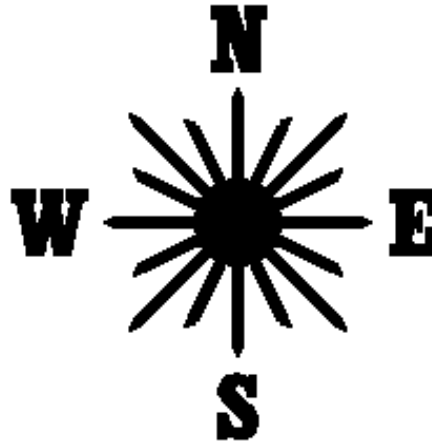


CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

BUSINESS PAPER

25 NOVEMBER 2020

The Meeting will be held at 9.00am in the
Council Chambers, 21 Reid Street, Wilcannia.

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the Central Darling Shire area by encouraging development through effective leadership, community involvement and facilitation of services.

RECORDING AND WEBCAST OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are recorded and webcast on Council's website, your attendance and/or input may be recorded and publicly broadcast.

PUBLIC RECORDING PROHIBITED WITHOUT COUNCIL AUTHORITY

A person may only use a recording device, including audio and visual recording and any device capable of recording speech, to record a Council meeting by the resolution of the Council.

A person may be expelled from a Council meeting for having used a recording device without consent.

PHOTOGRAPHY PROHIBITED WITHOUT PERMISSION

Photography is not permitted at a Council meeting without the consent of the General Manager.

PUBLIC FORUM - EXTRACT FROM THE CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE POLICY

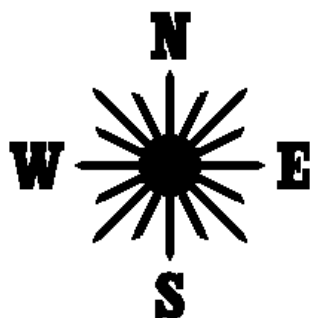
1. The Council may hold a public forum prior to each ordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting. Public forums may also be held prior to extraordinary Council meetings and meetings of Committees of the Council.
2. Public forums are to be chaired by the Mayor or their nominee.
3. To speak at a public forum, a person must first make an application to the Council in the approved form. Applications to speak at the public forum must be received by same day 8.50am 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.
4. A person may apply to speak on no more than two (2) items of business on the agenda of the Council meeting.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
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 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.

9. 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.
10. Approved speakers at the public forum are to register with the Council any written, visual or audio material to be presented in support of their address to the Council at the public forum, and to identify any equipment needs no more than three (3) days before the public forum. The General Manager or their delegate may refuse to allow such material to be presented.
11. The General Manager or their delegate is to determine the order of speakers at the public forum.
12. Each speaker will be allowed five (5) minutes to address the Council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the Chairperson.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. Speakers are under no obligation to answer a question put under Clause 4.14. Answers by the speaker, to each question are to be limited to three (3) minutes.
16. Speakers at public forums cannot ask questions of the Council, Councillors or Council staff.
17. The General Manager or their nominee may, with the concurrence of the Chairperson, address the Council for up to three (3) minutes in response to an address to the Council at a public forum after the address and any subsequent questions and answers have been finalised.
18. Where an address made at a public forum raises matters that require further consideration by Council staff, the General Manager may recommend that the Council defer consideration of the matter pending the preparation of a further report on the matters.
19. 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.

20. If the Chairperson considers that a speaker at a public forum has engaged in conduct of the type referred to in Clause 4.19, 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.
21. Clause 4.20 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 14 of this code.
22. Where a speaker engages in conduct of the type referred to in Clause 4.19, 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.
23. 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.

CENTRAL DARLING



SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, 25 November 2020
9.00am
Council Chambers
21 Reid Street, Wilcannia

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1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Council Meeting will be declared open by the Mayor/Administrator.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay respects to Elders past and present.

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- Director Business Services – JACOB PHILPS

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW Councillors and Council staff are required to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

Recommendation:

That the Disclosures of Interest – Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary be received and noted.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 ORDINARY MEETING – 28 October 2020

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 October 2020 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

Attachments:

- [1 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes 28 October 2020](#)

5.2 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

6. MAYORAL (ADMINISTRATOR) MINUTE(S)

6.1 NOVEMBER 2020 ADMINISTRATORS REPORT.

REPORT AUTHOR: ADMINISTRATOR
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

NAIDOC Week is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and a chance to acknowledge our history, culture, and achievements.

The NAIDOC 2020 theme - ***Always Was, Always Will Be.*** - recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years.

NAIDOC Week 2020 is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest continuing cultures on the planet.

Always Was, Always Will Be. acknowledges this nation's story began at the dawn of time and didn't begin with documented European contact.

NAIDOC 2020 invited all Australians to embrace and acknowledge the true history of this country – a history which dates back thousands of generations. The very first footprints on this continent were those belonging to First Nations peoples and we have maintained ongoing spiritual and cultural connections to the land and sea.

On the 28 October I represented Council in Wilcannia when the Hon Don Harwin announced Wilcannia's Mission Camps and cultural places had been gazetted as a recognised and protected Aboriginal Place after a two-years consultation with the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The Barkindji people put forward the submission, which will now see the camps and the places around the camps granted heritage and cultural listing.

Any works that could impact the areas and their heritage status will now need permit approval.

"The camps and the places around the camps have some extraordinary stories and they need to be preserved too," Mr Harwin said.

Central Darling Shire opens its meetings with an Acknowledgement of Country and proudly flies the Aboriginal Flag in the chambers.

The development of a new shire wide Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and locality based CSPs will continue as it is required by legislation. An external consultant has been appointed and initial community engagement across the shire is planned before the end of this year. Announcements on dates and locations for consultations will be made shortly.

The Central Darling Shire CSP is a separate body of work from the plan for the future governance of communities throughout Central Darling Shire that will be coordinated through the Office of Local Government. The Minister has stated it will take time to develop this plan and has committed to account for public and stakeholder views.

The above is something as Administrator I will advocate and work towards to ensure the community's views are sought and accounted for in that decision-making process. It is important that the broader community engages in this discussion and I note the local members offer to facilitate.

The development of the CDSC CSP will provide an initial opportunity for the community to express a view and inform government on how it sees future local governance of the shire and its long-term vision for the shire and local communities

This plan is not the Administrator's or the Council's, it belongs to the community and can set out very clearly to the decision and policy makers in governments the agreed community vision and can be a powerful lobbying tool.

