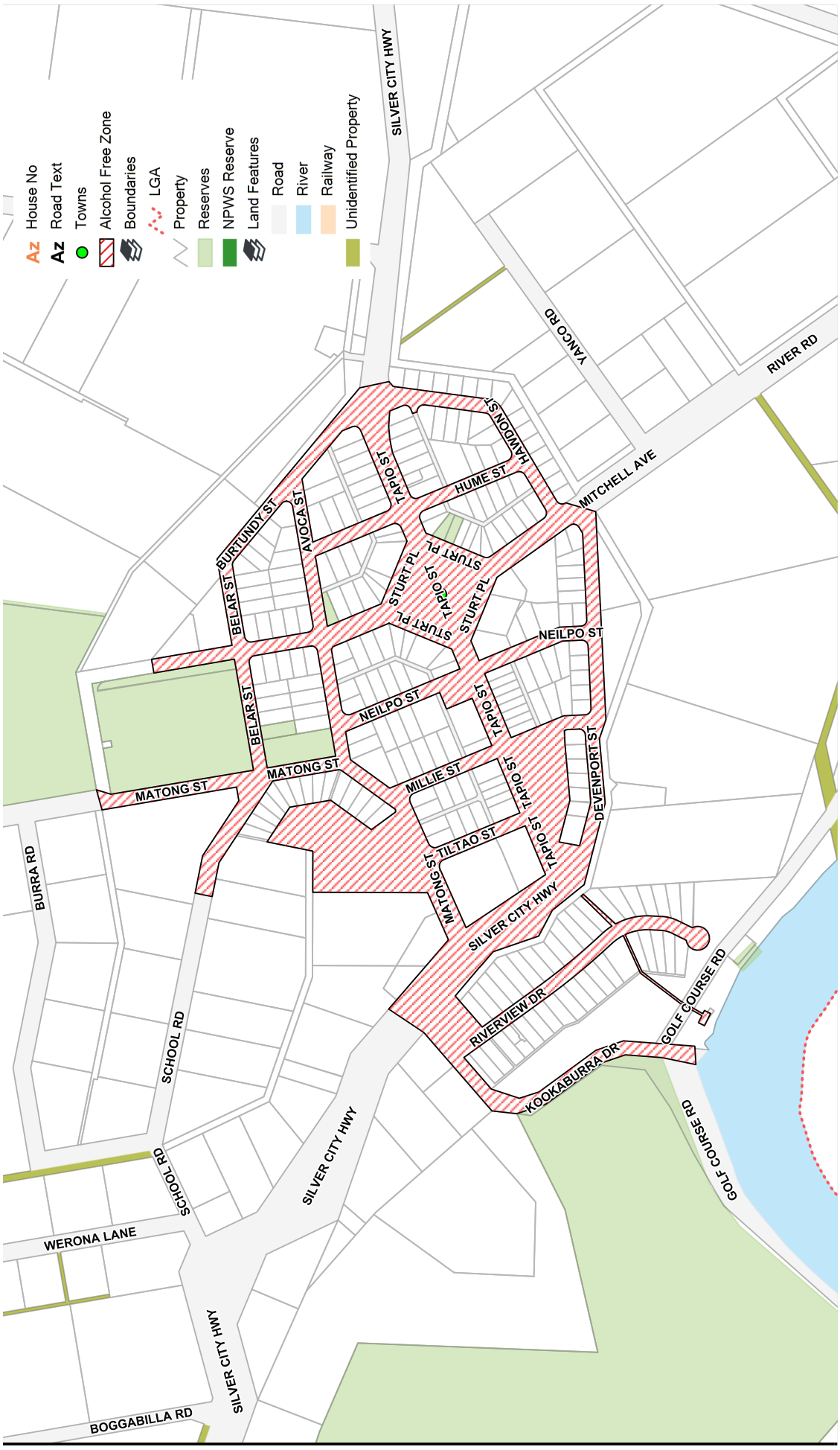

Map of Alcohol Free Zone - Dareton

Projection: GDA2020 / MGA zone 54

Date: 17/09/2025

Created By: Samantha Wall

Map Scale: 1:7500 at A4

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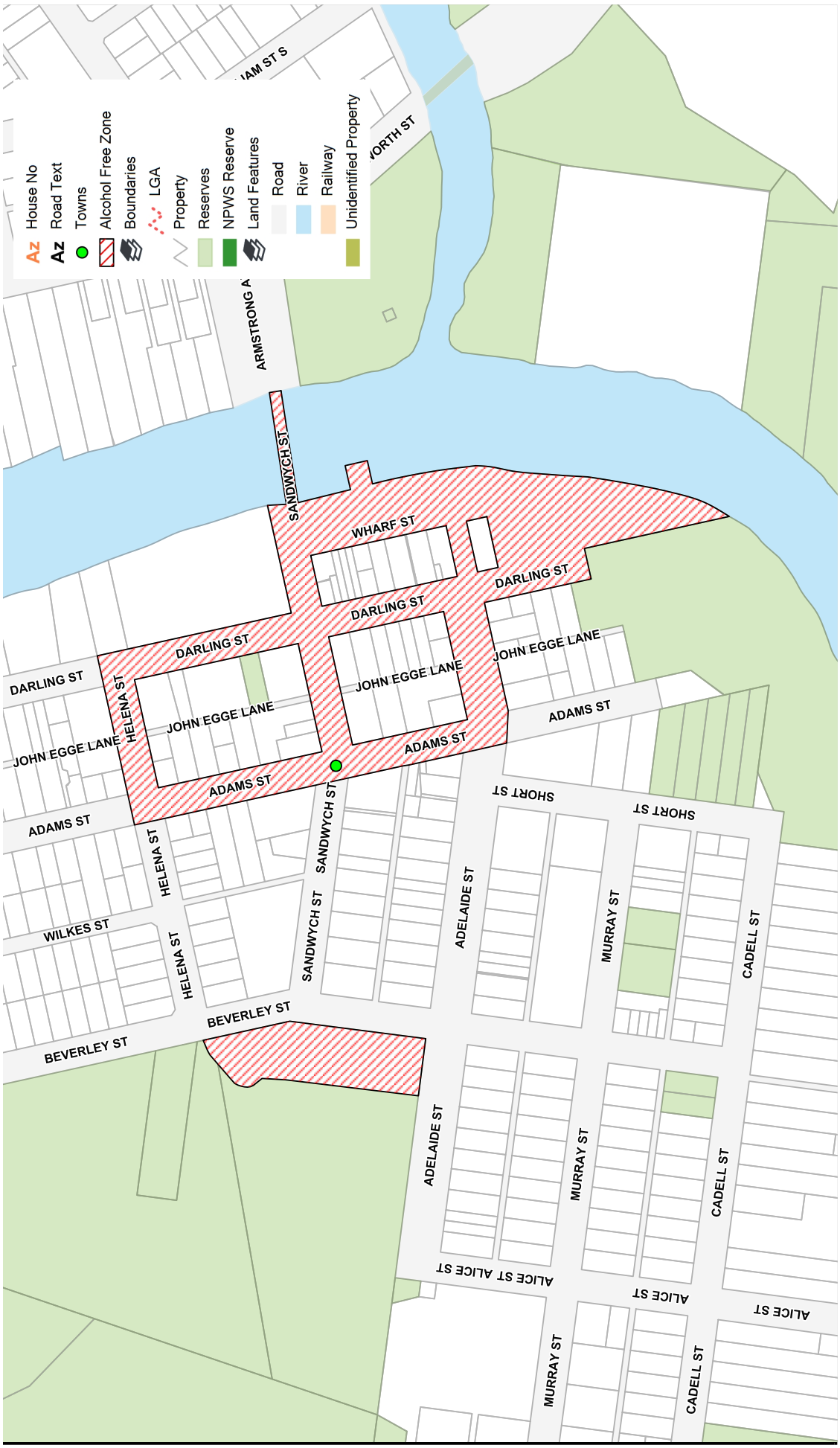

Map of Alcohol Free Zone - Wentworth

Map Scale: 1:5000 at A4

Projection: GDA2020 / MGA zone 54

Date: 17/09/2025

Created By: Samantha Wall

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9.12 ROAD SAFETY QUARTERLY REPORT JULY 2025 - SEPTEMBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/586

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Barnaby Bates - Council Community Officer Road Safety

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live
Strategy: 2.3 To have a safe community

Summary

This report is to provide Council with an update of the Road Safety Officer's activities from July 2025 to September 2025.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Road Safety Quarterly Report for July 2025 to September 2025.

Detailed Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of the Road Safety Officer's quarterly activities for July 2025 to September 2025.

Report Detail

- The Road Safety Officer (RSO) attended the regular Local Traffic Committee, which is now to be referred to as The Local Traffic Forum (LTF), the Darling Murray Murrumbidgee Rural Services Network and Community RoadSafe Mildura meetings.
- End of year project reports were completed and submitted to TfNSW.
- Confirmation received from TfNSW of all submitted project's funding for 2025-26, the signed agreement has been returned to TfNSW. The following projects were approved: Safety Around Schools, Light vehicles and Safe Towing, The Road Ahead (for road users aged 65+), Child Occupant Restraints, Heavy Vehicles – Freight and Agriculture, Plan B Win a Swag, Ad hoc Community events and workshops.
- Implementation of updated Delegations to Council from TfNSW, which replace the 2011 Delegation to Councils and the 2023 Temporary Delegations to Councils – as incorporated in the Local Traffic Forum.
- On-going processing and actions related to community requests and complaints, including: school bus route extension request on Pooncarie Road, traffic calming requests for residential street in Buronga and Gol Gol, footpath installation requests and community support.
- Grant applications for new bus shelters and upgrades to existing bus shelters for lighting.
- Meeting at Dareton Primary School to solicit their participation in the Get Active program in support of funding for a new pathway in Matong Street.
- Regular meetings with TfNSW via Teams, providing monthly reports, project discussions and on-going planning for approved projects.
- On-going attendance and support at 70 Years On, Wentworth Flood Rally 1956-2026 event planning meetings.

