



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
west wyalong

Bland Shire Council

Business Paper

16 October 2012



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES





AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

16 October 2012

1.0 PRAYER

Almighty God, we humbly ask you to invoke Your blessing upon this Council. Direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of the Council area, our State and Australia. Amen

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 Councillors

Cr R Bland
Cr P Grellman
Cr L Hampton
Cr K Keatley
Cr T Lord
Cr L McGlynn
Cr B Monaghan
Cr N Pokoney
Cr P Templeton

2.2 Staff

General Manager – Ray Smith
Director Engineering Services – Will Marsh
Director Corporate Services – Elizabeth White
Director Community & Development Services – Adele Casey
Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.3 Apologies

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 25 September 2012

- **Corrections**
- **Confirmation**
That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25 September 2012 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.
- **Business Arising**

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision a person might make in relation to a matter.

Councillor/Officer	Item	Nature of Interest

5.0 PUBLIC FORUM

5.1 Presentation to Mr Ken Peterson

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

8.0 DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 8.1 Plant Committee** – 4th December 2012
(Cr Grellman, Cr Templeton, Cr Lord)
- 8.2 Tourism Advisory Committee** – 8th November 2012
(Cr Lord, Cr Hampton)
- 8.3 Health & Wellbeing Advisory Committee** – 4th November 2012
(Cr Lord, Cr Monaghan, Cr Grellman, Cr McGlynn)
- 8.4 Cultural Advisory Committee** – 26th November 2012
(Cr McGlynn, Cr Bland, Cr Keatley)

- 8.5 Access Advisory Committee – 2nd November 2012**
(Cr Grellman)
- 8.6 Heritage Advisory Committee – 7th November 2012**
(Cr Hampton, Cr McGlynn, Cr Bland, Cr Grellman)
- 8.7 Museums Advisory Committee – 29th November 2012**
(Cr Lord, Cr Bland)
- 8.8 Indigenous Advisory Committee – 14th November 2012**
(Cr Bland, Cr McGlynn)
- 8.9 Local Traffic Advisory Committee – 13th November 2012**
(Mayor Pokoney, Cr Grellman - alternate)
- 8.10 NSW Association of Mining Related Councils – 9th November 2012**
(Cr McGlynn, Cr Hampton)
- 8.11 Bland Creek Catchment Management Committee**
(Cr Bland, Cr Hampton)
- 8.12 Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee – 31st October 2012**
(Cr Grellman, Cr Keatley - alternate)
- 8.13 Bland District Bushfire Management Committee**
(Cr Grellman, Cr Keatley - alternate)
- 8.14 Public Libraries NSW – Country**
- 8.15 Riverina Regional Tourism**
(Cr Lord)
- 8.16 Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee (CEMCC) – 5th December 2012**
(Mayor Pokoney, Cr McGlynn - alternate/observer, Cr Hampton - observer)
- 8.17 Lachlan Catchment Management Authority Local Government Coordinating Committee**
(Cr Bland, Cr Hampton)
- 8.18 Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) – 7th November 2012**
(Mayor Pokoney)
- 8.19 Newell Highway Taskforce – 9th October 2012**
(Cr Lord)
- 8.20 Goldenfields Water County Council Board – 25th October 2012**
(Cr Templeton)
- 8.21 Murrumbidgee Medicare Local Board – 22nd November 2012**
(Cr Monaghan)

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council receive and note the delegate and advisory committee reports from Councillors and Advisory Committee meeting minutes as presented.

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

That the Council receive the staff reports.

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10.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

11.0 QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

- Matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of former meetings of the Council
- Other Matters

12.0 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 10A(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

12.1 Offer To Purchase 93 Gilbert Street, Wyalong

Local Government Act {Section 10A(2)(c)}

Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business

13.0 RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING

14.0 CLOSE OF THE MEETING

SECTION 1 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

10.1 MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – OCTOBER

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the information contained in the October 2012 monthly status report be received and noted.