It is the plan from which Council develops its four (4) year Delivery Program and is the basis on which Council may lobby and advocate to all level's government.

It is for the above reasons I would urge all to attend meetings and express a view. For those not comfortable in public sessions opportunities will be made available to listen and collect your views.

There are many issues facing our community such as:

- Water Policy and River health
- Economic Development and employment
- Tourism
- Health Services
- Aboriginal health, housing, education, employment
- Telecommunications
- Local Service Provision

It is important that community's and individuals engage when opportunities are made available to lodge submissions on policy development.

I note that the state Government is seeking comment on various water policy issues and those interested should make submissions.

Communication across the Shire has always been an issue and Council has recently adopted a Community Engagement Strategy and created a position of Community Engagement Officer. This position will assist the General Manager and the organisation to consult and inform our community

Individuals and community groups may at all times contact the General Manager or myself to express views. These will always be accepted but any decisions or actions taken will be in the broader strategic community interest.

LGNSW will hold its annual conference online this year due to COVID over 2 days commencing 23 November. The conference is the major policy making forum for the LGNSW. The General Manger and myself will be participating.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – COUNTRY WOMENS ASSOCIATION, IVANHOE BRANCH

REPORT AUTHOR: ACTING RATES OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to the request from Country Women's Association, Ivanhoe Branch, for financial assistance to cover the 2020-21 annual rates and charges on the association's property at 64 Columbus Street, Ivanhoe NSW.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. That Council approve assistance to the Country Women's Association, Ivanhoe Branch in the amount of \$1,401.00 to cover the annual rates and charges levied on its premises in Ivanhoe for the 2020-21 period.

BACKGROUND:

Council's Community Grants policy was adopted by Council at its Ordinary meeting on 27 February 2019. That policy provides for Council to provide financial assistance to not-for-profit community-based organisations, groups and individuals that meet community needs and to benefit residents within our community. The policy also provides that in-kind support for the waiver of rates, fees, charges, and goods is considered financial assistance within this policy and therefore may be eligible for consideration.

The Country Women's Association, Ivanhoe Branch operates from premises located at 64 Columbus Street, Ivanhoe NSW. The association provides a strong support network and lobby to improve conditions and welfare of women and families especially in isolated rural areas. It is a regular supporter of community events in the Ivanhoe district, however, like most organisations though, during 2020, the associations activities have been limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. In turn, this restricted its fundraising capacity placing additional strain on its limited financial resources.

The aims of the CWA of NSW are:

- a) To bring all women and families together and form a network of support.
- b) To provide a forum for the voice of all women in New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory.
- c) To improve conditions and welfare of all women and families especially in country areas.
- d) To support schemes which enhance the value of country living, especially health and educational facilities.
- e) To encourage development in regional areas and to increase the viability of rural communities and the environment.
- f) To provide a voice to Government at all levels.

- g) To promote International goodwill friendship understanding and tolerance between all people.

The association's operation is wholly dependent upon a team of volunteers to sustain its continuance.

REPORT:

The Country Women's Association, Ivanhoe Branch has requested financial assistance to cover the annual rates and charges levied on its premises in Ivanhoe. The amount of the levy payable by the association is \$1,401.00 consisting of annual charges for waste and water supply services.

Given the premises are utilised on an occasional basis only, the demand placed on the waste and water supply services is believed to be very low and as such actual cost of providing these services to the CWA Ivanhoe Branch is also believed to be quite low.

The Community Grants policy requires applicants to meet certain criteria including that it has no outstanding debts of any kind to Council. That criteria are met, notwithstanding the annual rates and charges for 2020-21 have not yet been paid, as the applications was made 28 September 2020, prior to the due date for the first instalment being 30 September 2020.

All other criteria of the policy have been met.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcomes

Goal 1.1 Closer cooperation and cohesion between community groups.

Delivery Outcome

Objective 1.1.1 - Relevant and quality health and family support services for all members of our community.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Promote a positive image through the support of a volunteer-based organisation	Nil
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Economic	Nil	Nil
Governance	Nil	Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

Expenditure for the assistance sought is provided for within the 2020-21 budget.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Assistance is permitted under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The application fully satisfies criteria set out in Council’s Community Grants policy.

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

No risks identified.

OPTIONS:

Given the application meets all criteria (except a minor condition regarding the format of the application itself) there is no option but to approve the request.

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

None required.

External Exhibition

None required.

Attachments

- 2. [Community Grants Application - Country Women’s Association, Ivanhoe Branch](#)

7.2 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES AUCTION RESULTS

REPORT AUTHOR: ACTING RATES OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates and Charges Auctions which took place in the week commencing 26 October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive and note the report.
- 2. Note that monthly reports will be provided to Council until such time that the contracts of sales have been completed and the sale of processes finalised.

BACKGROUND:

Section 713 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the LGA) provides that Council may sell land by auction where rates and charges remain unpaid for a period of five (5) years or longer.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 25 March 2020, Council resolved to sell 111 properties at public auctions, or by private treaty subsequent to such public auctions, but to defer advertising and scheduling of such auctions until such time that it is considered appropriate to proceed in light of the Covid-19 situation, which was beginning to evolve at that time.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 24 June 2020, Council endorsed that sale of land auctions be conducted in the week commencing 26 October 2020, for 104 properties, with auctions held at venues in Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee.

Council received and noted a progress report on the matter at the Ordinary Meetings 22 July 2020, 26 August 2020, 23 September 2020 and 28 October 2020.

REPORT:

Since the progress report on the matter was received at the Ordinary Meeting 28 October 2020 the following has occurred:

1. Two landlocked parcels were withdrawn from sale prior to auction pending the adjoining owners making possessory title applications.
2. Payment in full (by owner) was made on one property prior to auction and as such that property was withdrawn from sale.
3. Discussions with the family of the deceased owner of one property continued right up to the evening prior to the auction property. Those discussions did not result in a satisfactory arrangement being agreed to, with the property subsequently sold at auction.
4. The final number of properties offered for sale at auction was 83 although this number accounted for 91 properties/assessments as a number were offered in one line as provided by S 713(4) of the LGA.
5. Auctions were held in Wilcannia on Monday 29 October 2020 and Tuesday 27 October 2020, in Ivanhoe on Thursday 29 October 2020 and Menindee on Friday 30 October 2020.
6. All properties were sold at auction with 100% deposits paid on all but one property, which sold for \$35,000 and was subject to a 10% deposit payment.
7. Council purchased 15 properties under 14 contracts (including 2 properties offered in one line). A separate report regarding those purchases is included in the Business Paper for this meeting.