- On-going responses to customer requests for proposed public events – supported by application process assistance, referrals to Police and remedial action where suitable.
- On-going updates of the Road Safety section on the Wentworth Shire Council's website and supporting social media posts on our Facebook page and community pages, promoting state-wide TfNSW campaigns – including Rural Road Safety month, Bus Flashing Lights, Term 3, Road Rules Awareness week and Double Demerits.
- Relationship building with BMEET in Dareton and the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, Joel Meharg, at Dareton Police.
- Network development with agencies and organisations in support of immigrant workers and their families to help educate and support their road safety awareness, particularly those on the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme.
- Caravan safety and travel advisory information supplied via the Council's website and Facebook pages, with resources distributed to the Shire's caravan parks, for those attending the Mundi Mundi Bash in Broken Hill.
- Attendance at the PALM scheme 'Driver Safety Awareness Event' held at The Alfred Deakin Centre, Mildura on the afternoon of 20 September 2025. Approximately 110 people from Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Fiji were present and road safety education delivered in association with Community RoadSafe Mildura. Topics included speed, road signs, seatbelts, alcohol, drugs and fatigue. Additional presentations provided by SES, Ambulance, CFA and Police.
- Observations carried out at our schools, monitoring traffic and pedestrian behaviours, to support student safety on the road network, to and from school.
- Support for the community event at Buronga Pump Track being held on 11 October, promoting bicycle safety with assistance from Community RoadSafe Mildura, VIC and NSW Police, and the Coomealla Mildura Mountainless Bike Club.

Conclusion

The Road Safety program for 2025-26 has been approved by TfNSW and is currently on target for the planned delivery schedule. The emphasis for this year is community-based projects and associated education campaigns, to include increased community consultation across the broad spectrum of relevant local road safety issues, and to encourage community support, engagement and ownership, to hopefully realise the appropriate behavioural changes.

Attachments

1. Cover letter to Councils⇩
2. 2025 Authorisation- Delegation Instrument⇩
3. Delegation - Guide to Instrument⇩
4. Implementation - Factsheet⇩

Transport for NSW

23 July 2025

RE: 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument for councils

Dear General Manager,

I am pleased to enclose a copy of Transport's 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument for Councils. Commencing on August 1, this will replace the existing 2011 Delegation to Councils and 2023 Temporary Delegation to Councils.

For several years now Transport has trialled increased devolution to local government to expedite the management and improvement of our streets. The potential for further devolution is a major theme of Local Government input into the current review of the Roads Act.

Many NSW Councils have used the Temporary Delegation to streamline delivery of routine works such as parking management and pedestrian safety improvements. Councils have also taken advantage of the ability to sub-delegate approval responsibilities to staff.

Following careful monitoring of the Temporary Delegation, Transport has developed the 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument.

The 2025 Instrument further extends the scope for Councils to independently manage local streets. It implements a number of recommendations of the NSW Bus Industry Taskforce, including renaming Local Traffic Committees. These will become 'Local Transport Forums' to reflect the need to focus on all transport modes, especially bus services. Councils will have discretion to refer matters to their Local Transport Forum for advice, but this will be mandatory only for more significant proposals.

Transport recognises the diversity of NSW Councils. Those who wish to take advantage of the streamlined processes are welcome to do so, but this is not obligatory. Transport representatives will continue to attend Local Transport Forums and can provide advice on any matter. Please note, however, that Transport will no longer vote on proposals because Council is ultimately responsible for decisions taken on its network.

The 2025 Instrument is a significant reform, and Transport will support Councils in its implementation. Detailed Guides and online resources will be regularly updated, and we will continue to offer expertise and skills development for Council officers through forums such as the Active Transport Community of Practice.

For more information, please visit the Delegations and traffic committees web page. If you have any further questions, please contact delegated_works@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Sincerely,

Josh Murray
Secretary

231 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000
PO Box K659, Haymarket, NSW, 1240

(02) 8202 2200
transport.nsw.gov.au

AUTHORISATION AND DELEGATION

PRESCRIBED TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AND REGULATION OF TRAFFIC

Roads Act 1993
Road Transport Act 2013

On behalf of Transport for NSW, I, Josh Murray, Secretary of the Department of Transport:

a) **REVOKE** the instrument of 31 October 2011 titled "*Roads and Maritime Services – Delegation to Councils*"; and

b) **REVOKE** the instrument of 12 December 2023 titled "*Instrument of Delegation and Authorisation – Traffic Management and Pedestrian Works – Temporary Delegation to Councils No.2"*; and

c) **DELEGATE** under section 3I(1) of the *Transport Administration Act 1988* and all other enabling powers, the functions set out in **Schedule 1** to the delegates set out in **Schedule 2**, subject to the conditions and limitations set out in **Schedule 4**; and

d) **AUTHORISE** those delegates, under section 3I(2) of the *Transport Administration Act 1988*, to sub-delegate the functions set out in **Schedule 1** to the persons set out in **Schedule 3**; and

e) **AUTHORISE** the delegates set out in **Schedule 2**, under section 122(b) of the *Road Transport Act 2013***,** to install or display (or interfere with, alter, or remove) any prescribed traffic control device required to give effect to the carrying out of traffic control work except where indicated as restricted in the Transport for NSW *"Traffic Signs Register"*, subject to the conditions and limitations set out in **Schedule 4**; and

f) **CONSENT**, under s.87(4) of the *Roads Act 1993,* to the construction, installation, maintenance, repair, removal, or replacement of a portable traffic control light used temporarily by a delegate in the context of carrying out road work or traffic control work, subject to the conditions and limitations set out in **Schedule 4**; and

g) **DIRECT** that failure to comply with the conditions and limitations set out in **Schedule 4** renders the prescribed traffic control device authorisation and delegation inoperative with respect to the functions exercised.

Note: the authorisation at (e) above is referred to in this Instrument as "the prescribed traffic control device authorisation".

This Instrument commences on 1 August 2025 and continues in force until revoked.

Josh Murray
Secretary
Department of Transport

Date: 21/07/2025

SCHEDULE 1 – FUNCTIONS

(a) The functions and powers of Transport for NSW under section 115(2) of the *Roads Act 1993* to regulate traffic on a public road for purposes other than those set out in in that section.

(b) The power to establish and operate a special event parking scheme for a road under Part 8, Division 3 of the *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2021.*

SCHEDULE 2 – DELEGATES

A council constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

SCHEDULE 3 – SUB-DELEGATES

The general manager of a council, or an employee of the council.

SCHEDULE 4 – CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Note: Reference to a delegate in this Schedule includes reference to a sub-delegate.

1. Scope of Authorisation and Delegation

A delegate must not exercise a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument and may not use the prescribed traffic control device authorisation:

(a) outside its local government area as constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993*;

(b) on a road or part of a road classified as a Freeway, Controlled Access Road, Tollway, or Transitway; or

(c) on any road identified with the 'Administrative Category' of 'State' in the '*Schedule of Classified Roads and Unclassified Regional Roads*' (as published and amended from time to time by Transport for NSW), except with the written consent of Transport for NSW

Note: The prescribed traffic control device authorisation allows delegates to install, display, etc. those devices and extends to the engagement of third parties (such as developers, road construction contractors, etc.) to install and display any such devices as a consequence of a delegate's decision and approval under this Instrument.

2. Local Transport Forum

(a) A delegate must convene a Local Transport Forum to which a representative from each of the following is invited to attend:

(i) the delegate

(ii) Transport for NSW

(iii) NSW Police Force

(iv) The local Member(s) of NSW Parliament

(v) The operator of any public passenger service likely to be affected by traffic control work proposed by the delegate

(b) A delegate may invite any other person to attend the Local Transport Forum.

(c) A delegate may seek technical advice from the Local Transport Forum regardless of whether this Instrument is being used.

(d) The Local Transport Forum is to provide advice to the delegate on any matter put before it for advice.

(e) A delegate must consider any advice provided by the Local Transport Forum.

3. Mandatory prior referral of some proposals

(a) A delegate must refer to the Local Transport Forum any proposal to exercise a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or to use the prescribed traffic control device authorisation where that proposal would:

for a period exceeding **6 months**:

(i) restrict or prohibit passage along a road of any persons, vehicles, or animals; or

(ii) compel or prevent a turn from one public road to another public road;

or

for a period exceeding **24 hours**:

(iii) prevent, impede, or hinder the safe or efficient operation of a public passenger service; or

(iv) prevent access to a public transport station, stop, wharf, or service; or

(v) remove or render less effective any bus priority measure.

(b) Following consideration of advice provided by the Local Transport Forum, the delegate may proceed with the proposal unless the Transport for NSW representative advises the meeting of the Local Transport Forum that Transport for NSW will be submitting a Statement of Concern within seven (7) days.

(c) If a Statement of Concern has been provided to the delegate in accordance with clause (b) above, the delegate may not exercise the relevant function until a further seven (7) days after it has circulated to the members of the Local Transport Forum, a written response addressing the Statement of Concern and setting out the delegate's reasons for proceeding to exercise the function.

4. Keeping of records

(a) The proceedings of the Local Transport Forum must be recorded and made public as soon as practicable.

(b) A post facto record of any use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation (excluding any instance that has already been the subject of prior referral per condition 3) must be tabled at the Local Transport Forum as soon as practicable and no later than three (3) months after the fact.

5. Coordination

(a) A delegate must consult any public passenger service operator – either directly or via the Local Transport Forum – before exercising any function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or using the prescribed traffic control device authorisation where it is likely to affect the operation of a public passenger service provided by that operator.

(b) Details of such consultation undertaken outside of the Local Transport Forum must be tabled at the Local Transport Forum as soon as practicable.

(c) A delegate must give not less than seven (7) days' notice to NSW Police Force and Transport for NSW – either directly or via the Local Transport Forum – before regulating traffic under this Instrument for the purposes of a public event.

6. References

(a) A delegate must use the NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual (TS 00066, as amended from time to time) as a primary reference when exercising a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or using the prescribed traffic control device authorisation.