Introduction

At its June 2011 meeting Council approved for the submission of a “Monthly Status Report” to each ordinary Council meeting for effective monitoring and recording of Council’s decisions and action taken.

This course of action creates greater transparency for staff responsible for implementing Council decisions and provides Councillors with a more accurate outcome of their decision making process.

When the action required from each decision is completed the item will be deleted from the report.

Conclusion

The actions taken by staff in implementing Council decisions and detailed in the Monthly Status Report be received and noted.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT - COUNCIL MEETING RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Blue shading indicates action completed

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 26 JUNE 2012

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
2013 Country Regional Swimming Championships - 29062012	DCORP	(i) That more specific cost details be provided to Council for budgetary consideration (ii) That contact be made with the Lake Cowal Gold Mine to ensure there is no clash with this event and a 'mine shutdown' (iii) That an approach be made to the Australia Day Council for a prominent swimmer as next year's Australia Day Ambassador to West Wyalong (iv) That Council staff investigate the temporary relocation of the pool perimeter fencing (v) That the showground may be used to accommodate the influx of competitors and visitors	17/7: DCORP to follow up. DES advised fencing adequate in current position 7/8: GM to follow up with SEDTA. The application form has now been forwarded to the WW Swimming Club. The West Wyalong Amateur Swimming Club will submit an event sponsorship application form for the 2013 Country Regional Swimming Championships that will contain more specific cost details. 9/10: report presented to the October Council meeting

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 17 JULY 2012

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
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REQUEST FOR NAMING OF THE PARK STREET RECREATION GROUND OVAL - 06072012	GM	1. That Council support the request from the Park Street Recreation Ground User Group Committee by agreeing to name the Park Street Recreation Ground oval as 'McAlister Oval' in recognition of the many years of dedicated service by Mr. Doug McAlister in maintaining this facility; 2. That the General Manager, in consultation with the User Group Committee, makes the necessary arrangements for the naming and for an official ceremony.	19/7: Letter sent to User Group requesting meeting 7/8: Liaising with user group and cricket representatives 9/10: considering January 2013 at the West Wyalong & Bowral cricket match
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COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 21 AUGUST 2012

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
MEETING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2012 - 07082012	GM	That Council endorse the following meeting arrangements for September 2012: * Tuesday 18 September - Councillor Induction Session commencing at 5.30pm *Wednesday 19 September - Councillor Induction Session commencing at 5.30pm * Tuesday 25 September - Ordinary Council Meeting incorporating the Election of Mayor and appointment to committees	Meeting schedule to be advertised in the Advocate. All other arrangements are in hand.
REVIEW OF FUNDING OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES IN NSW - 09082012	DES	1. That the new funding arrangements between Council and the NSW SES be gratefully acknowledged by Council; 2. That Council agree to the following arrangements with the SES vehicles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2001 Ford Courier – be gifted back to the SES • 2010 Nissan Navara – be gifted back to the SES. 	Council report adopted, GM has sent letter. Completed

<p>BLAND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. – LEASE OF MUSEUM - 10082012</p>	<p>GM</p>	<p>A. That the following amendments be made to Council's previous resolution in respect to the lease arrangements between the Bland District Historical Society Inc. and Bland Shire Council for the Society's occupation of the former Wyalong Court House:</p> <p>1) Term of Lease: That the term of the lease between Bland Shire Council and the Bland District Historical Society Inc. be for an initial 10 years with a ten year option. 2) Use of Museum Grounds: That a special clause be placed in the lease that allows Council use of the surrounding grounds in consultation with the Bland District Historical Society Inc. 3) Payment of Water Rates: That the Bland District Historical Society Inc be exempt from the payment of water rates on the basis that the bulk of the water is used for watering the lawns and gardens and that there is very minimal use of water by the Society. 4) Memorandum of Understanding: That the General Manager be delegated authority to finalise a new Memorandum of Understanding between Bland Shire Council and the Bland District Historical Society Inc. based on the original document but with some minor changes to maintenance responsibilities.</p> <p>B. That the General Manager now finalise the preparation and execution of the necessary Lease documentation.</p>	<p>Letter has been forwarded to the BDHS Inc. advising of Council's resolution. The GM is now finalising the Occupancy Agreement and the MOU. 9/10: Agreement signed 8/10/2012</p>
<p>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS - 11082012</p>	<p>GM</p>	<p>That Council support the efforts of Lane Cove Council to amend the Local Government Act to allow councils the option of advertising by electronic means by making appropriate representations to the NSW Premier, Mr. Barry O'Farrell.</p>	<p>9/10: letter sent</p>

BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA RIVERINA PROJECTS - 16082012	DCORP	That Council endorses the projects identified in this report to be put forward to Regional Development Australia Riverina for consideration and information and that any progress with any of the projects is reported back to Council: *Airport; *Cooinda Reserve and Rotary Park; *Cultural Precinct; *Industrial Lands; *Renewable Energy Project.	BSC has submitted Regional Development Australia Riverina Project Proposal Forms for the industrial lands, Cooinda Reserve & Rotary Park. Project proposal forms will be submitted for the Airport, Cultural Precinct and the Renewable Energy Project once the relevant stakeholders have been consulted and the costing for projects has been completed. 9/10: report presented to the October Council meeting
MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE BLAND SHIRE HERITAGE, GOLD TRAILS AND TOURS - 17082012	DCORP	That Bland Shire Council matches Barrick Cowal's \$80,000 contribution towards the Bland Shire Heritage, Gold Trails and Tours, (\$80,000 Barrick Cowal & \$80,000 Bland Shire Council = \$160,000).	Approved by Council Resolution 21st August 2012
MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE BLAND SHIRE HERITAGE, GOLD TRAILS AND TOURS - 18082012	DCORP	That the matter be deferred until the October 2012 Council meeting and in the interim the project works be referred to the Wetlands/Cooinda Working Party for consideration.	Deferred until October 2012 Council Meeting 9/10: report presented to the October Council meeting
BLAND SHIRE TOURIST INFORMATION SHELTERS - 19082012	DCORP	1. That Council endorse the recommendation of the Tourism Advisory Committee for Council to obtain information and costs to erect Tourist Information Shelters, similar to the one at Junee, at the following locations: * West Wyalong x 3 *Wyalong x 1 *Ungarie x 1 *Barmedman x 1 *Weethalle x 1 *Tallimba x 1 *Mirrool x 1 2. That the first three (3) shelters be constructed at the following locations: •McCann Park •Herridge Park •Mirrool.	CB Engineering has commenced fabrication on the first three Tourist Information Shelters and Martin Lane designs have commenced work on collating information for the interpretative panels

HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE - APPRECIATION - WEST WYALONG AMBULANCE - 20082012	DCDS	That boards of appreciation be presented to the staff of the Ambulance Service in West Wyalong for their dedication to the community.	27/8 Boards being purchased for signing by community
COMMUNITY DONATIONS - GARDEN AND FLORAL ART CLUB - 21082012	DCDS	That Council approves a donation of \$360 to assist the West Wyalong Garden and Floral Art Club with judges expenses, promotion and other costs associated with its annual flower show and garden competition with the exception of prize money.	27/8 Garden and Floral Art Club advised. Grant paperwork being finalised. Completed.
DONATION - WEST WYALONG WOMENS BOWLING CLUB - 22082012	DCDS	That Council approves the Community Donation Application submitted by the West Wyalong Women's Bowling Club for sponsorship of the West Wyalong Women's Bowling Club Triples Carnival to the value of \$460 inclusive of GST.	27/8 Women's Bowling Club advised. Grant paperwork being finalised. Completed.
ACCESS INCENTIVE SCHEME GRANT - TALLIMBA HALL COMMITTEE - 23082012	DCDS	That Council approves the Access Incentive Grant from the Tallimba Public Hall Committee for the amount of \$3779 inclusive of GST.	27/8 Tallimba Hall Committee advised. Grant paperwork being finalised. Completed.
COMMUNITY GRANTS AND DONATIONS POLICY - 24082012	DCDS	That the Community Donations and Grants Policy be adopted by Council.	27/8 Staff Advised. Completed.
AMENDED PLANT REPLACEMENT FOR 2012-2013 - 25082012	DES	That Council purchase a new skid steer and trailer plus two caravans in lieu of the new grader which was part of the adopted 2011 - 2012 plant replacement program.	Quotations called. Completed
PESTICIDE USE NOTIFICATION PLAN - 26082012	DES	That the attached Pesticide Use Notification Plan be adopted.	Enacted Plan. Completed

