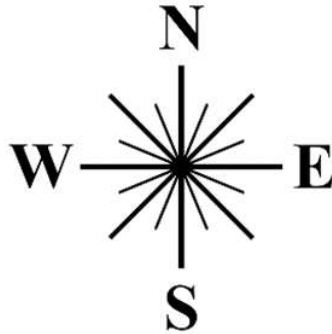


# **CENTRAL DARLING**



## **SHIRE COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **BUSINESS PAPER**

**28 MAY 2025**

The Meeting will be held at 10:30 AM 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**

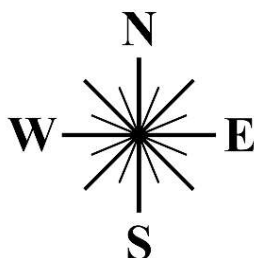
1. The Council may hold a public forum prior to each ordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting. Public forums may also be held prior to extraordinary Council meetings and meetings of Committees 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, 28 May 2025

10:30 AM

Council Chambers, 21 Reid Street, Wilcannia

### **BUSINESS PAPER AGENDA**

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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**

### **3.1 APOLOGIES**

### **3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

## **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 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 14 May 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

### **Attachments:**

1. [Ordinary Council Meeting - 30 April 2025](#)
2. [Extraordinary Council Meeting - 14 May 2025](#)

## **6 NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

## **7 MAYORAL (ADMINISTRATOR) MINUTE(S)**

Nil

## 8 FINANCIAL REPORTS

### 8.1 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES - FINAL UPDATE

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/8045  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** ACTING RATES OFFICER  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** GENERAL MANAGER

---

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on the property sales following the sale of land for unpaid rates auction held 27 February 2025.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the sale of land for unpaid rates sale has been finalised.

#### BACKGROUND:

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 28 August 2024, Council resolved to sell seventeen (17) properties for unpaid rates and authorised the General Manager to carry out the relevant steps necessary to undertake the sale.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 26 March 2025, Council received a report on the outcomes of the sale of land for unpaid rates auction held 27 February 2025, at which eleven (11) properties were offered and sold.

A further report was provided to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 30 April 2025 advising that the sale of eight (8) properties had been fully completed. That report also explained that completion of the sales of the remaining three (3) properties, purchased by Council, been delayed due to the unavailability of the Administrator and the General Manager, who were required to execute the relevant transfer documents under seal.

In response to the report of 30 April 2025, Council resolved to:

1. Receive the report.
2. Receive bi-monthly reports until such time that the contracts of sales have been completed, and the sale processes finalised.

#### REPORT:

The solicitor acting for Council has advised that Council's execution of the transfer documents under Council's seal was not required, as the transfers are deemed to be a mainstream dealing type. Accordingly, the sales of the remaining three (3) properties, purchased by Council, was completed on 29 April 2025.

The proceeds of these sales have been received and fully accounted for.

In summary it is reported that, of the seventeen properties which Council resolved on to sell for unpaid rates, eleven (11) properties proceeded to sale by auction on 27 February 2025 and that all sales have now been finalised.

The total shortfall of rates recovery incurred was \$146,528.17, this amount being written off against existing Doubtful Debt provisions of \$199,644.34 for a net recovery of approximately \$53,000 compared with existing provisions for the properties sold.

Adjustment of the total Doubtful Debt provision is not proposed at this time as Council's total Doubtful Debt exposure will be reassessed at 30 Jun 2025.





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

Focus/Goals/Objectives	Strategic Area	Actions
2 Local & Regional Governance	2.1 Shire governance	2.1.4 Ensure that governance of the shire is focused on the effective planning and delivery of adequate and appropriate services and facilities to local communities

**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	Assessment
<b>Social</b>	NA
<b>Environmental</b>	NA
<b>Economic</b>	Positive Improved cashflow and crystallisation of some doubtful debt exposure
<b>Governance</b>	NA

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

Net recovery of \$53,000 against Council's existing Doubtful Debt provisions.

**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:**

No risks identified

**OPTIONS:**

None identified.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:****Internal Exhibition:**

N/A.

**External Exhibition:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

NIL

**8.2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS - APRIL 2025****FILE NUMBER: GD25/8480****REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is to provide a summary of Council's cash and investments as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council

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 and Investment Accounts	Current Month	Last Month	Movement	Interest Rate	Current Month Interest	YTD Interest
Westpac 11am Investment Account	\$5,500,000.00	\$6,250,000.00	(\$750,000.00)	1.05%	\$4,746.57	\$80,005.84
Operating Account	\$136,007.61	\$872,767.88	(\$736,760.27)	N/A	NIL	NIL
Post Office Clearing Account	\$519.20	\$2,022.55	(\$1,503.35)	N/A	NIL	NIL
Total Cash at bank as of 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025						\$5,636,526.81

**Commentary:**

The net movement of cash for the month of April 2025 was a decrease of \$1,488,263.62.

Payments for wages and creditors for the month totalled \$3,208,745.45 and receipts totalled \$1,720,481.83.

Grant debtors outstanding at the end of April are calculated and summarised below:

Grant category	Fund	Amount
Roads	General	\$1,532,368
Flood damage restoration work	General	\$4,320,861
Water Treatment Plants	Water	\$1,521,165

Local Roads & Community Infrastructure	General	\$1,387,166
Power Outage	General	\$230,529
Other grants	General	\$1,475,300
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$10,467,389</b>

Please see the attachment on the Grants Register report for a more detailed breakup of the grant debtors and income.

Council's unrestricted funds for this period are less than projected, for the following reasons:

- Expenditure on major projects such as the water treatment plants for Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs continues, along with expenditure of Regional Emergency Road Repair Funding most of which was received in advance combined with expenditure on grants to be claimed after the completion of monthly or milestone reporting and expenditure on flood damage restoration which cannot be claimed until work has been completed, has impacted Council cash inflow.
- The grant debtors have increased as new grants are approved, and funding is invoiced. Receipts from outstanding grant debtors continues to be received as work is completed on projects and acquittals are submitted for the completed works.