(b) Use of a portable traffic control light or R4-212n roadwork speed limit sign under this Instrument must be in accordance with the Transport for NSW Traffic Control at Work Sites Manual (TS 05492, as amended from time to time).

7. Preservation of head of power

Notwithstanding this Instrument, Transport for NSW reserves all and any rights and powers, including to:

(a) Direct a public authority under clause 8I of Schedule 1 of the *Transport Administration Act 1988*, or alter or remove, or direct the alteration or removal of any prescribed traffic control device, under Part 5.3, Division 2 of the *Road Transport Act 2013*; and

(b) Carry out road work in accordance with Part 6 of the *Roads Act 1993;* and

(c) Carry out traffic control work on any public road, including exclusive power to carry out or consent to the construction, erection, installation, maintenance, repair, removal or replacement of a traffic control light under section 87 of the *Roads Act 1993*; and

(d) Regulate traffic under Part 8 of the *Roads Act 1993.*

(e) Revoke or withdraw this delegation, authorisation, or any component of it at any time with respect to any or all delegates.

Transport
for NSW

A guide for councils using the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument

Prescribed Traffic Control Devices and Regulation of Traffic

July 2025

transport.nsw.gov.au

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Introduction

This guide is a reference for councils and others who use the 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument. It is intended to promote a consistent understanding of what can be a complicated mix of legislation, regulation, and practice.

For simplicity, the *Authorisation and Delegation – Prescribed Traffic Control Devices and Regulation of Traffic* is referred to as 'the Instrument'.

This guide addresses the following questions:

- Why does Transport authorise and delegate?
- What powers are being authorised and delegated?
- Why would council use the Instrument?
- What are Local Transport Forums and how should they operate?
- What kinds of works need to be coordinated with Transport and others?

For the most up-to-date information and references, please refer to Transport's website.

Why does Transport authorise and delegate?

Councils manage most of the roads and streets on which the people of NSW live, work, and play. These streets perform many functions. They may be the quiet streets of a residential neighbourhood, busy corridors for the movement of goods and people, or the venues for events, commemorations, and celebrations.

Councils in NSW are well-placed to manage local roads, responding to the needs and aspirations of their community. By extending some of its own powers to councils, Transport enables councils to manage streets more efficiently.

The Instrument itself serves two purposes: It authorises councils to use the signs, markings, and devices that appear in the *Road Rules 2014* and are known as 'prescribed traffic control devices'; and it allows council to 'regulate traffic' on an unclassified road for purposes that go beyond roadwork, such as closing a road to allow an Anzac Day march.

It is important to note that councils already have powers to carry out road work and traffic control work, and to regulate traffic while doing so. The Instrument provides powers to use the most common 'prescribed' devices, but in many cases, council will not need to use it.

This version of the Instrument reinforces the principle that the functions of Transport delegated to councils by the Instrument may be exercised with wide discretion. It does not seek to limit council's powers under the *Roads Act 1993* on unclassified roads (for instance the ability to carry out traffic control work under s87), nor to second-guess decisions made by councils under authority or delegation. The focus of the Instrument is to facilitate coordination and knowledge sharing, while taking a risk-based approach to proposals and works that might affect road safety, public transport, or the operation of the classified road network.

Legal context

Please note that this section is not to be taken as legal advice. Users should seek their own legal advice.

The legal framework for the Instrument is found across the *Transport Administration Act 1988*, the *Roads Act 1993*, and the *Road Transport Act 2013*.

The ***Transport Administration Act 1988*** establishes Transport and sets out its broad functions across all legislation relating to the management of roads and traffic across NSW. It authorises Transport to delegate some of its functions to councils (and for councils to further sub-delegate).

This Act defines the term '*traffic control facility*' to includes all signs, markings, structures or devices that advise or warn a driver; all signs, markings, structures, or devices that compel a road user to do (or not do) something; and any bridge or underpass for pedestrian use. Refer to the

Glossary for a full definition.

The ***Roads Act 1993*** sets out and divides responsibilities and road management functions between Transport and other roads authorities such as councils.

Part 6 of the Act provides that "*traffic control work*" – which is work involving a "*traffic control facility*" – may be carried out by Transport on any public road, transitway, and any road or road related area used by motor vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, or animals, and including road shoulders, nature strips, and other road adjacent areas (whether a public road or not).

An appropriate roads authority (usually council) may carry out those works on unclassified roads and all the other road related areas mentioned above, unless Transport has notified the roads authority that it intends to carry out works on that road or road related area (s87).

Part 8 of the Act provides Transport with a broad power to regulate traffic (i.e. restrict or prohibit passage along a road) for any purpose. Roads authorities may regulate traffic in a more limited set of defined circumstances – such as to give effect to traffic control work under Part 6 – or to give effect to some other function authorised or required by any legislation.

While councils have powers under s87 to carry out traffic control work, there are circumstances which arise commonly outside of that scope, and where the delegation to *regulate traffic* in the Instrument can assist councils.

Street markets or marches, for example, are not '*traffic control work*' or road work for which the *Roads Act 1993* ordinarily allows councils to regulate traffic. To regulate traffic for a purpose that isn't permitted by the defined circumstances in the Act (such as to open a road for a street parade, market, or similar), a council would need to apply to Transport for approval, advertise the proposal for 28 days, and forward any submissions to Transport before it may do so. By using the Instrument – and in doing so exercising Transport's power to regulate traffic for any purpose – no advertising or approval is necessary and only the conditions of use of the Instrument need to be followed.

The ***Road Transport Act 2013*** establishes and governs road transport law in NSW. While the *Roads Act 1993* allows for the building of traffic control facilities, signs, lines, structures etc., Part 5.3 of the *Road Transport Act 2013* requires that a person hold appropriate authority from Transport to install, display, interfere with, alter, or remove a '*prescribed traffic control device*'. Unauthorised use of a device is subject to penalties, and Transport may order the unauthorised device to be removed and recover any expenses in doing so.

Some traffic control facilities are not 'prescribed' and do not require the authorisation provided by the Instrument. Speed cushions are one example. However, many other works, such as installing a roundabout, will involve installing a '*prescribed traffic control device*' - which is a device that a road user must obey under the road rules – or they may be liable for a fine. All regulatory signage, and some markings, devices, and structures are '*prescribed traffic control devices*'. Refer to the Glossary for a full definition.

This Instrument provides councils with Transport's authorisation to use prescribed traffic control devices, subject to the stated conditions in Schedule 4.

Finally, the power to establish and operate special event parking schemes delegated through provision (c) of the Instrument arises from the *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2021*, which sits under the *Road Transport Act 2013*.

Understanding the Instrument

The Instrument is a single consolidated document that replaces the Delegation to Councils (issued in 2011) and Temporary Delegation to Councils No.2 (issued in 2023), which are now no longer in force. The Instrument can be summarised as follows.

Clause **(c)** delegates Transport's power to regulate traffic for any purpose, subject to Schedule 4.

Clause **(c**) also delegates the power to establish and operate a special event parking scheme, subject to Schedule 4.

Clause **(e)** provides authorisation in writing for the use of prescribed traffic control devices (regulatory signs, lines, markings, etc.), subject to Schedule 4.

Note: The authorisation given under clause (e) of the Instrument is referred to throughout Schedule

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4 as the 'prescribed traffic control device authorisation'. For clarity, the authorisation allows delegates to install, display, etc. those devices and extends to the engagement of third parties (such as developers, road construction contractors, etc.) to install and display any such devices as a consequence of a delegate's decision and approval under the Instrument.

Clause **(d)** enables councils to sub-delegate the functions and powers of the Instrument to their general manager or staff. Councils should set up their own instruments for this purpose to ensure the appropriate staff are carrying out functions lawfully.

Clause **(f)** provides consent for the temporary use of portable traffic control lights in accordance with Transport's Traffic Control at Work Sites Manual.

Clause **(g)** clarifies that non-compliance with any of the conditions and limitations in Schedule 4 means that the Instrument does not apply. In such a situation, any authority or delegation under the Instrument to exercise the function is taken not to have been given, and councils may be liable to the consequences of acting without authority or delegation.

The following subsections are structured and numbered in accordance with the conditions and limitations set out in Schedule 4 of the Instrument.

Where can council use the Instrument? *(Condition 1)*

Condition 1: Scope of Authorisation and Delegation

A delegate must not exercise a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument and may not use the prescribed traffic control device authorisation:

(a) outside its local government area as constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993*;

(b) on a road or part of a road classified under the *Roads Act 1993* as a Freeway, Controlled Access Road, Tollway, or Transitway; or

(c) on any road identified with the 'Administrative Category' of 'State' in the '*Schedule of Classified Roads and Unclassified Regional Roads*' (as published and amended from time to time by Transport for NSW), except with the consent of Transport for NSW.

Councils may only perform functions under the Instrument in their own local government area and generally on unclassified roads (often referred to as 'local' roads). Note that in some cases (e.g. some light rail or bus corridors) classification may vary across the road or across different levels of the road.

Further, the roads listed in (b) above aside, the classified roads on which councils are not permitted to use the Instrument are those that have been administratively classified as 'State Roads' – which may not necessarily be all classified roads. Road classification may be confusing due to the use of both statutory classifications (under the *Roads Act 1993*) and administrative classifications. Statutory classifications define the status of roads for the purposes of the *Roads Act 1993*, while administrative classifications set out "who is responsible for the road" for the purpose of operational management, including where the NSW Government takes over the responsibility and funding of more significant roads (i.e. 'State Roads').

The Schedule of Classified Roads and Unclassified Regional Roads is available online, as is a comprehensive map of NSW road network classification.

The Instrument may only be used by councils on State Roads if *written consent* from Transport has been obtained. The Local Transport Forum may be the appropriate starting point for such consent to be obtained – the Transport representative on the Local Transport Forum may act as a point of contact for consent to be sought. It must be noted however that Transport consent in this situation is required from Transport itself – not from Local Transport Forum. The Local Transport Forum may still review the proposal, but formal Transport consent is a prerequisite before council can use this Instrument on State Roads.