Adjoining/Surrounding Property Owner Concerns – Land Locked Parcels

All landlocked parcels that were offered for sale were purchased by the adjoining owners without any competitive bidding from any external parties.

This result resolved concerns previously raised by adjoining owners that these parcels could be purchased by external parties for use as “camp” blocks or a base for hunting feral and non-feral animals with access gain by trespassing the surrounding station properties.

Next Steps

All contracts of sale provide for completion within 42 days from the date of auction. It is expected that all contracts will be completed prior to the end of the 2020 calendar year. As with any sale, there is a possibility that the purchases do not complete the contract in which case all deposit monies are payable to Council and Council would be entitled to sue for any resultant loss.

Should that situation arise further consideration will be given to Council’s options.

The sale of the one property, upon which 10% deposit was made, is considered very secure given the competitive bidding and interest shown in that property.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

No direct linkages

Delivery Outcome

No direct linkages

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Nil	Nil
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Economic	Improved cashflow Crystallisation of Bad Debt exposure	Nil
Governance	Nil	Nil

Financial and Resources Implications:

In all cases, except one, the sale proceeds are not expected to cover the outstanding rates and charges and costs incurred in conducting the sales. In these situations, Section 719 of the LGA provides that the rates, charges and debts are taken to have been fully satisfied.

The effect is that the purchases acquire the properties free of any rate debt outstanding up to the date of contract completion/settlement. Therefore, any shortfalls from sale proceeds, after deduction the costs of conducting the sales, will need to be written off so that the purchases acquire properties free of any previous existing rate debt.

Having this degree of certainty regarding receiving the proceeds of sale and having determined the final costs of sale, a calculation of the total write-off that will be incurred is estimated at \$1,168,202.70.

This is an increase of approximately \$48,000 over the Doubtful Debt estimate of \$1,120,000 reported to Council at the Ordinary Meeting of 25 March 2020 which can be attributed to 2 main factors.

- Sale prices achieved generally well short of the NSW Valuer General's assessment of land values as at 1 July 2019, or previous sale prices, upon which expected sale prices were originally based.
- The delay in proceeding to auctions, originally planned for July 2020, primarily due to onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, has resulted in Council bearing cost of a further 3 months of unpaid rates.

As the individual actual write off amounts will be dependent on actual date of settlement this calculation assumes all settlements will occur 31 December 2020.

As at 30 June 2020, Council's Doubtful Debt Provision for Rates, Annual Charges and Interest is \$1,230,000, sufficient to cover the estimated shortfalls set out above.

There is clearly a need to review the adequacy of the remaining provisions within the 2020-21 financial year. This will require the finalisation of all sales and a forensic review of the remaining rates arrears book.

This work is not expected to be completed until the third quarter of 2020-21. At that time, any requirement to adjust the remaining Doubtful Debt Provision will be addressed through the March 2020-21 Quarterly Budget Review process.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Local Government Act 1993
Councils Debt Recovery Policy
Council's Economic Hardship Policy

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Proceeding with the sales was necessary to reduce further negative impacts on Council's cashflow and Doubtful Debt Exposure.

OPTIONS:

None

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMINTIY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Regular liaison between relevant staff and Outstanding Collections (Council's agent) has occurred and will continue to occur through to finalisation of all sales.

External Exhibition

The proposed sales were advertised in the NSW Government Gazette (as required under the Local Government Act 1993), through appropriate local media and on Council's website and social media page(s).

Where contact has been possible, all affected owners, Occupants and other known interested parties have been directly notified in writing of Council's decision.

Commercial marketing of the proposed sales commenced 26 September 2020 and continued through to 23 October 2020.

7.3 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT AUTHOR:	MANAGER FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:	ACTING DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is to provide a summary of Council's financial performance against budget as at 30 September 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive and adopt the 1st Quarter Budget Review as at 30th September 2020;**
- 2. Note that the projected surplus/deficit for the financial year 2020/21 is a \$591,000 surplus.**
- 3. Note that there are variations for this quarter review.**

BACKGROUND:

Regulation 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 provides a requirement that:

(1) Not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

(2) A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:

(a) a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure, and

(b) if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.

REPORT:

The original budgeted surplus of \$636,000 surplus will now be reduced to \$591,000 due to the following adjustments to budgeted expenditure:

1. \$45,000 increase in Materials and Contracts.

This increase is due to the following:

- a decision to outsource Council's IT function to an external provider. The expected increase in expense for this item is \$37,500.
- a decision to purchase software to enable better record keeping at Council's cemeteries. The expected cost for this item is \$8,900.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

GOAL: 4 A consultative and professional Council providing relevant, attainable and efficient delivery of services

Delivery Outcome

OBJECTIVE: 4.2 Efficient and effective services

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

Financial and Resource Implications:

Monitoring of the Quarterly Budget Review enables timely financial management.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Clause 203 (1) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires Council's Responsible Accounting Officer to prepare and submit a quarterly budget review statement to the governing body of Council.

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Quarterly reporting allows Council to keep informed of the progress of the budget to actual income and costs.

OPTIONS:

Nil

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Nil

Attachments

[3. QBR 2020-21 Sept Qtr.xlsm](#)

7.4 CASH AND INVESTMENTS – OCTOBER 2020

REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGER FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is to provide a summary of Council's cash and investments as at 31 October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive and note the report**

REPORT:

In accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, a monthly report setting out details of all money that Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 is required to be submitted to Council.