#### Restrictions:

<b>Restricted Cash and Investments</b>	
	Apr-25
<b>Externally Restricted <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>(\$000's)</b>
Specific purpose unexpended grants	11,631
Water supplies	-
Sewerage services	1,922
Domestic waste management	699
<b>Total Externally Restricted</b>	<b>14,252</b>
(1) Funds that must be spent for a specific purpose	
<b>Internally Restricted <sup>(2)</sup></b>	
Employees Leave Entitlements	935
Plant and vehicle replacement	8
Other Waste Management Reserve	152
<b>Total Internally Restricted</b>	<b>1,095</b>
(2) Funds that Council has earmarked for a specific purpose	
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>15,347</b>
<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments</b>	<b>7,125</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b> (ie. available after the above Restrictions)	<b>(8,222)</b>
Outstanding Grants Debtors	10,467

#### Commentary:

The level of unrestricted funds required by Council is generally \$1,000,000. Currently Council's unrestricted funds are below this level mainly due to the restriction of grant funding received in advance and expenditure on major items of capital and repair work continues. Some capital and

repair will not be reimbursed until finalisation of the work and acquittal are submitted which exacerbates the cash flow problem.

**Attachments:**

1. [April 2025 Grants Register](#) 

**8.3 GRANTS REGISTER - APRIL 2025****FILE NUMBER: GD25/8515****REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: GENERAL MANAGER**

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary Council's current year grant funding applications status as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report.

**BACKGROUND:**

To deliver Council's commitment to transparency and improved financial management, Council has developed a Grants and Contributions Register, to provide information on grants applied for and received.

**REPORT:**

For the month of April 2025, scheduled acquittals were completed in line with the reporting requirements of the funding deeds and any approved variations to those deeds.

Morris & Piper continue to assist with grant submissions, approvals and acquittals. Their monthly report for April 2025, including a work plan to June 2025, is attached to this report.

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

Focus/Goals/Objectives	Strategic Area	Actions
2 Local & Regional Governance	2.1 Shire governance	2.1.4 Ensure that governance of the shire is focused on the effective planning and delivery of adequate and appropriate services and facilities to local communities

**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	Assessment
<b>Social</b>	Positive
<b>Environmental</b>	Positive
<b>Economic</b>	Positive
<b>Governance</b>	Positive

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

Ensures that any funding sourced is being deployed within the approved scope of services, works and facilities for which they were intended.

**Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:**

*Regulation 208 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* provides a requirement that:

A member of the staff of a council who has control of any of the council's accounting records must—

(a) produce those records for inspection and audit in proper order whenever directed or requested to do so by the council's mayor, responsible accounting officer, general manager (if not the council's responsible accounting officer) or auditor or by the Director-General or a person to whom the Director-General's functions under *section 430 of the Act* have been delegated or subdelegated under *section 745 of the Act*, and

(b) render all practicable assistance to the mayor, responsible accounting officer, general manager, auditor, the Director-General, or such a delegate or subdelegate with respect to those records.

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

Periodic reporting enables Council to keep both funding providers, and the community informed on the deployment of those funds as intended and as such significantly mitigate the risk of inappropriate usage of those funds.

**OPTIONS:**

Nil.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:****Internal Exhibition:**

Not Required

**External Exhibition:**

Not Required

**Attachments:**

1. [Morris & Piper April 2025 monthly report](#) 
2. [April 2025 Review](#) 
3. [Grant Opportunity Tracking April 2025](#) 
4. [Grants Register April 2025](#) 

**8.4 WRITE OFF RATES - FORFEITURE OF WESTERN LANDS LEASE - 30 PARINGA STREET MENINDEE**

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/8629  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** ACTING RATES OFFICER  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** GENERAL MANAGER

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report seeks Council's approval to write-off the residual balance of rates and charges outstanding against a forfeited/terminated Western Lands Lease previously held by Edward Reginald Owen

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive the report.

Write-off rates and charges of \$7,299.14 outstanding against former Western Lands Lease 12987 over Lot 10 Section 25 DP 758669 30 Paringa Street Menindee.

**BACKGROUND:**

A Western Land Lease over Lot 10 Section 25 DP 758669 30 Paringa Street Menindee was previously held by Edward Reginald Owen since 2003 or possibly earlier. Mr Owen passed away in 2018 following which the rates on the subject property began to fall further in arrears.

Efforts to resolve through the parties handling the late Mr Owen's estate proved fruitless. At the Ordinary meeting of Council held 28 August 2024, Council resolved to sell the subject property for unpaid rates.

**REPORT:**

Prior to the sale of unpaid rates auction held 27 February 2025, the property was withdrawn from the sale following Crown Land advise that the Western Land Lease would be forfeited due to overdue/unpaid rent. The decision to withdraw the property was based on the relatively low land value, expected lack of bidding, likely shortfall in recovery even if a sale was secured and to avoid further sale costs being incurred.

Forfeiture of the subject Western Land Lease occurred 26 March 2025 at which time the land was returned to the State of New South Wales. The rates and charges applicable for the period since the forfeiture on 26 March 2025 and 30 June 2025 have been cancelled as the State of New South Wales is a non-rateable body.

The residual outstanding balance of \$7,299.14 consists of unpaid rates and charges of \$6,149.07 and interest of \$1,150.07.

As the former rateable property was a Western Land Lease over Crown Land, now terminated, no sale of land remedy available to Council. As there are no avenues to recover the outstanding amounts, Council's resolution to write off the debt is sought.

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

Focus/Goals/Objectives	Strategic Area	Actions
2 Local & Regional Governance	2.1 Shire governance	2.1.4 Ensure that governance of the shire is focused on the effective planning and delivery of adequate and



		appropriate services and facilities to local communities
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**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	Assessment
<b>Social</b>	NA
<b>Environmental</b>	NA
<b>Economic</b>	Positive
<b>Governance</b>	Positive

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

The recommended write off exceeds the provision for this property for Bad and Doubtful Debts by approximately \$2,800 which is to be addressed through the annual reassessment of doubtful debt provisions at 30 June 2025

**Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:**

*Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW) s 131 (4)*

An amount of rates or charges can be written off under this section only—

- (a) if there is an error in the assessment, or
- (b) if the amount is not lawfully recoverable, or
- (c) as a result of a decision of a court, or
- (d) if the council or the general manager believes on reasonable grounds that an attempt to recover the amount would not be cost effective.