PARKING LAYOUT FOR MAIN STREET WEST WYALONG - 28082012	DES	That the proposed parking layout be approved with the taxi location trial continuing for consideration at the October 2012 Council meeting.	9/10: report presented to the October Council meeting
BUS ZONE OUTSIDE BLAND SHIRE'S CHILDREN SERVICES, PINE STREET WEST WYALONG - 29082012	DES	That a 40 metre bus zone be established outside Bland Shire's Children Services. Hours of operation to be 8.30am to 9.30am, and 2.30pm to 3.30pm.	Instructions issued to install 9/10: complete

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 25 SEPTEMBER 2012

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS - 02092012	GM	That all council workshop meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month commence no earlier than 6.00pm except at the discretion of the Mayor and General Manager to change.	9/10: complete
REVIEW OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE - 06092012	GM	That the Council Committee structure as attached be adopted for the ensuing four year council term.	9/10: complete
APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL DELEGATES & REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES - 07092012	GM	That the Council make the appointments of delegates and representatives to the Advisory Committees of Council and external committees for the ensuing Council term.	9/10: complete
APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL DELEGATES & REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES - 08092012	GM	That the appointments of delegates and representatives as noted be made to the Advisory Committees of Council and external committees for the ensuing Council term.	9/10: complete

APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES - 09092012	GM	That the appointments of community representatives to the relevant Advisory Committees of Council for the ensuing council term be held over and advertising extended for further consideration at the October Council meeting.	9/10: report presented to the October Council meeting
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10.2 CONDUCT OF COMMUNITY FORUMS – 2012

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council determine a date to conduct the annual community forums.

Introduction

Council, at its October workshop, requested that some optional dates be put forward on which to conduct the 2012 annual community forums.

The visit to the communities of Barmedman, Mirrool, Tallimba, Weethalle and Ungarie is an all day event with departure from West Wyalong around 8.00am and return around 5.00pm.

The actual order of the visits will be determined once a date has been agreed to ensure that the various community groups are available to meet with councillors and staff.

Conclusion

The suggested dates for the forums are:

- Thursday 25 October
- Tuesday 30 October
- Thursday 1 November
- Tuesday 13 November
- Thursday 15 November

Financial Implications

There is no direct cost associated with attendance at these forums other than the cost of hiring a mini bus and minor catering expenses.

10.3 SPECIAL DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS FORMS

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15.To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the information from the NSW Division of Local Government concerning amendments to the Local Government Act in respect to the declaration of a pecuniary interest by a councillor in a principal environmental planning instrument be received and noted.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of a circular from the NSW Division of Local Government advising of an amendment to section 451 of the Local Government Act 1993 which now provides for a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a principal environmental planning instrument (applying to the whole or a significant part of the council’s area) to participate in the discussion of and vote on the instrument, provided that they make a special disclosure.

Such a special disclosure must be made at the commencement of the council meeting and must be in the prescribed form.