Cash and Investment Accounts

Cash & Investment Accounts	Current Month	Last Month	Movement	Interest Rate	Current Month Interest	YTD Interest
Westpac 11am Investment Account	\$5,950,000.00	\$5,950,000.00	Nil	0.10%	\$244.52	\$1,061.63
Operating Account	\$3,578,276.10	\$4,281,289.41	(\$703,013.31)	0.01%	\$56.75	\$90.28
Post Office Clearing Account	\$386,962.81	\$218,903.78	\$168,059.03			
Total Cash at Bank as at 31st October 2020					\$9,915,238.91	

Commentary:

For the period ended 31 October 2019 Council held a cash balance of \$3.424 million. Council's cash balance for the month ended 31 October 2020 is significantly higher than the amount due primarily to:

- Federal Assistance Grant received in advance \$3,086,967
- Payment for RMS works \$1,081,635
- Receipt of Drought Funding \$400,000

Restrictions

Restriction Type	Restriction Amount
Internal	Nil
External	\$1,565,000
Total Restrictions as at 30 June 2021	
\$1,565,000	

Loan Accounts

Loan Account	Current Month	Last Month	Movement	Interest Rate	Current Month Interest	YTD Interest
Garbage Trucks	\$254,770.50	\$267,156.32	(\$12,385.82)	3.66%	\$601.19	\$2,636.01
Total Loan Liability as at 30th September 2020					\$254,770.50	

8. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

8.1 CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OFFICE CLOSURE AND STAFF CHRISTMAS LUNCH

REPORT AUTHOR: GENERAL MANAGER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the 2020/2021 Christmas/New Year office closures; operating days for the Wilcannia Post Office and operations of essential services during this period. Also, the report details the staff Christmas lunch and office closures for this event.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive the report and endorse the following:**
- 2. Council offices at Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe will close at 12 noon Thursday 24 December and reopen on Monday 4 January 2021.**
- 3. Staff Christmas lunch will be Thursday 17 December from 12 noon to 2pm, held at the Wilcannia Golf Club.**
- 4. Wilcannia Office and the Post Office will close for 2 hours and the Ivanhoe and Menindee Offices will be closed for the entire day to allow staff to travel to Wilcannia and return to attend the Christmas lunch.**

BACKGROUND:

In past years, Council has closed its offices over the Christmas/ New Year period to allow staff time off. During this period, there is not a need for the offices to remain open, as there is little demand from the public and other government and non-government agencies are closed. Council's essential services normally continue to operate during this period in delivering waste collection, water/sewage operations, toilet cleaning and any emergency works.

REPORT:

This 2020/2021 Christmas/New Year period, Council Offices at Wilcannia, Menindee, and Ivanhoe will close at 12 noon Thursday 24 December and reopen on Monday 4 January 2021.

Wilcannia Post Office during this period will close only for public holidays during this period and remain open on normal business days, as outline below:

- 24 December - Open, Business as usual
- 25 December – Closed

- 26 December – Closed
- 27 December – Closed
- 28 December – Closed
- 29 December – Closed
- 30 December – Open, Business as usual
- 31 December – Open, Business as usual
- 1st January 2021 – Closed

Council’s essential services will continue to operate as normal in delivering waste collection, water/sewage operations, toilet cleaning and any emergency works. Programmed construction and maintenance activities will cease during the Christmas/New Year period

Council staff not working during the Christmas/New Year period will either take annual leave, or time banked for working overtime or roster days off.

Staff Christmas lunch will be Thursday 17 December from 12 noon to 2pm, held at the Wilcannia Golf Club. Wilcannia Office and the Post Office will close for 2 hours and the Ivanhoe and Menindee Offices will be closed for the entire day to allow staff to travel to Wilcannia and return to attend the lunch. Staff not wanting to attend the Christmas lunch will remain at their designated workplaces and continue with their normal duties. The cost of the Christmas lunch and drinks is estimated to cost \$1,500, based on last year’s lunch.

A Public Notice will be sent to social and commercial media outlets, advertised on Council’s website and Facebook Page, to advise of Office Closures over the Christmas/New Year period and the closures of offices for the Christmas lunch. Contact details will be provided in case of emergency in the Public Notice

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

Goal 4. A consultative and professional Council providing relevant, attainable, and efficient delivery of services as per the standards set by Council and providing community development and succession planning.

Delivery Outcome

Objective 4.2 Efficient and effective services

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Nil	Nil
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Economic	Nil	Yes, however very little impact during the closure.
Governance	Nil	Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

The Christmas/New Year closure will help to reduce some staff excessive leave entitlements. There is a cost for the Christmas lunch which is covered in Governance operational budget.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Nil

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Nil

OPTIONS:

Nil

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Memo to all staff advising of Christmas/New Year closures and Christmas Lunch.

External Exhibition

Closure of Offices to be advertised on social and commercial media outlets, advertised on Council’s website and Facebook Page.

Attachments

Nil

8.2 DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

REPORT AUTHOR:	GENERAL MANAGER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:	GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to adopt the Community Engagement Policy following public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Council adopts the Community Engagement Policy**

BACKGROUND:

A recent review has found that Councils existing Community Engagement Policy is obsolete. It was necessary to renew Councils Community Engagement Policy with an updated version,

due to the renewal of Councils Community Strategic Plan, the development of Town and Village Plans, and other strategic plans for Tourism and Disability Inclusion due to commence over the next six months.

REPORT:

The Community Engagement Policy is required to ensure that Council conducts appropriate community engagement and communication, which at a minimum, meets Legislative requirements and encourages community participation in Council’s decision making. The objective of the Community Engagement Policy is to guide a consistent approach to engage with the community. Engagement assists Council to:

- Better meet the needs of the community.
- Tap into local knowledge and expertise.
- Have a more informed community.
- Encourage and enable the community to participate in decision making
- Ensure Council works on behalf of the people in the community.
- Meets the requirements of Legislations, Policies and Procedures.

The Community Engagement Policy aims to:

- Gauge the needs of the community by ensuring residents are given equal opportunity to be included, informed, and contribute.
- Reduce misinformation and/or miscommunication.
- Gather ideas and input from the community. Make decisions that will strengthen and improve the social fabric of the community. Reinforce community ownership in the decision-making process.
- Enable Council to make sustainable decisions.
- Enable Council to be transparent and equitable in all decisions.

Public exhibition for the Draft Community Engagement Policy took place following the August Council meeting for 28 days. No comments were received from the public and it is recommended that Council now adopts the Community Engagement Policy.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

Goal 1. A Healthy and cohesive community receiving recognition and supported by coordinated, appropriate and affordable services

Delivery Outcome

Objective 1.1 Closer co-operation and cohesion between community groups

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Stronger community engagement	Nil
Environmental	Community support for Environmental issues	Nil
Economic	Support community economic initiatives	Nil

Governance	Committee compliance within legislative requirements	Nil
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Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

The Community Engagement Policy was placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days in accordance to the Local Government Act 1993, Section 160.