Given there is no avenue to recover the outstanding amounts, write of is recommended in accordance with s 131 (4) (d) above.

Delegations – The General Manager is delegated to write off any individual rate or charge to a maximum of \$2000.00. The recommended write-off therefore requires a resolution of Council.

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

No risks identified.

**OPTIONS:**

No options identified.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

**Internal Exhibition:**

Not required.

**External Exhibition:**

Not required.

**Attachments:**

NIL

**8.5 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2025**

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/9088  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** FINANCE MANAGER  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** GENERAL MANAGER

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is to provide a summary of Council's financial performance against budget as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This report also recommends amendments to Council's budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Adopt the variations to Council's 2024-25 Annual Budget noting the Net Operating Result is a surplus of \$11,000.
3. Note projected capital works budgeted expenditure for the financial year 2024-25 will be \$17.569 million.

**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.

In accordance with s.211 (Authorisation of expenditure) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005*:

(1) A council, or a person purporting to act on behalf of a council, must not incur a liability for the expenditure of money unless the council at the annual meeting held in accordance with subclause (2) or at a later ordinary meeting:

(a) has approved the expenditure, and

(b) has voted the money necessary to meet the expenditure.

The QBRS appears as attachments and has been produced in accordance with the guidelines and standards issued by the Office of Local Government.

**REPORT:**

**Operational Budget Result:**

The March 2025 Quarterly Budget review shows a Net Operating Result of \$11,000. A \$4,000 decrease from the Budgeted Net Operating Result of \$15,000 surplus.

**Income**

**1. Interest and Investment Revenues**

Additional interest due to better than expected interest rates and levels of cash held.

**Total adjustment to the budget for Interest and Investment Revenues \$40,000 increase.**

**2. Net Gain from Disposal of Assets**

Council sold plant during the year for a net gain. Council does not budget for any gain/loss on sale of plant that may occur during the year.

**Total adjustment to the budget for Net Gain from Disposal of Assets \$61,000 increase.**

**Expenditure**

**3. Materials and Contracts**

Increase in the Materials and Contracts budget to allow for additional operational expenditure in the following areas:

Parks and Gardens: additional cleaning and maintenance \$80,000

Swimming Pools: additional contractor fees - lifeguards \$60,000

This additional expenditure is partially offset by a \$35,000 budget saving in Ancillary Works due to some works for 2025 now not to be completed.

Total adjustment to the budget for Materials and Contracts - \$105,000 increase

**Capital Budget Result:**

The March 2025 Quarterly Budget Review shows no new adjustment to the budgeted capital works program.

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

Focus/Goals/Objectives	Strategic Area	Actions
------------------------	----------------	---------

2 Local & Regional Governance	2.1 Shire governance	2.1.2 Undertake ongoing engagement with shire Communities to ensure their input in the design of local governance structures and services
		2.1.1 Design and implement governance systems within the shire that are culturally responsive and ensure communities have effective local democratic structures and representation
		2.1.3 Manage governance of the Central Darling region in co-operation with other existing governance systems including those provided by Local Area Land Councils and the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly and Community Working Parties
		2.1.4 Ensure that governance of the shire is focused on the effective planning and delivery of adequate and appropriate services and facilities to local communities
		2.1.5 Maintain an adequate stock of local housing for appropriate council staff

**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	Assessment
<b>Social</b>	Positive
<b>Environmental</b>	Positive
<b>Economic</b>	Positive
<b>Governance</b>	Positive

**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:****Internal Exhibition:**

Not required.

**External Exhibition:**

Not required

**Attachments:**

1. 1. RAO Statement 
2. 2. Income Statement by Type 
3. 3. Income Statement by Activity 
4. 4. Income Statement Budget Variations 
5. 5. Capital Budget 
6. 6. Capital Budget Variations 
7. 7. Cash & Investments 
8. 8. Cash & Investments Variations 
9. 9. Key Performance Indicators 
10. 10. Consultancy & Legal Expenses 

## 9 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

### 9.1 MAARI MA HEALTH ABORIGINAL CORPORATION- PURCHASE LAND AT MENINDEE

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/8634  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** GENERAL MANAGER  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** GENERAL MANAGER

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of the report is to advise Council formal enquiry from Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation to purchase Council-owned land, Lot 1 DP 1064220, on the corner of Darling and Perry Streets, Menindee, to construct a health facility that focus on child health and general health care services. The report provides Council recommended offering price and conditions of the sale.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council will:

1. Receive the report.
2. Offer, Lot 1 DP 1064220, located at the corner of Darling and Perry Streets, Menindee, to Maari Ma Health for \$30,000, conditional upon the rehousing of all current tenants in appropriate, affordable accommodation within Menindee.

#### BACKGROUND:

Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation has expressed interest in acquiring land in Menindee to construct a health facility with a focus on child health and general healthcare services. The General Manager has engaged in preliminary discussions with the CEO of Maari Ma Health regarding suitable land options in the area.

The preferred site identified is Council owned Lot 1 DP 1064220, located on Darling Street, directly adjacent to the NSW Far West Health facility. This allotment is held as freehold and classified as Operational Land. It has been appraised in six separate parts—reflecting its previous use as a multi-dwelling site—with each part valued at \$2,400 (unimproved land value), resulting in a total valuation of \$14,400 by the Valuer General.

Originally comprising six dwellings, one structure was destroyed by fire and demolished in late 2023, leaving five buildings remaining on the site. The land is zoned RU5 Village, and the proposed development of a health facility is a permissible use under this zoning, subject to an approved Development Application.

The five existing dwellings are timber-framed and clad and are in poor condition. It is likely they contain asbestos. Should any demolition involve more than 10m<sup>2</sup> of asbestos-containing materials, the work must be undertaken by a licensed asbestos remover. The council has not conducted soil testing on the site; however, there is no current suspicion of contamination.