Traffic signals

Under section 87 of the *Roads Act 1993*, the construction, erection, installation, maintenance, repair, removal, or replacement of a traffic control light may not be carried out otherwise than by or

with the consent of Transport. The Instrument does not provide that consent except in relation to portable traffic control lights (see clause [f]).

When using the Instrument, councils should engage with Transport – either directly or via the Local Transport Forum – in advance of undertaking any works that are likely to affect the operation of a traffic signal.

Prior engagement with Transport will ensure that unintended negative consequences for traffic signal operations are avoided.

How does the Local Transport Forum work? *(Condition 2)*

Condition 2: Local Transport Forum

(a) A delegate must convene a Local Transport Forum to which a representative from each of the following is invited to attend:

  (i) the delegate

  (ii) Transport for NSW

  (iii) NSW Police Force

  (iv) The local Member(s) of Parliament

  (v) The operator of any public passenger service likely to be affected by traffic control work proposed by the delegate

(b) A delegate may invite any other person to attend the Local Transport Forum.

(c) A delegate may seek technical advice from the Local Transport Forum regardless of whether this Instrument is being used.

(d) The Local Transport Forum is to provide advice to the delegate on any matter put before it for advice.

(e) A delegate must consider any advice provided by the Local Transport Forum.

One of the longstanding conditions of Transport's delegation of powers is that local roads authorities convene a body where proposals can be discussed, reviewed, and coordinated. This guide explains how Local Transport Forums (previously known as Local Traffic Committees) should operate and sets out the proposals they may or must consider.

The Local Transport Forum replaces the Local Traffic Committee. The change of name reflects its function and focus as an advisory body dedicated to technical advice, information sharing, and coordination on matters related to transportation, movement, and accessibility. It is not an approval body, nor does it make decisions.

The Local Transport Forum is not a committee as defined and understood in the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Function and responsibilities

Functions of the Local Transport Forum include:

- collaboration between agencies involved in transport management
- advice on street design, infrastructure, and traffic control facilities
- coordination of planned events and activities
- advice and information sharing on transport plans, policy, and management
- ensuring a public record of decisions relating to roads and streets

There is no voting at the Local Transport Forum, as councils are exclusively responsible for decisions they take on their roads. Members and attendees are to provide advice in good faith, share information, and coordinate activities and plans. Council is obliged to consider any advice provided by the Local Transport Forum, but any decisions – and the exercise of an authorised or

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delegated function itself – are the sole responsibility of council regardless of the advice of the Local Transport Forum.

Membership

The Local Transport Forum is convened by council. Council's role is that of both *proponent* and *decision-maker.* Council is the representative for all community interests (residents, businesses, etc.) and responsible for all road users – including public transport – and road safety.

There are three further mandatory invitees to every meeting of the Local Transport Forum:

- Transport for NSW

  responsible for collaborative coordination and provision of advice regarding state-level interests (public transport, operation of state road network operation and safety, guidance and standards, etc.)

- NSW Police Force

  responsible for provision of advice related to Police expertise, such as public safety, event management, highway patrol, enforcement, etc.

- the local Member(s) of NSW Parliament

  responsible for provision of advice regarding community interests (residents, businesses, etc.)

It is also mandatory to invite the operator of any public passenger service likely to be affected by a proposal to carry out traffic control work to any meeting where that proposal is being reviewed. Most commonly, this will be local bus operators. Depending on local context and service density, it may be beneficial for councils to issue a standing invitation to public passenger service operators in their area. It is the responsibility of the relevant operator to attend and/or to return feedback to council if otherwise unable to attend. Failure to do so when appropriately invited does not prevent council from proceeding with a proposal.

Multiple representatives may be invited where proposals affect more than one state electorate or Police Area Command. Council is also encouraged to invite any other person who may add technical expertise and value to the Local Transport Forum. Examples include – but are not limited to – road safety practitioners, urban designers, planners, local advocacy groups (such as those for mobility-impaired residents, cyclists, pedestrians, etc.), representatives from Local Health Districts or schools, and other subject matter experts as relevant.

A quorum for a meeting of the Local Transport Forum is one representative in attendance from each of council and Transport.

Administration

The Local Transport Forum is administered by council, which may decide the frequency and format of meetings.

Attendees must be:

- provided with the meeting agenda at least seven (7) calendar days in advance of the meeting (unless otherwise agreed by members)
- afforded the opportunity to review meeting minutes prior to finalisation
- be provided with a copy of the finalised meeting minutes

The meeting agenda must:

- include sufficient information to review any proposals or items submitted for advice
- clearly distinguish between items referred for advice, tabled for-information-only, and raised for general discussion

The meeting minutes must clearly record:

- invitees and attendance
- items discussed
- key advice provided

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- any for-information-only records or reports tabled

Referring proposals for advice *(Condition 3)*

Condition 3: Mandatory prior referral of some proposals

(a) A delegate must refer to the Local Transport Forum any proposal to exercise a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or to use the prescribed traffic control device authorisation where that proposal would:

for a period exceeding **6 months**:

(i) restrict or prohibit passage along a road of any persons, vehicles, or animals; or

(ii) compel or prevent a turn from one public road to another public road;

or

for a period exceeding **24 hours**:

(iii) prevent, impede, or hinder the safe or efficient operation of a public passenger service; or

(iv) prevent access to a public transport station, stop, wharf, or service; or

(v) remove or render less effective any bus priority measure.

(b) Following consideration of advice provided by the Local Transport Forum, the delegate may proceed with the proposal unless the Transport for NSW representative advises the meeting of the Local Transport Forum that Transport for NSW will be submitting a Statement of Concern within seven (7) days.

(c) If a Statement of Concern has been provided to the delegate in accordance with clause (b) above, the delegate may not exercise the relevant function until a further seven (7) days after it has circulated to the members of the Local Transport Forum a written response addressing the Statement of Concern and the delegate's reasons for proceeding to exercise the function.

Conditions 3(a)(i-ii) of the Instrument are intended to capture proposals that '*regulate traffic*' as defined in the *Roads Act 1993*. Aside from interfering with the common law right of passage on a public road, proposals that regulate traffic may create challenging outcomes – both positive and negative – and must be referred to the Local Transport Forum for coordination, input, and advice.

NOTE

'***Regulate traffic***' is a technical term that is formally defined in the *Roads Act 1993*. It means "*restrict or prohibit the passage along a road of persons, vehicles, or animals*". If a proposal does not prohibit or restrict passage, it is not regulation of traffic.

For the purposes of the Instrument, 'restrict passage' should be understood to mean a partial constraint that does not constitute prohibition or prevention of passage (such as passage only during particular times or for particular purposes). Most commonly, this is by way of compelling or preventing a turn by road users from one public road to another public road (where passage along the road is retained but can only be undertaken if approached/accessed in a specific way, or at a specific time).

For clarity, works that may affect vehicle speed or road capacity (e.g. speed cushions, roundabouts, reductions in road lanes, changes to parking controls, etc.) do not constitute restrictions or prohibitions on passage and are not regulation of traffic.

Given the critical importance of public transport in NSW, conditions 3(a)(iii-v) apply the same obligation of mandatory prior referral to the Local Transport Forum to any proposals that have the potential to negatively affect the operations of public passenger services. Please note that there are some existing legislative protections (such as s144B of the *Roads Act 1993*) for other parts of the broader rail and transport network which also must be complied with.

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The following table provides examples of different types of common works and proposals to aid practitioners in understanding what must be referred to the Local Transport Forum in advance of implementation. Further information can be found on Transport's website.

Examples
1. Council develops a traffic calming proposal for a residential neighbourhood that would prevent left turns into some side streets. The proposal uses physical changes and No Left Turn signs. This is a restriction on passage along those roads. It **must be referred** to the LTF prior to implementation.
2. Council proposes to install a roundabout at a four-way intersection with speed cushions on approach to improve road safety. All turn movements are maintained and reducing vehicle speed does not constitute a restriction on passage, so prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council.
3. Council proposes to trial preventing motor vehicle access along a side street every weekday during lunch hours to provide space for tables and chairs for local restaurants. The proposal prohibits passage of vehicles along the road and thus 'regulates traffic', but the trial is only for 6 months, so prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council.
4. Council proposes to install a series of kerb islands with street trees in the kerbside lane to beautify a local shopping area. Changes to parking arrangements – including adjustments to permissive parking times and No Stopping zones – are also implemented. Parking is reduced but the changes do not restrict or prohibit passage along the road. Prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council.
5. Council is working with a private event organiser planning an on-street charity running event. The event will require preventing motor vehicle access along a number of different roads through town – including the main street on which a bus service operates. Prohibiting passage of vehicles along the roads is regulation of traffic, and there is a direct negative effect on operations of the bus service, but traffic controls are in place for less than 24 hours, so prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council. Council is, however, obliged to consult with the operator of the bus service at least 7 days' prior.
6. Council is hosting a food & drink festival along the main street of town that will involve preventing motor vehicle access for 3 days. The proposal prohibits passage of vehicles along the roads and thus 'regulates traffic'. It will also prevent access to bus stops and efficient operation of bus services. The traffic regulation is in place for less than 6 months, but the effects on public transport operations last for more than 24 hours. As a result, it **must be referred** to the LTF prior to implementation.
7. Council proposes to ban trucks and buses from using a side street to reach an industrial estate. This is a prohibition of passage. It **must be referred** to the LTF prior to implementation.
8. Council proposes to enable contra-flow movement for bicycles on an existing one-way road. The proposal includes narrowing of the carriageway and shifting of kerbside parking to enable installation of concrete kerbing to create a separated bicycle lane and improve safety. The proposal does not restrict or prohibit passage along the road. Prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council.
9. Council proposes to install a central median that compels left turns when entering from side streets. This is a restriction on passage. It **must be referred** to the LTF prior to implementation.
10. Council proposes a safety and amenity-focused revitalisation of a local high street. The design involves footpath widening and the installation of kerb blisters and raised pedestrian crossings. There will be some loss of parking and a reduction in the road carriageway width from 4 lanes to 2-3. None of these changes – including the reduction in lanes/road capacity for motor vehicles – constitute 'regulation of traffic' because they do not restrict or prohibit

passage along the road. Prior referral to the LTF is **optional** at the discretion of council.