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Nil

OPTIONS:

Not to proceed to adopt the Community Engagement Policy

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Not Required

External Exhibition

Not Required

Attachments

[4. *Community Engagement Policy*](#)

8.3 INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

REPORT AUTHOR: GENERAL MANAGER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopts a revised Internal Audit Charter and rename the Internal Audit Committee as “Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee”.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Adopt the revised Internal Audit Charter**

3. Change the name of the Internal Audit Committee to the “Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee”

BACKGROUND:

The Internal Audit report on Council’s Corporate Governance Framework identified the need for an Internal Audit Charter to be developed and adopted by Council in preparedness for the Office of Local Government’s (OLG) New Risk Management and Internal Audit Guidelines.

In addition, it has also been recommended that the name of the Internal Audit Committee be changed to “Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee” to align with the proposed OLG framework.

A report on the above matters was presented to the last Internal Audit Committee, held on Wednesday October 28, Minute Number: 03.10.20. The Audit Committee recommended to Council:

1. *Endorse the new Internal Audit Charter and recommends Council to adopt the Internal Audit Charter at its following Council meeting; and*
2. *Change the name of the Internal Audit Committee to the “Audit Risk and Improvement Committee” and recommends Council to adopt the revised Charter at its following meeting.*

REPORT:

The current Internal Audit Committee Charter is based on the model charter contained in the OLG’s *Internal Audit Guidelines 2010*, and it is proposed that only the name of the Committee is to change at this stage. The attached Internal Audit Charter is also based on the model charter contained in the Guidelines.

It is proposed that both charters be based on the current models prescribed by OLG noting that new guidance will become available closer to the when the legislative changes take effect (March 2022).

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

Goal 4. A consultative and professional Council providing relevant, attainable and efficient delivery of services as per the standards set by Council and providing community development and succession planning.

Delivery Outcome

Objective 4.2 Efficient and effective services

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Nil	Nil
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Economic	Nil	Nil
Governance	Compliance within legislative requirements	Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Nil

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Nil

OPTIONS:

Nil

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Not Required

External Exhibition

Not Required

Attachments

5. [Internal Audit Charter](#)

8.4 REVIEW OF SECTION 355 COMMITTEES

REPORT AUTHOR: GENERAL MANAGER

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Sections 355 and 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 provide the legislative directives for councils to delegate specific functions of council to community committees.

The General Manager is responsible for the regular review of the Section 355 framework including compliance by the committees with the necessary regulations and guidelines.

The following documents have been reviewed and revised to ensure they meet current legislative directives.

1. Section 355 Policy.
2. Section 355 Procedure.
3. Section 355 Terms of Reference.
4. Section 355 Operational Manual.

The documents have been forwarded to the respective committees for adoption when they conduct their annual elections.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. **Receive the report**
2. **Council continue discussions with the Ivanhoe Hall, Revival and Saleyards committees to decide their future.**
3. **Work with the Darnick Hall committee to prepare a new Terms of Reference.**
4. **Work with the Menindee Commons committee to prepare a new Terms of Reference.**
5. **Note that the Menindee Community Development committee are in recess.**
6. **Note that the White Cliffs Pool committee has disbanded.**
7. **Set up an internally restricted reserve called the White Cliffs Sec 355 Committee reserve with a transferred balance of \$5,200 and that the reserve be used for pool matters following input from the White Cliffs community.**
8. **Work with the White Cliffs Hall committee to prepare a new Terms of Reference.**
9. **Work with the White Cliffs Community Association to prepare a new Terms of Reference.**

BACKGROUND:

In April 2020 CDSC commenced a review of its 10 Sec 355 committees by preparing a new Sec 355 management framework consisting of a policy, procedures, operating manual, and terms of reference. The framework was placed on public exhibition and copies of all documents sent to the committees seeking comment.

No feedback was received.

The framework was adopted in May 2020.

At the same time CDSC adopted a Community Engagement Policy and began the process of seeking consultants to assist council to prepare a new Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework and other strategic plans. In August and September 2020, the General Manager, Administrator and Management Consultant organised a tour of the towns that had Sec 355 committees and the other communities.

The agenda for the Sec 355 committee and town meetings was:

1. Discuss the new Sec 355 framework and stress that the committees must comply with the framework and see if the committees wanted to continue or merge etc
2. Discuss the new Community Engagement Policy. Focused on the YOU in community. Stressed the need for community participation to move past information and consultation and imbed community engagement and collaboration in the Development of the new CSP/IP&R process. Discuss the appointment of a Community Engagement Officer and the intent to provide regular reports on the

activities of CDSC.

3. Introduced the plan to prepare a new CSP, IP&R and other plans with a focus on the needs of individual communities and an overarching CDSC plan.

REPORT:

The following information is a summary of the outcomes of the meetings with each of the sec355 committees.

1. Ivanhoe Hall, Revival and Saleyards committees. (12 August 2020)

The three committees have very few members and do not meet regularly. It was suggested that the committees merge and form an new Ivanhoe Community Development committee with subcommittees for each of the original committees. The members of the committees agreed to confer with the existing members and report back to council on their thoughts. A meeting was planned for the 21 September 2020 but was cancelled due to rain and road conditions.

At this stage, the impasse of the future of the committees has not been resolved although the Saleyards Committee have indicated a desire to continue to operate.

Council will continue discussions with the three committees to resolve the situation.

2. Darnick Hall committee (12 August 2020)

This committee have decided to continue to operate and have adopted the revised framework. A council staff member will assist the committee to adopt a new Terms of Reference and to assist them to comply with the new framework.

3. Menindee Commons committee (18 August 2020 and 22 September 2020)

This committee have decided to continue to operate and have adopted the revised framework. A council staff member will assist the committee to adopt a new Terms of Reference and to assist them to comply with the new framework.

4. Menindee Community Development committee (18 August 2020)

This committee is in recess due to a lack of members. The committee returned its records to council for safe keeping. There is a possibility the committee could reform in the future at which time the revised framework will be implemented.

4. White Cliffs Pool committee (19 August 2020)

The committee decide to disband due to lack of members and the operation of the pool will revert to council. The committee's records have been given to council for safe keeping. The committee agreed to transfer its bank balance of \$5,200 to council and council have agreed to set up a White Cliffs Pool reserve and use of the funds will be internally restricted to pool matters with input from the White cliffs community.

6. White Cliffs Hall committee (19 August 2020 and 24 September 2020)

This committee have decided to continue to operate and have adopted the revised framework. A council staff member will assist the committee to adopt a new Terms of Reference and to assist them to comply with the new framework.