At present, four of the five dwellings are leased for residential use, with the fifth unoccupied due to being uninhabitable. The overall condition of the buildings requires significant maintenance and upgrades, particularly regarding structural repairs and effluent disposal systems.

All leases are based on the standard NSW Real Estate Contract. Although the fixed-term leases expired in June 2024, they have reverted to periodic tenancy arrangements. In accordance with tenancy laws, a 90-day notice-period is required to terminate any of the current lease agreements.

In line with Council's *Acquisition and Disposal of Land Policy*, an independent valuation must be obtained before any decision regarding the sale of Lot 1 DP 1064220 is made.

To support potential relocation of displaced tenants, Council recently acquired Lot 2 DP 39788 (49 Menindee Street) through a land auction for unpaid rates held in February. This 2,000m<sup>2</sup> allotment

could accommodate two to three small demountable homes and may be offered to state housing authorities or a non-government organisation for public housing. This would help ensure housing continuity should existing tenants need to vacate the Darling Street site.

At the Ordinary Council meeting in April 2025, Council Resolved to:

- Council seeks independent valuation for Lot 1 DP 1064220.
- The General Manager reports back to Council on the Independent Valuer valuation (Lot 1 DP1064220), with costs to make the existing housing suitable and complaint for tenants, for Council consideration to proceed with the sale of the land.

## REPORT:

Council engaged Aspect Property Consultants to undertake a valuation of Lot 1 DP 1064220, located at the corner of Darling and Perry Streets, Menindee, NSW 2879. The final valuation report was received on 19 March 2025.

### Executive Summary – Aspect Valuation Report:

- **Registered Owner:** Central Darling Shire Council
- **Title Details:** Lot 1 DP 1064220
- **Land Area:** 5,015 m<sup>2</sup>
- **Tenure:** Freehold
- **Zoning:** RU5 Village (Central Darling Local Environmental Plan 2012)
- **Structural Improvements:** Five dwellings and one near-vacant dwelling site
- **Market Value Range (for negotiation):** \$150,000 – \$170,000
- **Market Value Midpoint:** \$160,000

Aspect's valuation considers the land and existing buildings only and does not account for current or emerging maintenance issues. Effluent disposal for the five existing houses is currently inadequate, relying on an evaporation trench located in the rear laneway behind the property. Council has sought quotes to upgrade the effluent system, with treated wastewater to be disposed of on Council-owned land. The estimated cost of this work is \$50,000.

Additionally, all dwellings require extensive electrical upgrades to ensure safety, including the hardwiring of smoke alarms and installation of Residual Current Devices (RCDs), at an estimated cost of \$30,000. Minor maintenance, including painting and general repairs for the four tenanted houses, is estimated at \$50,000. This figure does not account for any modernisation or significant upgrades.

One uninhabitable dwelling on the site requires substantial work, but a cost estimate is not available at the time of writing.

Subdivision of the existing dwellings for individual sale is not currently permissible under the Local Environmental Plan (LEP), which mandates a minimum lot size of 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> in Village Zones. A review of the LEP, including possible reduction of minimum allotment sizes, would be necessary but is not imminent and would require endorsement by the NSW Department of Planning.

On Thursday, 16 May 2025, the General Manager met with tenants to discuss the potential sale of the social housing property. The General Manager assured all tenants that no one would be rendered homeless should the property be sold. Tenants expressed a willingness to support the sale, on the condition that they are provided with suitable, affordable housing in Menindee.

Tenants acknowledged the Council's position regarding the deteriorated state of the housing stock and the financial constraints limiting Council's ability to maintain or improve the dwellings. There is a critical shortage of affordable rental accommodation in Menindee and across the broader shire, with minimal recent investment in social housing to meet increasing demand.



Should the Council proceed with the sale of Lot 1 DP 1064220 to Maari Ma Health for the development of health services, it would be incumbent upon Maari Ma Health, and/or another relevant organisations, in partnership with Council, to ensure the current tenants are relocated to appropriate affordable housing in Menindee.

As noted earlier, Council owns Lot 2 DP 39788 (49 Menindee Street), a site suitable for the construction of social housing. Council could make this land available at minimal cost to a State Government housing authority or an accredited non-government housing provider.

If Maari Ma Health does not wish to proceed with the acquisition of Lot 1 DP 1064220, Council may consider offering Lot 2 DP 39788 as an alternative location for their proposed health facility.

In summary, Aspect's valuation provides a midpoint market value of \$160,000 for Lot 1 DP 1064220. Should Council choose to retain ownership, it would be required to invest approximately \$130,000 in the short term for effluent system upgrades and essential maintenance—funds not allocated in the 2025–26 Budget.

The General Manager recommends offering the property to Maari Ma Health for \$30,000, conditional upon the rehousing of all current tenants in appropriate, affordable accommodation within Menindee.

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

<b>Focus/Goals/Objectives</b>	<b>Strategic Area</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1 Community and Culture	1.2 Services and facilities for children and young people	1.2.4 Increase the provision of programs and services to address local drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse by children and young people
		1.2.3 Increase the provision of services for children and young people who encounter domestic violence and abuse
	1.3 Services and facilities for and aging population	1.3.3 Ensure the availability of a range of local services to address home support needs of older people
		1.3.2 Provide appropriate services and facilities to meet the mobility needs of older people

#### **SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Social</b>	Positive
<b>Environmental</b>	NA
<b>Economic</b>	Positive
<b>Governance</b>	Positive

#### **Financial and Resource Implications:**

There will be a cost to Council to engage an Independent Valuer to value the land.

#### **Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:**

Acquisition and Disposal of land Policy -In response to a proposal which achieves specific policy goals of CDSC. This exclusion aims to allow Council an opportunity for delivery of a unique project.

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

Nil

**OPTIONS:**

Council could elect not to sell of Lot 1 DP 1064220, located at the corner of Darling and Perry Streets, Menindee.