A copy of the DLG circular is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

This amendment is unlikely to affect Bland Shire councillors, however, it is important that this information is presented to council in accordance with the request from the DLG and council staff can assist councillors in completing the appropriate form if the need arises.



Circular No. 12-28
Date 10 August 2012
Doc ID. A285530

Contact Investigations Team
02 4428 4100
dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au

SPECIAL DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS FORM

Purpose

The purpose of this Circular is to advise general managers and councillors of the commencement of the exemption from compliance with requirements of the pecuniary interest provisions at meetings in relation to the adoption of principal local environmental plans.

Issue

- An amendment has been made to section 451 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. This amendment provides for a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a principal environmental planning instrument (applying to the whole or a significant part of the council's area), to participate in the discussion of and vote on the instrument, provided that they make a special disclosure.
- A special disclosure in relation to the interest must be made before the commencement of the council meeting or the council committee meeting, and must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- From 10 August 2012, the special disclosure must be in the form prescribed, and contain the information required, by the Regulation.
- A word version of the prescribed form is provided on the Division's website at: *Directory of Policy Advice for Councils: Pecuniary Interest: Other Resources: [Special Disclosures Form](#)*.

Action

General Managers should bring this Circular to the attention of councillors. It is suggested that General Managers, through their planning staff, should provide assistance to councillors to complete the information in the form that relates to the zoning of the properties in which the councillors have an interest.

Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Schedule 3A Form of special disclosure of pecuniary interest

(Clause 195A)

Local Government Act 1993

Form of Special Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

1 The particulars of this form are to be written in block letters or typed.

2 If any space is insufficient in this form for all the particulars required to complete it, an appendix is to be attached for that purpose which is properly identified and signed by you.

Important information

This information is being collected for the purpose of making a special disclosure of pecuniary interests under sections 451 (4) and (5) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. You must not make a special disclosure that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular. Complaints made about contraventions of these requirements may be referred by the Director-General to the Local Government Pecuniary Interest and Disciplinary Tribunal.

This form must be completed by you before the commencement of the council or council committee meeting in respect of which the special disclosure is being made. The completed form must be tabled at the meeting. Everyone is entitled to inspect it. The special disclosure must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Special disclosure of pecuniary interests

by [full name of councillor]

in the matter of [insert name of environmental planning instrument]

which is to be considered at a meeting of the [name of council or council committee (as the case requires)]

to be held on the day of 20 .

Pecuniary interest	
Address of land in which councillor or an associated person, company or body has a proprietary interest (<i>the identified land</i>) ¹	
Relationship of identified land to councillor [Tick or cross one box.]	<input type="checkbox"/> Councillor has interest in the land (e.g. is owner or has other interest arising out of a mortgage, lease, trust, option or contract, or otherwise). <input type="checkbox"/> Associated person of councillor has interest in the land. <input type="checkbox"/> Associated company or body of councillor has interest in the land.

Matter giving rise to pecuniary interest²	
Nature of land that is subject to a change in zone/planning control by proposed LEP (<i>the subject land</i>) ³ [Tick or cross one box]	<input type="checkbox"/> The identified land. <input type="checkbox"/> Land that adjoins or is adjacent to or is in proximity to the identified land.
Current zone/planning control [Insert name of current planning instrument and identify relevant zone/planning control applying to the subject land]	
Proposed change of zone/planning control [Insert name of proposed LEP and identify proposed change of zone/planning control applying to the subject land]	
Effect of proposed change of zone/planning control on councillor [Insert one of the following: "Appreciable financial gain" or "Appreciable financial loss"]	

[If more than one pecuniary interest is to be declared, reprint the above box and fill in for each additional interest.]

Councillor's signature

Date

[This form is to be retained by the council's general manager and included in full in the minutes of the meeting]

¹ Section 443 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that you may have a pecuniary interest in a matter because of the pecuniary interest of your spouse or your de facto partner or your relative⁴ or because your business partner or employer has a pecuniary interest. You may also have a pecuniary interest in a matter because you, your nominee, your business partner or your employer is a member of a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter.