7 White Cliffs Community Association (19 August 2020 and 24 September 2020)

This committee have decided to continue to operate and have adopted the revised framework. The committee have also agreed to consider expanding their role to encompass a broader community development role to assist council with future strategic planning matters. A council staff member will assist the committee to adopt a new Terms of Reference and to assist them to comply with the new framework.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

Goal 1. A healthy and cohesive community receiving recognition and supported by coordinated, appropriate and affordable services.

Delivery Outcome

Goal 1. A healthy and cohesive community receiving recognition and supported by coordinated, appropriate and affordable services.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Strong community engagement.	N/A
Environmental	Community support for environmental issues.	N/A
Economic	Support community economic initiatives.	N/A
Governance	Committee compliance within legislative requirements.	N/A

Financial and Resource Implications:

Each sec355 committee will receive staff and administrative support from within existing budget allocations.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

The new Section 355 framework meets all relevant policy, legal and statutory requirements.

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

The sec355 committees will be managed within councils Volunteer Management framework.

OPTIONS:

Adopt the report and proceed with the actions within the relevant resolutions.

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Nil

External Exhibition

Meetings, as per the report.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

9.1 PURCHASE OF LAND BY COUNCIL – SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES AUCTION

REPORT AUTHOR: ACTING RATES OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides Council with an update regarding properties recently purchased at the auction sale of land for unpaid rates conducted in the last week of October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Classify the properties listed in Attachment 2 to this report Operational in accordance with Section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.**

BACKGROUND:

At its Ordinary Meeting on 23 September, Council resolved to Authorise the General Manager to bid at auction for 10 identified properties at the auctions for the sale of land for unpaid rates being held in the last week of October 2020. Maximum bid amounts for each of the 11 identified properties, totalling \$49,780, were determined by that resolution.

Seven of those 11 properties had/have dilapidated buildings which Council intended to purchase and make safe to the community. The remaining four properties, being vacant land, were considered strategically important for various reasons.

Council resolved at that meeting that the 11 identified properties be classified as Operational in accordance with Section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council also resolved that, together, the Administrator and General Manager may agree to purchase additional properties should they determine that be in the best interest of Council to do so.

REPORT:

Council was successful in purchasing the 11 properties identified in the report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 23 September 2020 for a total of \$4,125. Details of the properties purchased are detailed in Attachment 1 to this report.

Quotes for demolition and clean up works for the seven properties with dilapidated buildings have been sought so that this work can proceed quickly once the purchases are completed and Council has legal ownership. Costs of demolition and clean-up works are fully funded through external grants.

Prior to the auctions, the Administrator and the General Manager also determined that it would in the best interest to purchase potentially a further 23 properties for which the prospects of a sale appeared unlikely, should they otherwise fail to sell at auction.

Included in those additional 23 properties was one with a dwelling that had burned down within two weeks prior to the auction. Council was unsuccessful in purchasing that property, which sold to private buyer.

Council did however purchase four other properties, all being vacant land, for a total of \$16, as detailed in Attachment 2 to this report.

This report recommends that Council resolves to classify those four additional four properties as Operational in accordance with Section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Of the additional four properties, it is proposed that Council negotiate the sale of one to an adjoining owner. Should negotiations be successful, a further report will be made seeking Council's resolution as required under s377 of the LGA.

One property, which is under Western Land Lease, was purchased with the intention of surrendering the lease and returning the land to the Crown. The land is of no strategic value and did not attract any interest prior to, or at auction indicating any future prospect of a sale is negligible.

To surrender the lease, Council would need to complete the purchase and apply to surrender the lease. Conveyancing costs of approximately \$770 and a lease surrender fee of \$370 would be incurred.

There is an option, exercisable by the Crown, to forfeit the lease on the grounds that rental has not been paid. The Crown have confirmed rental is in arrears. Council staff are exploring, with the Crown, the possibility that it exercises the forfeiture option.

If successful, Council would avoid incurring costs of conveyancing (to complete the purchase) and surrendering the lease.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

GOAL 1: A healthy and cohesive community, receiving recognition and supported by coordinated, appropriate and affordable services.

GOAL 3: Visually attractive and functional town entrances and streetscapes.

Delivery Outcome

Objective 1.5 Enhanced public order and safety.

Objective 3.5 Well planned towns in accordance with LEP and sound planning principles.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	Improved Community Safety through demolition of unsafe dilapidated dwellings which have been used for activities such as illegal drug use	Nil
Environmental	Removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials	Nil
Economic	Crystallisation of Bad Debt exposure	Costs of purchase
Governance	Bring to ownership land currently used as public roads or forming part of unformed public roads.	Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

Costs of purchase of the 10 identified properties was originally estimated at \$34,890, including conveyancing costs of \$1000 each.

The total purchase price for the 14 properties purchased is \$4,141. Legal and conveyancing costs have been quoted at approximately \$770 each, bringing the total cost of these purchases to \$14,900. This cost would be \$770 less if the Crown agree to forfeit the lease of the Western Land Lease property mentioned earlier in this report.

Provision for this expenditure will be required to be made in the December 2020 Quarterly Budget Review.

Costs of demolition and clean-up works are fully funded through approved external grants.

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Sections 716 (3) and 34 of the LGA.

Risk Management- Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Purchase of properties with dilapidated dwelling with asbestos will enable Council to avert existing public safety risks

OPTIONS:

1. Not approve bids for any properties
2. Approve only bids on properties with dilapidated buildings
3. Exclude any listed property from approval to bid
4. Set maximum bids at a higher or lower amount than those recommended

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

Relevant internal stakeholders and staff have been engaged.

External Exhibition

Once in Council's ownership, it will necessary to publicly exhibit the proposed classification any land Council acquires, as provided under S 34 of the LGA.

Attachments

6 [Purchase of Land by Council-Sale of Land For Unpaid Rates Auction](#)

7 [Purchase of Land by Council-Sale of Land For Unpaid Rates Auction](#)

9.2 PROPOSED MDA NAME-CHANGE TO MURRAY-DARLING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

REPORT AUTHOR: ACTING DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR BUSINESS SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

- 1. Receive the report**
- 2. Authorise the Acting Director Business Services to respond to the survey approving the Name Change**

BACKGROUND:

At its 2020 Annual General Meeting, the Murray Darling Association (MDA) membership resolved at Motion 2020-5.18 to take steps to change the organisation's name to the Murray-Darling Local Government Association following engagement with the membership.