Asked Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Corporation for a higher price above \$30,000 for Lot 1 DP 1064220.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

**Internal Exhibition:**

Not required

**External Exhibition:**

Not required

**Attachments:**

1. [Aspects Valuation Report Lot 1 DP1064220](#) 

**9.2 NEW POLICY - PREVENTION OF MODERN SLAVERY**

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/8912  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** GOVERNANCE OFFICER  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** GENERAL MANAGER

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to seek adoption of Central Darling Shire Council (CDSC)'s draft Prevention of Modern Slavery Policy (Version One).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Adopt the draft Prevention of Modern Slavery Policy.

**BACKGROUND:**

The *Modern Slavery Act 2018* created obligations for NSW councils under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA) relating to modern slavery. The objective of this new policy is to document Council's commitment to ensuring that goods and services procured are not the product of modern slavery.

**REPORT:**

The *Modern Slavery Act* encourages collaborative action to combat modern slavery. The NSW Office of the Anti-Slavery Commissioner has been established to oversee compliance with modern slavery laws. Modern slavery is described as situations of coercion, threats or deception used to exploit victims and undermine or deprive them of their freedom. It can include forms of exploitation such as forced labour, slavery, servitude, debt bondage, human trafficking, deceptive recruiting for labour services, the worst forms of child labour and forced marriage.

After the enactment of the *Modern Slavery Act*, the LGA was amended to require Councils to take reasonable steps to ensure that goods and services procured by them are not the result of modern slavery. The Office of Local Government (OLG) advised Councils of these obligations via their circular number 23/17 A884602.

Based on these changes in legislation and a review of CDSC's procurement policy and procedures, a new policy has been drafted.

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

Focus/Goals/Objectives	Strategic Area	Actions
2 Local & Regional Governance	2.1 Shire governance	2.1.1 Design and implement governance systems within the shire that are culturally responsive and ensure communities have effective local democratic structures and representation

**SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	Assessment
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<b>Social</b>	Positive
<b>Environmental</b>	NA
<b>Economic</b>	Positive
<b>Governance</b>	Positive

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

The policy includes implementing several measures to ensure compliance with the modern slavery requirements of the LGA. Implementing those measures will have some resource implications as it involves reviewing contract documents to include modern slavery provisions

**Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:**

This policy shows CDSC's commitment to ensuring compliance under the LGA.

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

Without a formal policy in place, CDSC will be exposed to a greater risk of non-compliance with legislation.

**OPTIONS:**

CDSC can adopt, amend, or not adopt the policy. To confirm commitment to the *Modern Slavery Act*, it is recommended that the policy be adopted.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:****Internal Exhibition:**

Approved by the Management / Executive Group at their meeting on 6 May 2025.

**External Exhibition:**

The draft policy represents legislative requirements which do not require public input. It will be displayed on CDSC's website after adoption.

**Attachments:**

1. [Prevention of Modern Slavery Policy \(draft\)](#) 

## **10 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORTS**

Nil

## 11 SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS

### 11.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT APRIL 2025

**FILE NUMBER:** GD25/8841

**REPORT AUTHOR:** ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Environmental Services Performance for April 2025 for Central Darling Local Government Area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

**That Council will:**

1. Receive and note the report.

#### REPORT:

Statistics for April 2025		
Development Approvals and final certificates issued under Part 4, Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. Number of Certificates issued under the Local Government Act 1993.	Number of DAs Approved – New Dwellings	0
	Number of DAs Approved – Renovation	0
	Number of DAs Approved – Other	1
	Total Value of DAs Approved	\$0
	Number of Construction Certificates / Crown Construction Certificates Issued	1
	Number of Complying Development Certificates issued	1
	Number of LGA S68 Approvals	0
	Number of Occupation Certificates Issued	0
	Number of completion Certificates issued (S68)	0
	Section 10.7 Planning Certificates	2
Food Safety	Food Premises Approvals	2
	Food Safety Inspections	4
Animal Control Activities	<b><u>DOGS CONTROL STATISTICS</u></b>	
	1.Impounded	12
	2.Surrendered	3
	3.Escaped	0
	4.Rehomed	10
	5.Returned to Owner	2
	6.Euthanised	3
	7.Desexed	33
	8.Microchipped	68
	9.Registered	0

	<b><u>CATS CONTROL STATISTICS</u></b>	
	1.Impounded	37
	2.Surrendered	0
	3.Escaped	0
	4.Rehomed	0
	5.Returned to Owner	0
	6.Euthanised	37
	7.Desexed	16
	8.Microchipped	11
	9.Registered	0
Water Sampling		
	Penalty Notices Issued	0
	Microbiology Samples Collected	14
	Chemistry Samples Collected	0
	Non-Compliant Samples	0
	Darling River Algae Samples	0
	Pool Samples	4
	Raw Water Toxic Water Test	0

Attachment: Nil

**Attachments:**

NIL

**11.2 FOOD ORGANICS AND GARDEN ORGANICS****FILE NUMBER: GD25/8870****REPORT AUTHOR: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Protection of the Environment Legislation Amendment (FOGO Recycling) Act 2025 recently passed by Parliament amends the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) ACT 1997. The new legislation mandates the collection of food organics and garden organics (FOGO) waste from households and businesses and the reporting of supermarket donations.

This FOGO report will outline the primary aim of the Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) at Central Darling Shire Council and in New South Wales (NSW) at large to reduce food and garden waste from landfills. The reduction in food and garden waste at landfills will assist to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In principle, this will be achieved through a mandated collection service requiring all households and businesses in towns with waste management facilities in Central Darling Local Government Area to separate FOGO waste for recycling by July 2030

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report
2. Investigate exemption for the FOGO Service due to remoteness, low population within the shire and financial constraints.

**REPORT:****Meeting FOGO Objectives**

**Reduce Landfill Waste**-reduction in volume of organic waste ending up at waste management facilities.

**Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions**-diversion of FOGO waste will keep the production of methane a potent greenhouse gas which is emitted when organic matter decomposes at the landfills.

**Support a Circular Economy**-waste can be processed into invaluable resources like compost and fertilizer promoting resource efficiency ultimately reducing reliance on landfills.