Temporary regulation of traffic and events

The Instrument now allows some temporary 'regulation of traffic' to be undertaken without prior referral to the Local Transport Forum. This could be a brief closure for a street party or small event, or longer duration changes such as making a street one-way or 'closing' it at one end.

Council may use the Instrument to hold events on the public road that require the 'regulation of traffic', such as an Anzac Day event or a local market. Where public events or activities are held, it is a condition of the Instrument that NSW Police and Transport are given seven days' notice. (This is consistent with the notification requirement in s166 of the *Liquor Act 2007*).

Councils may wish to trial changes to the roads in their community – reducing the need for expensive modelling, allowing solutions to be trialled and modified, and ensuring the community and road users understand proposed permanent changes. The Instrument authorises councils to regulate traffic for up to six months without mandatory prior referral to the Local Transport Forum. (Should such a change be successful, it must be referred to the LTF if the intention is to continue beyond six months).

To safeguard public transport, the six-month period is reduced to 24 hours where a proposal prevents or hinders safe or efficient operation of a bus service, prevents access to a public transport stop, or removes or renders less effective any bus priority measure (refer to condition 3[a][iii-v]).

Alternatively, for select events or activities, councils can forgo the Instrument and the Local Transport Forum and use their existing legal powers under s115(2)(f) of the *Roads Act 1993* where a permit has been issued under s144 for a 'road event', including:

- Filming projects (as set out in the *Local Government Act 1993)*
- Neighbourhood activities (as defined in the *Roads Regulation 2018*)
- Speed contests (such as a race – Police approvals under other legislation will be required)

Section 166 of the *Liquor Act 2007* also allows regulation of traffic for events, performance space, and dining without using the Instrument and without referral to the Local Transport Forum.

NOTE

The *Roads Act 1993* uses the term 'regulation of traffic' to refer to restrictions or prohibitions on passage – what most people call a 'road closure'. This is *not* the same thing as 'closing a road' under Part 4 of the *Roads Act 1993*, which is the process of *extinguishing* a road to allow it to be sold or amalgamated. Councils don't need to use the lengthy Part 4 process for everyday changes to their local roads, such as closures to keep through-traffic of quieter streets.

Assessing the impacts of proposals

Members of the Local Transport Forum must have sufficient information to reasonably assess proposals and provide informed advice.

Councils should consider the potential effects of any change on amenity, safety, and access across the broader network for all road users and should make the assessment available to the Local Transport Forum. Professional judgement or other appropriate methods may be used to do this – taking into account considerations such as local conditions, scale, and whether the proposal is temporary, permanent, or a trial. A formal traffic model or plan may be used where appropriate but is not required.

Testing and trialling temporary changes is an increasingly common method to assess both network impacts and community sentiment and has proven effective in local area traffic management schemes, active transport projects, placemaking, and urban revitalisation initiatives. It may be preferable to take this approach in many situations. Guidance is contained in Appendix A.5 of the NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual.

For proposals to regulate traffic, councils must provide the Local Transport Forum with:

- Sufficient detail to allow members to understand and assess the proposal

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- If applicable (as required by condition 5), details of consultation with affected public passenger service operators undertaken outside of the Local Transport Forum

Statements of Concern

When a proposal is discussed at the Local Transport Forum, any attendee may provide feedback and suggestions on design, technical aspects, general policy, or planning considerations. Members should seek to resolve any concerns or uncertainties during this discussion.

For proposals for which prior referral to the Local Transport Forum is mandatory and where Transport continues to hold concerns following discussion, Transport may indicate that it intends to file, within seven days, a formal Statement of Concern. Other members may express views and raise issues, which Transport will consider, but the Statement of Concern itself may only be filed by Transport.

A Statement of Concern details Transport's concerns, reasoning, and any request(s) for mitigation(s) or alternative action(s). It might relate to an entire proposal or to a specific aspect of its design or location. It must be submitted within seven (7) calendar days, during which time council is not delegated or authorised to implement the proposal. If no Statement of Concern is issued during this time– perhaps due to further discussion and resolution by the parties – council may proceed.

Once received, council must consider the issue(s) raised in a Statement and circulate a written response to all Forum members. It must address the issue(s) raised and either (a) detail the amendments proposed in response or (b) set out council's reasons for proceeding without amendment. Seven (7) calendar days after issuing its response, council may proceed with the proposal.

A Statement of Concern does not oblige council to change or withdraw a proposal, but it does place both Transport's comments and council's response on the public record, which is particularly important where safety concerns are noted. It also provides a time window for further discussion and escalation of significant issues.

Refer to the Appendix for a flowchart that includes the steps associated with a Statement of Concern.

The Statement of Concern process only applies to those proposals for which prior referral to the Local Transport Forum is mandatory. Records tabled for-information-only and proposals referred to the Local Transport Forum at the discretion of council are not subject to the Statement of Concern process. Concerns relating to those matters may be resolved through discussion.

Keeping records *(Condition 4)*

Condition 4: Keeping of records

(a) The proceedings of the Local Transport Forum must be recorded and made public as soon as practicable.

(b) A post facto record of any use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation (excluding any instance that has already been the subject of prior referral per condition 3) must be tabled at the Local Transport Forum as soon as practicable and no later than three (3) months after the fact.

Proceedings of the Local Transport Forum must be made publicly available online in an easily accessible manner as soon as practicable and must include:

- meeting agenda
- meeting minutes
- any formal records of use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation (including those circulated to members out-of-session)
- the entirety of any Statements of Concern submitted by Transport for NSW under condition 3 of Schedule 4 of the Instrument
- the entirety of any council response to a Statement of Concern under condition 3 of Schedule 4 of the Instrument

Additional information may be included at the discretion of council.

For the purposes of condition 4(b) of Schedule 4 of the Instrument, a post facto record of any use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation must include:

- type
- specific location
- date

Additional information may be included at the discretion of council.

Where a meeting of the Local Transport Forum is not scheduled to be held within three (3) months, a record of use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation must be circulated directly to all members of the Local Transport Forum. The record must be made publicly available online and forms part of the records of the Forum, even if it has not met.

Coordination with Transport, public transport operators, and Police *(Condition 5)*

Condition 5: Coordination

(a) A delegate must consult any public passenger service operator – either directly or via the Local Transport Forum – before exercising any function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or using the prescribed traffic control device authorisation where it is likely to affect the operation of a public passenger service provided by that operator.

(b) Details of such consultation undertaken outside of the Local Transport Forum must be tabled at the Local Transport Forum as soon as practicable.

(c) A delegate must give not less than seven (7) days' notice to NSW Police and Transport for NSW – either directly or via the Local Transport Forum – before regulating traffic under this Instrument for the purposes of a public event.

The requirement for consultation in condition 5(a) applies to any function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or use of the prescribed traffic control device authorisation likely to affect the operation of a public passenger service (note: while this may commonly be buses, it applies to any public passenger service, including rail, light rail, metro, and ferry). Practitioners must use professional judgement and take advice as to whether a proposal is likely to affect a public passenger service.

At bus stops, considerations may include whether adequate draw-in and pull-out length is preserved, or whether the design of the kerbside environment ensures ramps can be fully deployed for mobility impaired passengers. On-street designs should ensure turning paths are clear, hazardous merges are not required by drivers, bus priority is maintained or improved, and traffic calming devices are appropriately designed for bus operation.

Engagement with operators may be undertaken directly or through the Local Transport Forum. When undertaken directly, sufficient detail must be given to the operator to allow reasonable assessment of any proposal, and at least seven (7) calendar days should be allowed for feedback before council proceeds. Details of any direct consultation undertaken outside of the Local Transport Forum must be tabled as a record at the Local Transport Forum as soon as practicable.

It is the responsibility of the operator to return feedback to council. Failure to comment when invited to do so does not prevent council from proceeding.

Regular bus services may be identified through Transport's online Bus Route Map or on advice of Transport. Design references such as the Bus Priority Toolbox are available through the NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual.

References *(Condition 6)*

Condition 6: References

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(a) A delegate must use the NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual (TS 00066, as amended from time to time) as a primary reference when exercising a function listed in Schedule 1 of this Instrument or using the prescribed traffic control device authorisation.

(b) Use of a portable traffic control light or R4-212n roadwork speed limit sign under this Instrument must be in accordance with the Transport for NSW Traffic Control at Work Sites Manual (TS 05492, as amended from time to time).

The NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual (DORAS) is a valuable reference for design, engineering, and planning practitioners. It offers guidance on network planning, understanding street and road environments, identifying issues and design solutions, typical design parameters, and application of the Safe Systems approach.

DORAS provides extensive and convenient references to applicable guidance, manuals, technical standards, and policy documents. It recognises that that no two contexts and street environments are the same and offers guidance for councils that may wish to adopt local street design guides to reflect local aspirations and conditions.

DORAS provides references and links to many other adopted Transport Standards where relevant, such as the NSW Supplement to AS 1742 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, the NSW Supplement to Austroads Guide to Road Design, Delineation and Pavement Marking, the Cycleway Design Toolbox, and the Pedestrian Crossing Guideline. The Transport Standards Portal can be used to access these tools. DORAS also provides references to scores of other resources available to practitioners from legislation to examples of international best practice.

DORAS must be used as a primary reference for practitioners using the Instrument.