² Section 442 of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that a **pecuniary interest** is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person. A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to the matter or if the interest is of a kind specified in section 448 of that Act (for example, an interest as an elector or as a ratepayer or person liable to pay a charge).

³ A pecuniary interest may arise by way of a change of permissible use of land adjoining, adjacent to or in proximity to land in which a councillor or a person, company or body referred to in section 443 (1) (b) or (c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* has a proprietary interest—see section 448 (g) (ii) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

⁴ **Relative** is defined by the *Local Government Act 1993* as meaning your, your spouse's or your de facto partner's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child and the spouse or de facto partner of any of those persons.

10.4 2012 COUNCILLOR WORKSHOPS

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the General Manager coordinate the attendance of all councillors at the DLG workshop being held in Wagga Wagga on either 7th or 8th November 2012.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of advice from the NSW Division of Local Government on the conduct of councillor workshops which have been designed to help councillors ‘hit the ground running’ following the September elections.

All councillors, old and new, are strongly urged by the NSW DLG to attend the workshop. The program has been designed so that the morning session is tailored to first time councillors and the afternoon session provides crucial information for all councillors on the Model Code of Conduct, Integrated Planning and Reporting and the support available to councillors during their term.

The DLG is also encouraging general managers to attend along with their councillors. A copy of the advice, including a copy of the draft program is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

There are two workshops being held in Wagga Wagga, being on Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 November running from 10.00am to 3.15 pm. This will mean departing West Wyalong no later than 8.00am and returning around 5.00pm. The use of a mini bus would be the most convenient method of travel.

Financial Implications

There is no cost associated with attendance at these workshops other than the cost of hiring a mini bus.



Circular No. 12-33
Date 4 September 2012
Doc ID. A288221

Contact Education
(02) 4428 4100

2012 COUNCILLOR WORKSHOPS

Purpose

The Division of Local Government, supported by the Local Government and Shires Association, is holding a series of Councillor Workshops for all councillors. The [official program flier](#) provides information on the workshop content, dates, locations and how to register.

Issue

The 30 Councillor Workshops are designed to help councillors hit the ground running following the September elections. They are a not-to-be missed event to support them in serving their community and fulfilling their responsibilities as a councillor. All councillors and General Managers are strongly encouraged to attend.

The program has been designed so that the morning session is tailored to first-time councillors and the afternoon session provides crucial information for all councillors on the Model Code of Conduct, Integrated Planning and Reporting framework introduction and the support available to all councillors during their term.

An on-line registration system will be available immediately following the September elections. Information about how to access the system will be provided to General Managers in the near future.

Action

General Managers are asked to:

- widely promote the workshops and strongly encourage attendance, including through putting relevant workshop dates/locations the council calendar and putting the workshops on the agenda for the first council meeting (with the flyer as an attachment);
- coordinate the registration of councillors once details are provided; and
- attend the Councillor Workshops so that key staff receive consistent information and updates from the Division.

Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

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**ACHIEVING OUTCOMES FOR YOUR COMMUNITY
2012 COUNCILLOR WORKSHOPS PROGRAM (DRAFT)**