**Waste Diversion**- process will contribute to reduction of organic waste ending up in the red-lidded garbage bins.

**Climate Change Mitigation**-reducing landfill waste and greenhouse emissions

**Community Engagement**-vital if implementation is to be successful through educational initiatives and public relations to encourage community participation.

**Waste Management Service Delivery**

CDSC currently operates a domestic mixed waste collection service once a week in Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe. Council operates 4 waste management facilities in Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs. Households in smaller towns including White Cliffs, dispose of their waste



at the respective waste management facilities. The cost is levied through the rates. Commercial and industrial waste including hazardous waste, scrap metals and building waste attract fees for waste disposal at respective waste management facilities.

**Fogo Exemptions**

CDSC can apply for exemption where FOGO services are not feasible to be successfully implemented due to remoteness, lack of infrastructure and financial constraints. Small population numbers in its Local Government Controlled Areas being a barrier of being cost effective in producing required FOGO waste to set up a processing facility. Council may require time-bound exemption if unable to implement a FOGO service within proposed deadlines.

**Funding and Support**

NSW government has set aside \$81 million to support councils in implementing FOGO collection services by 2030. The funding includes grants for infrastructure like bins, caddies, expertise support through EPA and community education. The FOGO grants program will provide support to Councils in transitioning to FOGO services. Carbon credit funding is available for Councils wishing to explore potential carbon credit opportunities.

**FOGO Implementation Challenges**

**FOGO** service will require a FOGO Processing Facility built to process food and garden waste. small population in the Shire is a barrier for producing required volumes of waste to sustain operations of a processing facility. Transport costs is another obstacle as towns in the Shire are spread out if a single processing facility was to be built at a neutral location.

**Community Farm Worms** supported by the Council and other stakeholders interested in this sector can be setup in Wilcannia and Menindee. FOGO waste can be an invaluable resource for the Farm Worms. The farm worms if successfully implemented can create job opportunities for the locals. There is a demand, and market to sustain the operations of the farms as there is demand for fishing worms across the country at large.

Council can seek exemption for the FOGO Service due to remoteness, low numbers of population within its jurisdiction and financial constraints.

**Attachments:**

NIL

**11.3 SERVICES UPDATE****FILE NUMBER: GD25/9075****REPORT AUTHOR: OPERATIONS MANAGER****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**

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**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 Operational**

The table below reflects budgets and expenditure to date for each operational area.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>QBR Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
Parks & Gardens/ Sporting Facilities	\$176,500	140%	-\$69,874
Ancillary Works	\$243,500	36%	\$156,951
Street Cleaning/Bins	\$315,000	74%	\$82,581
Buildings	\$301,700	77%	\$69,101
Swimming Pools	\$380,000	112%	-\$46,712
Domestic Waste	\$323,500	103%	-\$9,541

**Attachments:**

NIL

**11.4 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE****FILE NUMBER: GD25/9076****REPORT AUTHOR: OPERATIONS MANAGER****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 with the Central Darling Local Government Area.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**REPORT:****Water & Sewerage Operations:**

- Wilcannia's potable water supply is sourced from the Darling River Weir Pool. Estimated supply once weir stops flowing is 6 months. There are three emergency bores equipped for town supply usage. They were all maintained in good working condition.
- White Cliffs town water supply is sourced from the Wakefield Tank. Wakefield Tank storage supply is estimated 5 months' supply remaining. There is no emergency supply for White Cliffs. Water restriction is recommended if there is no rainfall next month.
- Ivanhoe town water supply is currently being sourced from Morrison's Dam. Morrison's Dam capacity is 300 megalitres. 8 months' supply remaining. Ivanhoe has 5 bores equipped for town supply usage.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
Wilcannia Water	\$464,500	73%	\$125,938
Wilcannia Sewer	\$305,000	22%	\$238,506
White Cliffs Water	\$124,000	233%	-\$165,302
Ivanhoe Water	\$347,500	65%	\$121,971
Tilpa Water	\$62,000	6%	\$58,291
Aboriginal Communities Water and Sewer program	\$144,700	25%	\$109,214

**Water and Sewer Capital Works:**

- The White Cliffs WTP is at practical completion stage. All work required under the contract for White Cliffs New Water Treatment Plant has been completed in a satisfactory manner by SNG Engineering in February 2025, subject to the discovery of defects after final

completion, and except for items specifically excluded in the letter of final acceptance. The water treatment plant is capable of producing potable water. Training for new water operators is in progress with closely monitoring from the Engineering Department.

The White Cliffs Reticulation works commenced 22 May 2023. Approximately 99% of the town reticulation water mains have been completed with connections into individual properties are progressing toward completion.

White Cliffs WTP, Reticulation, Rising Main and Reservoir Augmentation works are currently funded by Restart NSW. Ivanhoe and Wilcannia WTP's are funded by the Safe and Secure Water Program.

- The Ivanhoe Water Treatment Plant Tender was awarded to Liquitek Pty Ltd following Council resolution at the Ordinary Meeting of Council, May 2024. Site mobilisation was planned for this June.

Council received an amended executed funding deed for the Ivanhoe WTP to the value of \$5,850,000. The additional amount of \$3,350,000 was provided by the Commonwealth Government "Far West Water Treatment Plants" project funds.

- The Wilcannia New Water Treatment Plant tender has closed. Council resolved to award the tender for SNG Engineering. A contract is being drafted for the work.

Council received an amended executed funding deed for the Wilcannia WTP to the value of \$7,385,000. The additional amount of \$3,885,000 was provided by the Commonwealth Government "Far West Water Treatment Plants" project funds.

- Tilpa Village emergency water supply works including a 17km pipeline and bore were completed by June 2023. NSW Public Works has provided a design and proposal for an elevated reservoir for water storage.

The table below reflects expenditure to date for Capital Projects.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
White Cliffs WTP and Retic	\$8,265,000	100%	\$0
Wilcannia WTP	\$7,385,000	27%	\$5,377,184
Ivanhoe WTP	\$5,850,000	31%	\$4,029,053
Smart Meters	\$50,000	91%	\$4,720
Valve Replacement	\$150,000	122%	-\$33,172
AC Main Replacements	\$150,000	55%	\$67,187
Tilpa Reservoir	\$65,000	20%	\$51,973
Water Bubblers	\$30,000	54%	\$13,862

#### **Attachments:**

NIL



**11.5 ROADS AND AERODROMES****FILE NUMBER: GD25/9087****REPORT AUTHOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**REPORT:****State Roads**

Council is engaged by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) to maintain the State Highway network within the Shire boundaries. The two State Highways are the Barrier Highway and the Cobb Highway.