Transport's reserve powers *(Condition 7)*

Condition 7: Preservation of head of power

Notwithstanding this Instrument, Transport for NSW reserves all and any rights and powers, including to:

(a) Direct a public authority under clause 8I of Schedule 1 of the *Transport Administration Act 1988*, or alter or remove, or direct the alteration or removal of any prescribed traffic control device, under Part 5.3, Division 2 of the *Road Transport Act 2013;* and

(b) Carry out road work in accordance with Part 6 of the *Roads Act 1993;* and

(c) Carry out traffic control work on any public road, including exclusive power to carry out or consent to the construction, erection, installation, maintenance, repair, removal or replacement of a traffic control light in accordance with section 87 of the *Roads Act 1993;* and

(d) Regulate traffic under Part 8 of the *Roads Act 1993.*

(e) Revoke or withdraw this delegation, authorisation, or any component of it at any time with respect to any or all delegates.

The Instrument does not affect Transport's (nor council's) rights and powers under legislation.

Council continues to have powers to undertake road work under s71 of the *Roads Act 1993,* to undertake traffic control work on unclassified roads under s87 of the *Roads Act 1993*, and to regulate traffic under s115 to complete those works. Transport retains the power to carry out traffic control work on any road, and to regulate traffic for any purpose.

In cases where, despite best efforts, Transport and council cannot agree on a proposed course of action, options for Transport or the Minister for Roads to issue a direction to a roads authority or public authority under legislation are not affected by this Instrument.

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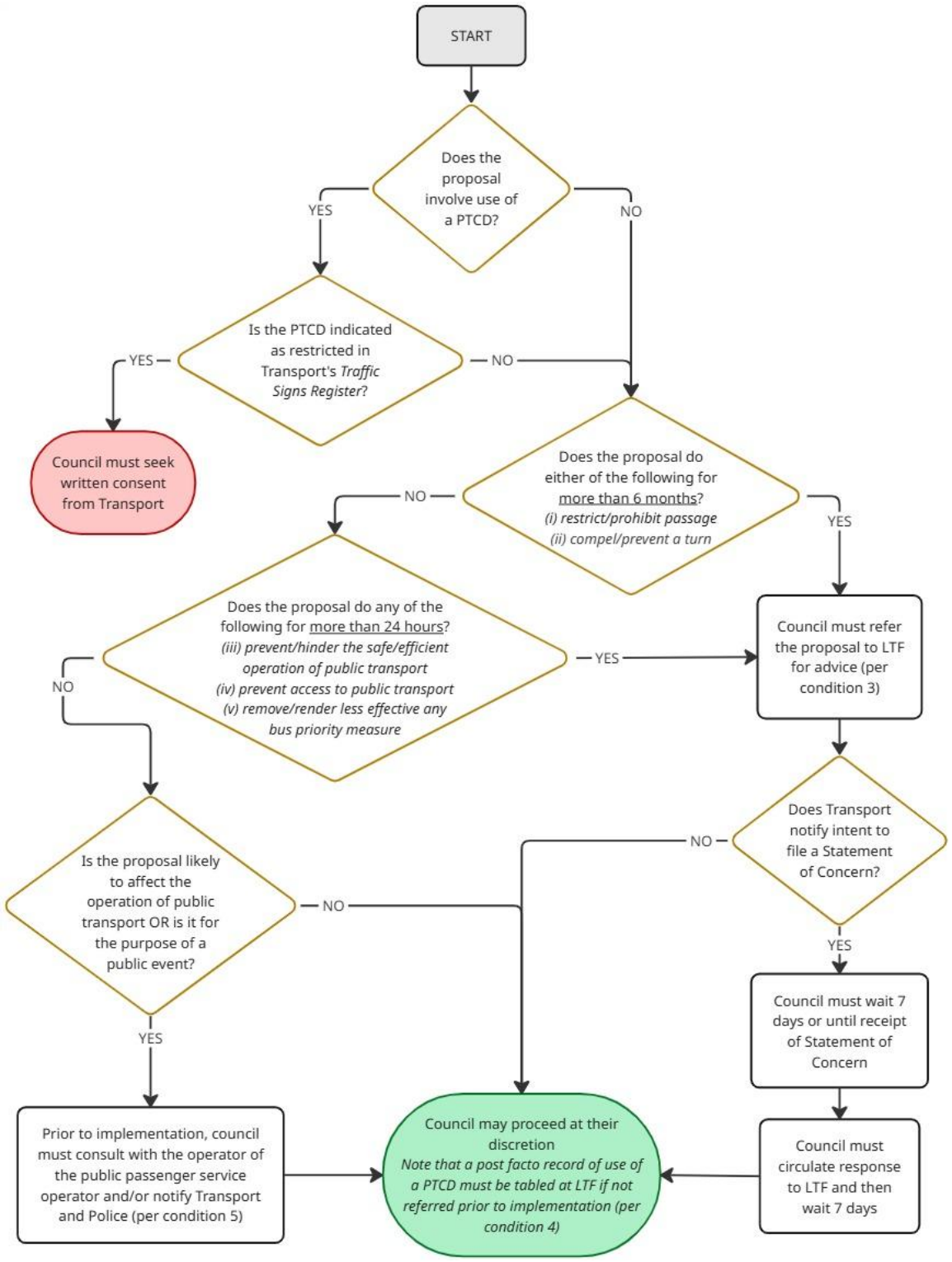
Appendix

Exercising an authorised or delegated function

The following process applies to any function exercised using the Instrument. It assumes that the proposed function is otherwise eligible and compliant with Schedule 4.



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Glossary

'Authorisation and Delegation Instrument' or 'Instrument'	Abbreviated reference to '*Authorisation and Delegation – Prescribed Traffic Control Devices and Regulation of Traffic*'; the instrument that is the subject of this guide.
the/this guide	Abbreviated reference to this document; 'Guide to Authorisation and Delegation – Prescribed Traffic Control Devices and Regulation of Traffic'.
DORAS	Abbreviated reference to the NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual (TS 00066).
local road	Abbreviated reference to the portion of NSW's road network that is: • within the local government area of the relevant council; and • not classified as a Freeway, Controlled Access Road, Tollway, or Transitway; and • not identified with the 'Administrative Category' of 'State' in the 'Schedule of Classified Roads and Unclassified Regional Roads' (as published and amended from time to time by Transport for NSW)
LTF	Abbreviated reference to the Local Transport Forum.
'meeting' of the Local Transport Forum	Reference to a session of the Local Transport Forum. Meetings can be held physically, digitally, or via correspondence.
portable traffic control light	Approved traffic signals that are transportable and not permanently installed. For the purposes of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument, 'portable traffic control light' is understood and used as per 'portable traffic signal' in Transport's Traffic Control at Work Sites Technical Manual (TS 05492, as amended from time to time).
prescribed traffic control device	A sign, signal, marking, structure, or other device to direct or warn traffic on a road (or part of a road) that is prescribed by the statutory rules of the *Road Transport Act 2013* for the purposes of this definition. Refer to the *Road Transport Act 2013*. For the purposes of this definition, the *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2021* prescribes traffic control devices of a kind mentioned in the *Road Rules 2014*. Examples of a prescribed traffic control device:

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	 NOTE: 'Prescribed traffic control device' is commonly confused with 'traffic control device' or 'traffic control facility'. *'Prescribed traffic control device' is the term which relates to the regulatory signs, signals, markings, etc. of which contravention is an offence. It is 'prescribed traffic control devices' that are the subject of provision (e) of the Instrument (the 'prescribed traffic control device authorisation').*
prescribed traffic control device authorisation	Abbreviated reference to the authorisation issued through provision (e) of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument.
proposal	Abbreviated reference to the intended exercise by council of a function enabled by the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument.
PTCD	Abbreviated reference to 'prescribed traffic control device'.
public event	For the purposes of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument, 'public event' means any market, gathering, performance, festival, march, celebration, commemoration, or similar held on a road, whether organised by a delegate or another party, and open to the public to attend.
public passenger service	The transport, by a motor vehicle, vessel, aircraft, train, or other vehicle prescribed by the regulations of the *Passenger Transport Act 2014* for the purposes of this definition, of passengers within, or partly within, New South Wales for a fare. Refer to the *Passenger Transport Act 2014*. For the purposes of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument; • A passenger service under the *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016* is excluded • A passenger service that operates without collection of a fare is included
regular bus service	As identified on Transport's online Bus Route Map or on advice of Transport.
regulate traffic	To restrict or prohibit the passage along a road of persons, vehicles, or animals. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993.*
restrict or prohibit passage	For the purposes of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument: • '*Restrict*' means a partial constraint, such as passage only during particular times or for particular purposes (e.g. 'local access only') • '*Prohibit*' means to bar or prevent passage, such as a mid-block

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	traffic filter For clarity, compelling or preventing a turn from one public road to another is a restriction on passage. A reduction in vehicle speed or road capacity does not constitute a restriction on passage.
road and road related area	A road is an area that is open to or used by the public and is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles. Refer to the *Road Rules 2014*. A road related area is any of the following: • an area that divides a road • a footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road • an area that is not a road and that is open to the public and designated for use by cyclists or animals • an area that is not a road and that is open to or used by the public for driving, riding, or parking vehicles Refer to the *Road Rules 2014*.
road event	Means a speed contest or such other activity as may be prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this definition. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993*. For the purposes of this definition, the *Roads Regulation 2018* also prescribes filming projects within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1993* and neighbourhood activities as defined in s79.
road work	Includes any kind of work, building or structure (such as a roadway, footway, bridge, tunnel, road-ferry, rest area, transitway station or service centre or rail infrastructure) that is constructed, installed or relocated on or in the vicinity of a road for the purpose of facilitating the use of the road as a road, the regulation of traffic on the road or the carriage of utility services across the road, but does not include a traffic control facility. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993*. To ***carry out road work*** includes to carry out any activity in connection with the construction, erection, installation, maintenance, repair, removal or replacement of a road work. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993*.
roads authority	A person or body that is, by or under the *Roads Act 1993*, declared to be a roads authority and, in relation to a particular public road, means the roads authority for that road. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993*.
special event parking scheme	Where the whole, or a part of, a road has been set aside as a special event parking area. Refer to the *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2021*. A special event parking area is the network of roads in an area with — (a) a special event parking area sign on each road into the area, and (b) an end special event parking area sign on each road out of the area. Refer to the *Road Rules 2014.*
traffic control device	A traffic sign, road marking, traffic signals, or other device, to direct or warn traffic on, entering, or leaving a road. Refer to the *Road Rules 2014*.