REPORT:

Attached is a briefing paper from the MDA regarding the name-change consultation process that suggests: *"We encourage you to read the briefing paper and fill out the survey to provide feedback to the MDA executive on your thoughts about the proposed name-change. Data from these feedback surveys will be collated into a report for the MDA membership."*

There is no legal impediment to the name change, with approval granted in 2019 by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission on advice from the Minister for Local Government for the Murray Darling Association to change their name to the Murray-Darling Local Government Association. The next step in this process is consultation with and approval by our members.

Following consultation, voting delegates will be invited to participate in an extraordinary general meeting early next year to vote on the proposed name change.

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Community Strategic Plan Outcome

3.3 Safe and reliable water supplies and road networks for Shire communities

Delivery Outcome

OBJECTIVE: 3.1 Collaborative approach to environment management and protection

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:

	Positive	Negative
Social	N/A	N/A
Environmental	N/A	N/A
Economic	N/A	N/A
Governance	N/A	N/A

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:

Nil

Risk Management – Business Risk/Work Health and Safety/Public:

Nil

OPTIONS:

N/A

COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

Internal Exhibition

No

External Exhibition

No

Attachments

[8 MDA Delegates Report for tabling at council November 2020](#)

[9 Change of Name Briefing Paper](#)

10. SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS

10.1 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE

REPORT AUTHOR: PROJECTS ENGINEER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on water and sewer maintenance, capital works and expenditure on all assets within the Central Darling Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Council resolve to impose Level 1 Water Restrictions in Wilcannia in accordance with Council's Policy and the adopted trigger point of flow cessation over the weir and notify in the standard manner.

REPORT:

Water & Sewerage Operations:

- Wilcannia's potable water supply transitioned to Darling River supply on Friday 16 October 2020 following positive jar testing and successful full WTP trial. Wilcannia's water supply will remain on river supply. The Wilcannia Weir has stopped flowing and Council should consider imposing Level 1 Restrictions in accordance with adopted policy.
- White Cliffs town water supply is sourced from Wakefield Tank. Wakefield Tank storage supply without further rain is expected to last through to May 2021.
- Ivanhoe town water supply is currently being sourced from Morrison's Tank. Morrison's Tank current capacity is 400 megalitres following recent (early October 2020) Willandra Creek flow and capture and pumping to Morrison's Tank which is at capacity.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Wilcannia Water	\$433,500	20.9%	\$342,756
Wilcannia Sewer	\$230,865	31.9%	\$157,199
White Cliffs Water	\$165,500	25.6%	\$123,137
Ivanhoe Water	\$351,000	21.0%	\$277,094
Aboriginal Communities R&M	\$126,355	21.1%	\$109,515

Water and Sewer Capital Works

Restart Program (RNSW 827) - White Cliffs Water Supply Augmentation

Public Works Advisory (PWA) were engaged to undertake management of the tendering process. The White Cliffs Water Treatment Plan (WTP) Request for Tender (RFT) was issued on 5 December 2019 and closed on 27 February 2020 following an extension of time of 3 weeks. One tender was received which exceeded project estimates and PWA recommended Council not accept the tender. Council considered this recommendation at the March Ordinary Meeting and resolved to accept the PWA recommendation and not accept the tender.

Council has subsequently considered retendering in the context of the Wilcannia and Ivanhoe WTP projects, and accordingly, Council decided to defer the White Cliffs WTP retendering to align with the tendering of the Wilcannia and Ivanhoe WTP Projects and maximise the opportunity for greater industry interest by issuing RFT's for 3 new WTP's in September/October 2020.

The White Cliffs Water Supply Rising Main and Reticulation draft plans have been received subject to finalisation of the AHIP process w.r.t items of indigenous cultural heritage and inline booster pump design. In this regard Council will complete its review of reticulation pressure boosting options by end of August 2020.

The program for issuance of the White Cliffs Water Supply Rising Main and Reticulation RFT is expected by September/October August 2020 but will be programmed precisely in consideration of the WTP RFT's expected to be issued at the same time.

Restart Program (RNSW 1869) Safe and Secure Program - Wilcannia Sewer Augmentation

The completed Wilcannia Sewerage Scoping Study has been forwarded to DPIE and Restart NSW their consideration and Section 60 Approval to enable the project planning to continue.

Capital funding is subject to further funding application by Council and assessment by the DPIE Review Panel.

No further action or advice received at this stage.

Restart Program (RNSW 1869) Wilcannia and Ivanhoe New Water Treatment Plants

Background

Council engaged City Water Technology (CWT) to,

1. Finalisation of the preferred water treatment chain and capacity for new WTPs at Wilcannia and Ivanhoe based on the Advanced Treatment Concept Report completed by PWA. CWTs engagement included negotiation on Council's behalf with Department of Industry - Water with respect technical issues.
2. Resolve if possible the IWCM identified issue of unaccounted for non-revenue water, and determine new WTP's capacity for each location, and
3. Secure Section 60 Approval (LGA Act, 1993) from DPIE and issue RFT for new WTP's at Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs.

Council has been offered capital funding for new WTPs at Wilcannia and Ivanhoe to the value of \$3.5 Million and \$2.5 Million respectively. \$200,000 has been approved in the first instance to complete necessary preconstruction works and confirm WTP capacities.

Water Loss Considerations

The recent update of the IWCM Issues Paper, taking into account the improved water usage data from Council’s Mag flow meters suite at each plant and smart metering at residences, identifies Non-Revenue Water (NRW) at Wilcannia at an unacceptable level.

A first step in clarification of this issue was the completion of a filtered reservoir drop test on Tuesday 18 August 2020, between 1am and 3am. A second drop test was undertaken to confirm the initial drop test results. The second drop test results (no drop) were compromised by Clear Water Tank pumps remaining on automatic control. A third drop test was undertaken and this test confirmed the original drop test results. The integrity of the non-return valve between the Clear Water Tank and filtered water reservoir was inspected and no material leak detected.

Further analysis by CWT and PWA will be considered by Council and CWT prior to making a submission to DPIE addressing the NRW issue and getting agreement with respect to WTP Capacity.