Council is 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).

2024/25 RMCC Routine Maintenance allocation is: \$1,387,606.

2024/25 RMCC Works Orders value is \$2,097,413

- SH8 Heavy Patching \$487,191
- SH21 Heavy Patching \$868,450
- SH8 Resurface Prep \$553,364
- SH21 Resurface Prep V1 \$407,071
- SH8 Reseals \$1,765,453
- SH21 Reseals \$1,236,464

All WO from previous year (2023/24) have now been completed, value \$3,806,616

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining budget</b>
Routine	\$1,387,606	72%	\$385,122
WO	\$5,317,995	49%	\$2,702,282

**Regional Roads**

Council maintains 790km of Regional Roads throughout the Shire.

2023/24 Regional Road Block Grant amount (including roads, traffic and supplementary components) is \$2,919,000

The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) allocation for Regional Roads is \$4,224,500. The works include improvements to unsealed formation, gravel resheeting works and culvert works. Works will be delivered over 3 years.

The Pooncarie Rd Initial Seal Project reached Practical Completion 20 August 2024. Staff have completed the final completion report for State and Federal Government agencies and the road was officially opened on Friday 28 February 2025.

The pavement and verge damage sustained as part of the earlier flood events have also been completed August 2024.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
Regional Road Block Grant	\$2,919,000	94%	\$168,457
RERRF – Regional Roads	\$4,224,500	100%	\$0
Pooncarie Rd IS project	\$39,600,000	100%	\$0

### **Local Roads**

Council maintains 1600km of Local Roads throughout the Shire.

2024/25 Operating budget is \$1,994,730 funded from the Financial Assistance Grant (FAG) – Local Roads Component.

2024/25 Roads to Recovery (R2R) allocation is \$1,001,818. Six capital improvement projects are programmed for completion by June 30, 2025. The two projects for White Cliffs initial seals, Johnston Street and the Blocks Rd, will be subject to rainfall and water availability to complete roadworks

The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) allocation for Regional Roads is \$6,250,475. The works include improvements to unsealed formation, gravel resheeting works and culvert works. Works will be delivered over 3 years.

Fixing Local Roads (FLR Rd 4) Program was successful for funding of \$2,343,471 with contribution amount of 10% to complete the realignment, construction, and seal of the Racecourse Road Menindee. Initial survey and Environmental works have been completed. Native Title Claim and legal road issues are in discussions with Crown Lands and the Barkindji Native Title Corporation. Extension of Time has been granted by TfNSW – start construction 1/6/2025, project completion 20/12/2025.

Council attended the annual general meeting of the BNTC in Buronga, 30 November 2024, to present and update the members on the project details. Council have received a letter of support from NTS Corp on behalf of the BNTC. An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) is being drafted by NTS Corp which will be presented to Council for consideration upon receipt. Further survey work has been completed to ascertain alignment and proposed road easement width and area's. Land valuation of the area have been completed April 2025. Notices pursuant to section 175 of the Roads Act 1993 have now been issued to Crown Lands and the The Barkandji Native Title Group Aboriginal Corporation. Construction is being planned for commencement June 2025.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
<b>Local Roads Component (FAG)</b>	\$1,994,730	100%	\$0
<b>Adam St IS (R2R)</b>	\$60,000	95%	\$3,056
<b>Wilson St IS (R2R)</b>	\$160,000	100%	\$0
<b>Johnston St IS (R2R)</b>	\$150,000	0%	\$150,000
<b>The Blocks IS (R2R)</b>	\$420,000	0%	\$420,000
<b>Lakeview Ave Drainage (R2R)</b>	\$345,148	25%	\$257,294
<b>Kingfisher Ave Drainage (R2R)</b>	\$252,368	20%	\$202,830
<b>Racecourse Rd (FLR Rd 4)</b>	\$2,343,471	10%	\$2,119,105
<b>RERRF – Local Roads</b>	\$6,250,475	61%	\$2,457,680

### **Maintenance**

Five grading crews are currently working on local and regional roads within the Shire. A brief summary of activities is detailed below for Council's information.

#### **Crew 1**

- May/ June SR20 SR18 Trida Rd, SR39 Moolah-Trida Rd, MR416 Ivanhoe-Cobar Rd

#### **Crew 2**



- May/ June SR9 Norma Downs Rd, SR5 Wanaaring Rd

**Crew 3**

- May/ June Menindee Sealed Roads Repair EPA storm damage, MR433 Ivanhoe-Menindee Rd, Racecourse Rd

**Crew 4**

- May/ June SR22 Cultowa Rd, SR5 Wanaaring Rd, SR7 Dry Lake Rd

**Crew 5**

- May SR2 Tilpa-Louth Rd

**Aerodromes**

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

Council's application under the Remote Aerodrome Upgrade Program (RAUP) Rd 10 for the Wilcannia amenities and water supply was unsuccessful.

<b>Works Description</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
<b>Aerodromes R&amp;M</b>	\$313,000	69%	\$45,489

**Attachments:**

NIL

**12 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Nil

**13 RESOLUTION TRACKER**

Nil

## **14 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.

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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 Meeting 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.:

#### **14.1 Supply and Delivery of Traffic Safety Signage**

**FILE NUMBER: GD25/9085**

**REPORT AUTHOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES**

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Item 14.1 is confidential under the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A(2) - (c) as it relates to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council moves out of Confidential and back into Open Chambers.