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	Examples of a traffic control device: *NOTE: 'Traffic control device' is commonly confused with 'traffic control facility' or 'prescribed traffic control device'.* *'Prescribed traffic control device' is the term which relates to the regulatory signs, signals, markings, etc. of which contravention is an offence. It is 'prescribed traffic control devices' that are the subject of provision (e) of the Instrument (the 'prescribed traffic control device authorisation). 'Traffic control devices' may already be installed and used by councils without relying on the Instrument.*
traffic control facility	Means — (a) traffic control lights on roads or road related areas, and equipment used in connection with traffic control lights, or (b) any sign, marking, structure or device containing or relating to a requirement or direction, contravention of which is an offence arising under — (i) this Act or the regulations, or (ii) any other Act, regulation or by-law prescribed for the purposes of this subparagraph, or (c) any other sign, marking, structure or device that is intended to promote safe or orderly traffic movement on roads or road related areas or to warn, advise or inform the drivers of vehicles, or pedestrians, of any matter or thing in relation to vehicular or pedestrian traffic or road conditions or hazards, or (d) any bridge or subway or other facility for use by pedestrians over, across, under or alongside a road or road related area, or (e) any other thing prescribed as a traffic control facility by the regulations. Refer to the *Transport Administration Act 1988*. For the purposes of (b)(ii) above, the *Transport Administration (General) Regulation 2018* prescribes the road transport legislation within the meaning of the *Road Transport Act 2013,* which includes the *Road Rules 2014*. *NOTE: 'Traffic control facility' is commonly confused with 'traffic control device' or 'prescribed traffic control device'.* *'Prescribed traffic control device' is the term which relates to the regulatory signs, signals, markings, etc. of which contravention is an offence. It is 'prescribed traffic control devices' that are the subject of provision (e) of the Instrument (the 'prescribed traffic control device authorisation).*
traffic control light	For the purposes of the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument, 'traffic control light' is understood and used as per 'traffic signal' in the *Road Rules 2014*.

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traffic control work	Includes any activity in connection with the construction, erection, installation, maintenance, repair, removal or replacement of a traffic control facility. Refer to the *Roads Act 1993*.
traffic signal	Bicycle crossing lights, B lights, overhead lane control signals, pedestrian lights, T lights, traffic arrows, traffic lights, or twin red or yellow lights. Refer to the *Road Rules 2014*.
Transport	Abbreviated reference to 'Transport for New South Wales'.

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NSW GOVERNMENT

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Implementing the 2025 Instrument

What do councils need to do?

transport.nsw.gov.au | *July 2025*

- The new 2025 Authorisation and Delegation Instrument **replaces previous delegations**
- The Instrument gives councils **streamlined options** for the management of unclassified roads
- It is **up to councils** whether to **choose** to use the new streamlined options

Key changes from the *2011 Delegation to Councils*

- *Local Traffic Committee* (LTC) is renamed *Local Transport Forum* (LTF)
- Councils may sub-delegate functions to staff
- Fewer matters now need to be referred to the LTF
- Greater scope for councils to use roadwork speed limit signs

What choices does Council now have?

- Council can decide which proposals to send to the LTF, noting referral is only mandatory where:
  - regulating traffic for >6 months
  - public transport is negatively affected for >24 hours
- Council can determine the frequency of LTF meetings, and invite any additional participants

First steps

- Officers should familiarise themselves with the 2025 Instrument, Guide, and supporting materials
- Advise LTF members and any other interested parties of the changes
- Update LTF meeting materials (e.g. templates, meeting agenda, etc.) as needed
- Update Council meeting materials and procedures (e.g. templates, meeting agendas, etc.) as needed
- Develop procedures (e.g. checklists) to ensure compliance with conditions of the 2025 instrument

Making it work

- Focus the LTF on advice and collaboration, not voting
- Ensure proposals not sent to the LTF in advance are:
  - where relevant, sent to bus operators for consultation
  - where prescribed traffic control devices are used, subsequently recorded at the LTF
- Give NSW Police and Transport 7 days' notice of on-road public events

Managing disagreement

- Where LTF discussion is unable to resolve concerns, the Statement of Concern process documents issues and makes time for further discussion. Council should:
  - wait 7 days if Transport informs the LTF meeting of its intent to file a Statement of Concern
  - respond in writing (to all LTF members) to any Transport-issued Statement of Concern
  - wait a further 7 days after responding before proceeding

Additional related references for practitioners

NSW Design of Roads and Streets Manual (DORAS) *Guides* *More resources* *Cycleway Design Toolbox*
Bus Route Map *Road classifications* *Transport Standards Portal* *Traffic Signs Register*

NSW GOVERNMENT

This note is intended to aid practitioners using the Authorisation and Delegation Instrument. To ensure legal and technical compliance, please refer to the Instrument itself, the associated Guide, and Transport's website.

9.13 PROJECT & WORKS REPORT OCTOBER 2025

File Number: RPT/25/596

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Megan Jackson - Roads & Engineering Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the months of September 2025 and the planned activities for October 2025.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in September 2025 and the scheduled works for October 2025.

Detailed Report

Refer below for updates of the works completed in September 2025, and the planned activities for October 2025.

Projects and Works Completed in September 2025 and Scheduled for October 2025.	
Roads	***Maintenance Grading*** • Works have been recently completed on the Anabranch Mail Road, Tooperoopna Road, Red Hill and Downham Roads. • Works are scheduled to be completed on the Polia and Roo Roo Roads during October. ***Ivanhoe Road Resheeting Works*** • Funded by the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund, a 6km section west of the Wilkurra Road intersection will receive a 100mm top up of locally sourced gravel. It is anticipated this will commence early October and continue for a five week period. ***Flood Recovery Works*** • Various sections the Old Broken Hill Road and one section of the Roo Roo Road are currently receiving an upgrade consisting of 150mm overlay of locally sourced gravel. These works are funded by TfNSW and are required following the damage left from the flooding in the Anabranch in 2023. All works will be completed the first week of October and have significantly upgraded roads in the area. ***TfNSW Maintenance*** • Pricing for reseals on both the Sturt and Silver City Highways have been submitted to TfNSW and awaiting a response. • Asphalt patching in the Buronga and Gol Gol areas is to be undertaken directly by TfNSW staff, it has not yet been confirmed when this will be completed.

Roads *(continued)*	***Potters Drive Realignment*** • The plans for the new alignment have been completed. • Exposing existing services in the road reserve to be completed in October as the depths are unknown. • Works onsite are expected to commence early November ***Court Bowl Upgrades*** • A contractor has recently completed works in Pamela, Ashen, Nix Courts in Gol Gol and Rosedale and Stamford Courts in Buronga to upgrade the Court bowl surface from spray seal to asphalt. • The new works will provide a more durable surface to cater for heavy vehicles such as garbage and concrete trucks. • More improvement works are scheduled next financial year for Wentworth and Gol Gol.
Parks and Gardens	***Midway Entrance Upgrade*** • A request for quotation will be sent out for a new concrete path to be installed from the upper-level carpark to the Midway Centre property boundary towards the Midway Supermarket. No path will be installed in between Midway and the Supermarket until the adjacent land has been developed. • New low-level planting will be installed closer to the highway, and new trees closer to the carpark away from the power lines on completion of the footpath. ***Darling Street Wentworth*** • Works are scheduled to commence mid October which will include new steel edging and limestone crusher dust surrounding the London Plane Trees, and new Corten steel laser cut bins. The centrally located pedestrian crossing may receive new small plantings and shrubs. • Eight new Corten Steel bins have been fabricated and will be installed in the main street.
Water and Sewer	***Gol Gol Buronga Reticulation Modelling*** • All three models created. • Inconsistencies between meter billing data and GIS impacting on modelling accuracy. WSC working to resolve to ensure model is giving accurate results. ***Safe and Secure Water Program (4 activities) – Development*** ***1. Wentworth Water Treatment Plant*** ***2. Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant*** ***3. Wentworth Raw Water Pump Station*** ***4. Dareton Raw Water Pump Station*** • WSC Water Team and NSW Government continuing to review the updated Option Reports • Draft report for the Gol Gol WTP Interim upgrades issued by consultant. Currently being reviewed by WSC Water Team. • Additional flow testing of water supply into the Gol Gol WTP undertaken, including flushing supply main. ***Wentworth Raw Water Pipeline*** • Design independently reviewed by Public Works.

Water and Sewer ***(continued)***	• Materials procurement underway. • Documentation to enable site possession submitted. ***Sewer Rehabilitation Program*** • Additional 1200m of sewer relining occurred in September, successfully concluding the first year of sewer rehabilitation program. • A total of 4.7 km of sewer in Wentworth East has been relined, significantly reducing the risk of future sewer breaks and blockages. • Next years program to be developed at the commencement of next calendar year, but likely to include some critical sewer in Buronga. ***District Bulk Metering*** • Night-time outages successfully completed for the installation of bulk flow meters for both Midway and Dareton towers. • All bulk meters are operational. • The final two meters are needing to be displayed on SCADA and recorded for reporting purposes. • WSC now has Water Districts, separating Gol Gol, Buronga, Mourquong and Dareton. ***Wastewater and Water Lagoon Cleaning*** • Tender submissions closed on 30 September, with 5 submissions. • WSC Water Team to review and evaluate the tenders. Working towards the November Council meeting for acceptance of award. • Budget for the Buronga WWTP Lagoon cleaning likely to need review.
Projects	***Darling Street Footpath Wentworth*** • The contractor has completed all the works as requested in the original Tender Documents to a very high standard. • All local business owners were very easy to work with to ensure the project finished on time and budget. • New Corten steel bins have been ordered to replace the old bins • The additional approved section in front of the op shop and Court House has been completed. • The section in front of the Lock 10 Weir Café is completed. • This completes all new concreting upgrade works in Wentworth. ***Midway to Gol Gol Footpath Upgrade*** • Tree trimming has been completed • The new design has been approved, which will greatly improve the horizontal alignment and reduce drainage run off from the highway over the footpath. The new design will provide a superior product for locals and visitors to utilise. • Works are scheduled to be commence early October and continue for a four week period.
Projects ***(continued)***	***Pooncarie Camp Kitchen*** • Shed structure and cladding complete • Cool room installed • Stainless steel benches / basins and fridges installed. • Electrical and Plumbing installations • Building inspections completed prior to the Pooncarie Races • Kitchen successfully used during the Pooncarie Races • Minor finishing touches to be completed in September

Wentworth Camp Kitchen

- Red brick feature discussed at Wentworth Show User Group Meeting in late September.
- Minor finishing touches to be completed prior to Wentworth Races in early November.