While final resolution of treatment train elements and WTP capacity has not been reached, agreement has been reached with respect to several options which will be considered and resolved as part of the RFT assessment process. Accordingly, the Request for Tenders (RFT) for 3 new WTP’s at Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs will be issued in 2020.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
White Cliffs WTP and Retic	\$5,500,000	6.1%	\$5,162,177
Wilcannia WTP	\$3,500,000	4.4%	\$3,346,440
Ivanhoe WTP	\$2,500,000	4.1%	\$2,396,779

Attachment

Nil

10.2 SERVICES UPDATE

REPORT AUTHOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the services expenditure on all associated assets within the Central Darling Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report.

REPORT:

Services:

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Parks & Gardens/ Sporting Facilities	\$181,350	21%	\$144,415
Ancillary Works	\$250,500	11%	\$223,343
Street Cleaning/Bins	\$121,000	47%	\$64,455
Buildings	\$674,800	42%	\$393,780
Swimming Pools	\$481,200	6%	\$452,353
Domestic Waste	\$189,000	26%	\$139,857

Services Capital Works

Council has received funding to improve facilities throughout the Shire through the Building Stronger Country Communities Projects for Round 1, 2 and 3. The table below reflects expenditure and progress to date.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Building Stronger Country Communities Round 1	\$893,640.00	100%	\$0
Building Stronger Country Communities Round 2	\$1,395,084	84%	\$224,493
Building Stronger Country Communities Round 3	\$760,340	4%	\$727,966

10.3 ROADS AND AERODROMES REPORT

REPORT AUTHOR: ROADS AND ASSET ENGINEER
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on road and aerodrome maintenance, capital works and expenditure on all road asset classes within the Central Darling Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. **Receive and note the report**

REPORT:

State Roads

Council are engaged by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to maintain the State Highway network within the Shire boundaries. The two State Highways are the Barrier Highway and the Cobb Highway.

Council are engaged under contract conditions specified under the Routine Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC). The contract details routine works required to be completed throughout the year and capital works which are supplied to Council via a Works Order (WO).

2020/21 RMCC Routine Maintenance preliminary allocation is: \$878,000

2019/20 RMCC Works Orders which have been issued, in progress and carry over to this financial year include

1. HW21 111.20.23 Bushley pit 3 extension, \$19,665 (now complete)
2. HW21 111.20.24 Source gravel to Glen Albyn, \$412,502 (now complete)
3. HW21 111.20.25 Glen Albyn Side Track, \$266,163 (now complete)
4. HW21 111.20.26 Source gravel to Rosewood from Bushley 3, \$105,600 (now complete)
5. HW21 111.20.28 Glen Albyn Sth IS, \$1,947,460 (claim \$1,434,461)

Total: \$2,751,390

2020/21 RMCC Works Orders which have been issued and in progress this financial year include

1. HW8 111.21.01 SH8 Heavy patching \$242,204.97
2. HW8 111.21.02 Resurfacing Improvements \$38,420.82
3. HW21 111.21.03 Mt Manara Gravel \$849,409.13

Total: \$1,130,035

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining budget
RMCC Routine	\$1,048,240	36%	\$670,536
WO 2019/20	\$2,909,790	83%	\$512,999
WO 2020/21	\$1,130,035	0%	\$1,130,035

Regional Roads

Council maintains 790km of Regional Roads throughout the Shire.

202/21 Regional Road Block Grant amount (including traffic and supplementary components) has not been confirmed. The figures below reflect the 2019/20 allocation. Payments to Council's will be made in July and January with any reconciliations required being done in January following State (RMS) budget adoption.

202/21 Regional Roads Repair Program was successful with \$400,000 being 50% of the project costs. The remaining 50% is being sourced from the Regional Roads Block Grant which is reflected in the table below. Refer to determination report included in this agenda.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Regional Road Block Grant	\$2,408,000	32%	\$1,635,963
Regional Roads Repair Program	\$800,000	20%	\$641,080

Local Roads

Council maintains 1600km of Local Roads throughout the Shire.

202/21 The Financial Assistance Grant – Local Roads Component, has now been confirmed as \$1,651,944.

2020/21 Roads to Recovery (R2R) allocation is \$1,502,727. Four capital improvement projects will be delivered this year.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Local Roads Component (FAG)	\$1,651,944	76%	\$402,833
Menindee Street (R2R)	\$240,000	2%	\$235,440
Little Menindee Creek Road (R2R)	\$450,000	1%	\$445,440
Pumpkin Point Road (R2R)	\$300,000	2%	\$295,440
Irrigation Road (R2R)	\$515,727	2%	\$503,757

Aerodromes

Council maintains 6 aerodromes throughout the Shire; Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, White Cliffs, Tilpa and Emmdale.

The Royal Flying Doctor Services (RFDS) initiated the registration process in 2018 to enable 3 of Council's aerodromes to be registered in accordance with the CASA regulations. Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs received modest infrastructure improvements to enable the process to be completed. Pursuant to the agreement between Council and the RFDS, the licensing costs will be borne by the RFDS for a 3-year period.

Works Description	Original Budget	% Expended	Remaining Budget
Aerodromes	\$124,000	37%	\$78,500

Attachments

Nil

10.4 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES UPDATE

REPORT AUTHOR: ADMINISTRATION OFFICER - ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is to provide a summary of Council's Environment Services statistics for the month of October 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report.

REPORT:

<u>Statistics for October 2020</u>		
Development	Number of DAs Approved – New Dwellings	0
	Number of DAs Approved – Renovation	0
	Number of DAs Approved – Other	1
	Total Value of DAs Approved	\$300,000
	Number of Construction Certificates Issued	0
	Number of LGA S68 Approvals	1
Food Safety	Food Premises Inspected	5
Animal Control Activities	Impounded	6 Dogs 0 Cats
	Rehomed	4 Dog 0 Cats
	Returned to Owner	2 Dog 0 Cats
	Euthanized	0 Dogs 0 Cats
	Registrations	0 Dog
	Microchipped	0
	Penalty Notices Issued	0
Water Sampling	Microbiology Samples Collected	8
	Chemistry Samples Collected	2
	Non-Compliant Samples	0
	Darling River Algae Samples	0

Attachment

Nil

12. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

The *Local Government Act 1993* provides that Council may close to the public that part of the meeting that deals with matters of a confidential nature.

The grounds on which a meeting is closed to the public must be specified in the decision to close the meeting and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Recommendation:

That Council move into Confidential to consider the matters listed in the confidential section of the agenda in accordance with Section 10A 2 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the reasons specified.

13. MEETING CLOSE

The Council Meeting will be declared closed by the Mayor/Administrator.

The next meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, 15 December 2020 in Wilcannia at 9.00am.