## **15 MEETING CLOSE**

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

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 25 June 2025 in Council Chambers, 21 Reid Street, Wilcannia at 10:30 AM.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 REID STREET, WILCANNIA  
ON WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2025**

**PRESENT:** Administrator, Bob Stewart

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Greg Hill (General Manager)  
Reece Wilson (Director Shire Services)  
Glenda Dunn (Senior Planning Officer)  
Kevin Smith (Finance Manager)  
Darryl Telfer (Acting Rates Officer)  
Evelyn Pollard (Human Resource Officer)  
Kara Mohr (Risk & WHS Officer)  
Nerida Carr (Governance Officer)  
Ashik Khadka (Road Engineer)  
Shirley Burraston (Management Accountant)

## **1 OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared open at 10.30am

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by the Administrator, Bob Stewart.

## **3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **3.1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

### **3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

## **4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

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

### **RESOLVED: OCM 01-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That no Disclosures of Interest – Pecuniary and Non–Pecuniary were received.

**CARRIED**

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **5.1 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**RESOLVED: OCM 02-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

**CARRIED**

## **6 NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

## **7 MAYORAL (ADMINISTRATOR) MINUTE(S)**

### **7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE**

**RESOLVED: OCM 03-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council receive and note the report.

**CARRIED**

## **8 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### **8.1 CASH AND INVESTMENTS - MARCH 2025**

**RESOLVED: OCM 04-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council

1. Receive and note the report.

**CARRIED**

### **8.2 GRANTS REGISTER - MARCH 2025**

**RESOLVED: OCM 05-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report.

**CARRIED**

**8.3 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES UPDATE****RESOLVED: OCM 06-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Receive bi-monthly reports until such time that the contracts of sales have been completed, and the sale processes finalised.

**CARRIED**

**9 GOVERNANCE REPORTS****9.1 HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES****RESOLVED: OCM 07-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**

**9.2 WORKPLACE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION PLAN 2025 TO 2028****RESOLVED: OCM 08-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Endorse to place the Central Darling Shire Council Workplace Diversity Equity and Inclusion Plan on Public Exhibition for 28 days.
3. Report to Council on comments received from the Public Exhibition with the intention of adopting the plan at the Council meeting.

**CARRIED**

**9.3 CENTRAL DARLING HERITAGE TRAIL APP - STORIES BEHIND THE STONES GO-LIVE****RESOLVED: OCM 09-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**

**9.4 NEW POLICY - CHILD SAFE POLICY****RESOLVED: OCM 10-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Draft Child Safe Policy
3. Place the Child Safe Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days to allow for public review and submissions.

**CARRIED**

**9.5 GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE ON VARIOUS MATTERS****RESOLVED: OCM 11-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report
2. Request the General Manager refer the issue of policing in the Central Darling Shire Council area to the Country Mayors and the Western Alliance of Council for information.

**CARRIED**

**9.6 VERGE AND STREET TREE POLICY****RESOLVED: OCM 12-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Adopt the Verge and Street Tree Policy.

**CARRIED**

**10 CUSTOMER SERVICE REPORTS****10.1 GENERAL SERVICE REQUEST AND COMPLAINTS****RESOLVED: OCM 13-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**



## 11 SHIRE SERVICES REPORTS

### 11.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT MARCH 2025

**RESOLVED: OCM 14-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

**That Council will:**

1. Receive and note the report.

**CARRIED**

### 11.2 IVANHOE WATER TREATMENT PLANT COMMENCEMENT OF PROJECT

**RESOLVED: OCM 15-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

**That Council will:**

1. Receive the report
2. Endorse the commencement of the Ivanhoe Water Treatment Plant.
  - (a) Endorse the Review of Environmental Factors Report for the Ivanhoe Water Treatment Plant.
    - (i) Note the subsequent issue of the Crown Construction Certificate under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, by a A1 Private accredited Certifier for the construction of the Ivanhoe Water Treatment Plant.
    - (ii) Note the issue of the Crown Construction Certificate under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, at the completion of the Ivanhoe Water Treatment Plant.

**CARRIED**

### 11.3 WATER AND SEWER UPDATE

**RESOLVED: OCM 16-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

**That Council will:**

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**

### 11.4 ROADS AND AERODROMES

**RESOLVED: OCM 17-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**

## **11.5 SHIRE SERVICES**

### **RESOLVED: OCM 18-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive and note the report

**CARRIED**

## **11.6 COUNCIL PLANT UPDATE AND STREETSWEeper**

### **RESOLVED: OCM 19-04-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Purchase a used streetsweeper from Silversweep, Broken Hill, for the sum of \$25,000 + GST
3. Note the additional funds of approximately \$35,500 for the refurbishment of the Street Sweeper to be allocated from the plant replacement budget
4. Note the results from disused plant assets auction

**CARRIED**

## **12 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Nil

## **13 RESOLUTION TRACKER**

Nil

## **14 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

## **15 MEETING CLOSE**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 11.06am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Central Darling Shire Council held on Wednesday, 28 May 2025.

.....

**ADMINISTRATOR**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 REID STREET, WILCANNIA  
ON WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY 2025**

**PRESENT:** Administrator, Bob Stewart

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Greg Hill (General Manager)  
Reece Wilson (Director Shire Services)  
Kevin Smith (Finance Manager)  
Thai Dang (Operations Manager)  
Gabrielle Johnston (Community Engagement)  
Uday Mamidala (Finance Officer)  
Toni Maher (Finance Officer)

## **1 OPENING OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared open at 9:00am

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by the Administrator, Bob Stewart.

## **3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **3.1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

### **3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

## **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.

### **RESOLVED: ECM 01-05-2025**

Mover: Administrator Bob Stewart

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

**CARRIED**

No declarations were received.

## **5 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

## **5.1 2024-25 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council will:

1. Receive the report
2. Endorse the:
  - (a) Draft Operational and Delivery Plan 2025-26,
  - (b) Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2026-35,
  - (c) Draft Fees and Charges 2025-26, and
  - (d) Draft Workforce Plan 2025-26be placed on public display for a period of 28 days
3. Note the 2025-26 Operating Budget indicates an Operating Deficit (after capital grants) of \$992,000

## **6 MEETING CLOSE**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at **9:08am**.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Central Darling Shire Council held on Wednesday, 28 May 2025.

.....  
**ADMINISTRATOR**