Wentworth Rowing Club Upgrade

- Tenders closed in late September, with 5 tender submissions received.
- Tender evaluation complete and tender award report prepared for the October Council meeting.

Wentworth Depot Upgrades

- The new 40mm asphalt has been installed around the perimeter of the new fuel pod.
- The extension of the mechanics pit inside the workshop has been completed, with painting works to finalize the upgrade.

Open Spaces – Dawn Ave Drainage Basin

- Stormwater pipes and headwalls delivered to site
- Quote awarded to local earthworks contractor to install stormwater pipes, commencing in early October.
- Final earthworks design being completed to enable an earthworks package to go to quote in October.

Wentworth Kerb Upgrades

- Tender documentation updated in readiness to go to tender in early October.

Junction Island Viewing Platform

- New foundations have been constructed.
- Design for new ramp has been designed to enable access to the viewing platform.
- Works commenced on the platform decking.
- Still tracking for a late October completion.

Old Wentworth Water Tower Reserve (formerly Astronomy Park)

- Fencing alignment pegged to delineate the formal asbestos work area determined from previous asbestos studies.
- Temporary fencing material ordered and delivered to secure the site prior to the works.
- Quotes being sought from contractors to clear fencing alignment and install fence. Likely to be installed in October
- Scope reviewed in late September with RFQ for the asbestos capping and reinstatement works to be finalized mid Oct for proposed project completion late December 2025.

Projects
(continued)

Attachments

1. Court Bowl Upgrades Samford Crt Nix Crt Rose Crt⇩
2. Court Bowl Upgrades Samford Crt Nix Crt Rose Crt 1⇩
3. Old Broken Hill Road⇩
4. Darling St Footpath⇩
5. Junction Island Platform⇩
6. Old Water Tower Wentworth⇩

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10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

10.1 CONTRACTS REGISTER

File Number: RPT/25/552

Councillor Beaumont has indicated his intention to move the following motion:

Motion

That Council receive future Contracts Register reports in a way that aggregates all contractors by relative project with a progressive and total expenditure being provided per project and that in the interest of capturing the full cost of projects the report must transcend financial years where necessary.

Background

The intent of the discussion and subsequent motion is to foster improvement in reporting to Councillors, encourage transparency and to ensure we meet the requirements the NSW Government Circular 25-17 Quarterly Budget Review Statement Guidelines and in particular 'Key Point' "The Guidelines highlight the importance of financial reporting and clarify that Councillors have a primary role in determining the financial direction and health of a council.

To assist in discussion and provide some context I provide the following thoughts and observations on the subject of Contracts Management and Project Financial Reporting.

The Contracts Register provided to Councillors on a quarterly basis is comprehensive in its content however could be enhanced in order to include some additional detail and be presented in a way that reflects aggregated progressive and total costs of Projects and Contracts awarded.

By aggregating contractor expenditure including variations by project will have the benefit of identifying all contractors on a project with their individual and cumulative costs, thereby providing the total cost of a project.

The motion if adopted will result in a quarterly Contract Register report that will;

- Enhance transparency
- Encourage fiscal responsibility and accountability
- Enable Council and Management to evaluate project outcomes
- Facilitate the assessment of value for money, and
- Enable evaluation of processes involved in awarding and managing contracts and projects

If it was deemed necessary the proposed reporting could be provided for Councillors eyes only within the 'Items under Separate cover' section of the agenda.

Officers Comments:

Current Contracts Register Reporting

- The current quarterly reporting of the Contracts Register was originally implemented as an additional reporting requirement, designed to show all active contracts at the end of each quarter.

- This supplementary reporting arose on top of Council's obligations under previous QBRS guidelines, which required reporting on contracts entered into during the quarter valued over $50,000.

- The purpose of this enhanced reporting was to provide Councillors with a comprehensive view of ongoing contractual commitments, beyond the statutory and policy requirements for the register.

- Following the update to the QBRS Guidelines, reporting of contracts entered into during the quarter is no longer mandated, giving Council discretion to determine how active-contract reporting is managed. Such reporting is supplementary and can be tailored to meet Councillors' transparency, oversight, and governance needs.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

- Under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW)* (GIPA Act), Council is required to keep and maintain a publicly available contracts register. This register must include prescribed information about contracts Council enters into with private sector bodies valued at $150,000 or more (excluding employment contracts).

- In addition, under Council's Contract Management Policy, all contracts valued at $50,000 or more are required to be included in the register. This ensures that Council's reporting obligations extend beyond the statutory threshold, reinforcing Council's commitment to strong governance and transparency.

- The register must be accurate, current, and accessible to the public to meet these obligations.

Intent of the Motion

The intent of the motion is to foster improvement in reporting to Councillors, encourage transparency, and align with the principles of NSW Government Circular 25-17 – Quarterly Budget Review Statement Guidelines. These guidelines emphasise that Councillors have a primary role in determining the financial direction and health of the council, and that financial reporting should enable effective oversight and decision-making.

Specifically, the proposed reporting would:

- Provide additional detail within Contracts Register reports, showing aggregated, progressive and total costs of projects, including contract variations.

- Present project expenditure in a way that identifies all contractors engaged, their individual contract values, and their cumulative costs, thereby demonstrating the total project cost.

Pros

- **Clearer project cost picture:** Provides Councillors with a more comprehensive understanding of project costs over time, transcending financial years.

- **Supports governance role:** Aligns with the requirement under Circular 25-17 for Councillors to have meaningful oversight of financial performance and direction.

- **Improves transparency:** Consolidates information that is currently fragmented across contracts, financial reports and project reporting.

- **Assists evaluation:** Supports monitoring of contractor performance, contract management processes, and achievement of project outcomes.

Cons / Challenges

- **Resource intensive:** Preparing aggregated reports will require additional staff time to reconcile contracts, variations, and project allocations.

- **Duplication of reporting:** There is potential overlap with other financial and project reporting provided to Council (e.g. capital works reports, Quarterly Budget Reviews).

- **Complex attribution issues:** Some contracts may span multiple projects, or be panel/supply arrangements, making aggregation and allocation difficult.

- **Risk of confusion:** The statutory GIPA register (threshold $150,000) and the Council policy register (threshold $50,000) are compliance tools for transparency; using them to serve broader project reporting purposes risks blurring compliance obligations with governance needs.

- **Risk of error due to duplication:** To meet the proposed reporting format, Council may need to maintain a separate internal version of the register in addition to the legislated/policy version. Maintaining two versions increases the likelihood of inconsistencies, misreporting, or data entry errors.

Conclusion

The motion's intent is consistent with best practice principles of transparency, fiscal responsibility and good governance, and aligns with the oversight role envisaged by Circular 25-17. Council's existing obligations under both the GIPA Act and the Contract Management Policy ($50,000 threshold) already demonstrate its commitment to maintaining a comprehensive register. However, the proposed reporting enhancements raise practical issues around resourcing, duplication, and data integrity.

Attachments

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

(a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or

(b) the discussion of the matter may -

(i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or

(ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

Recommendation

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

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

12.1 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 528 - Mitsubishi Fuso Canter - VR2526/528. (RPT/25/557)

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

12.2. Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 530 - John Deere 5093E Tractor - VR2526/530. (RPT/25/559)

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the

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

12.3 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 532 - Isuzu NRP-190 Truck - VR2526/532. (RPT/25/560)

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

12.4 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 678 - Toyota Prado - VR2526/678. (RPT/25/561)

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

12.5 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 362 - Ford Ranger - VR2526/362. (RPT/25/567)

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.

12.6 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 640 &643 - Kia Optima - VR2526/640&643. (RPT/25/568)

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.

12.7 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 676 - Ford Ranger - VR2526/676. (RPT/25/569)

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.

12.8 Plant Replacement - Approval for Tender for Replacement of Plant 681 - Ford Ranger - VR2526/681. (RPT/25/570)

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.

12.9 Wentworth Rowing Club Extension - PT2526/02. (RPT/25/594)

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

12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

12.1 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 528 - MITSUBISHI FUSO CANTER - VR2526/528

File Number: RPT/25/557

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

12.2 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 530 - JOHN DEERE 5093E TRACTOR - VR2526/530

File Number: RPT/25/559

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

12.3 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 532 - ISUZU NRP-190 TRUCK - VR2526/532

File Number: RPT/25/560

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

12.4 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 678 - TOYOTA PRADO - VR2526/678

File Number: RPT/25/561

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

12.5 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 362 - FORD RANGER - VR2526/362

File Number: RPT/25/567

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

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.

12.6 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 640 &643 - KIA OPTIMA - VR2526/640&643

File Number: RPT/25/568

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

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.

12.7 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 676 - FORD RANGER - VR2526/676

File Number: RPT/25/569

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

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.

12.8 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL FOR TENDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 681 - FORD RANGER - VR2526/681

File Number: RPT/25/570

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

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.

12.9 WENTWORTH ROWING CLUB EXTENSION - PT2526/02

File Number: RPT/25/594

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering
Reporting Officer: Ivan McKenzie - Infrastructure Projects Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment
Strategy: 3.2 Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

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

13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

19 November 2025