Time	Topic
10.00-10.05am (5 mins)	<p>Introduction - tea and coffee on arrival</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome/acknowledgements 2. Protocols 3. Housekeeping
10.05-10.25am (20 mins)	<p>Program overview - Achieving outcomes for your community</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will understand the 5 things all councillors need to know to achieve positive community outcomes, around which the structure of the day is based, and understand the context in which local government is operating</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion of the 5 Key Things all councillors need to know, and how they will be explored during the sessions ahead 2. Overview of the changes in local government e.g. review panel and act review 3. Icebreaker - understanding your council. A facilitated small group discussion to broaden councillors' view on the role of their council in the local community, with councillors asked to identify 3 things their council does to deliver better outcomes for the community (10 mins)
10.25-11.15am (50 mins)	<p>Session 1 - Achieving outcomes through civic leadership</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will understand their council's role in the local community, what they can bring to the council in their role as councillor and how to manage the challenges involved</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slide presentation about legislated roles and responsibilities (30 mins) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the role of your council (Charter) • Your role as councillor – as a representative and as member of council • Being a community leader • Managing key relationships (internal and external) 2. Scenario illustrating the tension between the role of councillors as members of the governing body -v- community representative - small group discussion (20 mins)
11.15am-Noon (45 mins)	<p>Session 2 - Achieving outcomes by making the most of meetings</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will understand the purpose, process and expectations for council meetings and how to maximise the benefits</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slide presentation (30 mins) covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of meetings • Preparation for meetings • Time management • Effective information management • Confidentiality re social media • Code of Meeting Practice • Behaviour/orderly conduct • Role of council staff (including GM) at meetings • Role and respect for Chair • Making effective and informed decisions 2. Video "Meeting Mayhem" (1m 9s) demonstrating the results of poor meeting practices, lack of understanding of the different roles and poor key relationships - small group discussion (20 mins)
Noon-12.30pm (30 mins)	<p>Lunch break and facilitated networking opportunity for all councillors</p>

12.30-1.30pm (60 mins)	<p>Session 3 - Achieving outcomes through planning and managing resources</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will understand how to engage with their community, set the long term direction of council and ensure that money and other resources are used effectively. They will understand their obligations under Integrated Planning and Reporting, its effectiveness as a planning tool and be updated regarding general strengths and areas for development</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Overview of IP&R 2. "Long Term Strategic and Financial Planning for Councils" DVD intro (3.47) - case study of Waverley and Moree Plains which shows how IP&R can help achieve community outcomes and address long-term financial challenges (15 mins) 2. Slide presentation covering (30 mins): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding community needs - effective consultation (CSP - 5.11) • Planning how to meet the community's needs • Using council's finances effectively (LTFP - 6.25) • Reporting to the Community 3. Your council's journey - facilitated small group discussion to raise awareness regarding the council's IP&R journey and the contribution councillors will make to the review of these plans and continuous improvement in this area (15 mins)
1.30-1.40pm (10 mins)	Tea break
1.40-2.40pm (60 mins)	<p>Session 4 - Achieving outcomes through appropriate conduct and ethical decision-making</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will understand the new Model Code of Conduct and how to protect and enhance their individual and council's credibility and reputation through appropriate conduct</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slide presentation on the new Model Code of Conduct and procedures (50 mins including Q&A) 2. Facilitated discussion about reducing exposure to reputation and career damage - using an example demonstrating the common pitfalls and how to avoid them (10 mins)
2.40-3.05pm (25 mins)	<p>Session 5 - Achieving outcomes through learning and development</p> <p><i>Session outcome: Participants will learn from an experienced councillor what it takes to be successful in the role, as well as understand what their individual training and support requirements are and how they can undertake further professional development during their term as a councillor</i></p> <p>How this will be achieved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation from an experienced elected representative about what they think makes a successful councillor, what skills they have used to ensure their term in office has been a successful experience for themselves and their community (15 mins) 2. Facilitated paired discussion about the skills/knowledge areas that are important for an effective councillor and making a commitment to continuous professional development (10 mins) - individual training and support needs self-assessment handout and training resources handout
3.05-3.15pm (10 mins)	<p>Achieving outcomes - summary</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5 Key Things recap - relationship with earlier sessions 2. Homework recap (eg - things to find out about your council, your council's IP&R journey - questions to ask, training and support needs self-assessment) 3. After the workshop - networking follow-up 4. Workshop feedback form

10.5 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

- 1. That Council determine if it wishes to take advantage of the offer from Local Government Management Solutions (LGMS) to conduct a half day workshop for all councillors on the performance review process for general managers at a cost of \$2,000.00 + GST and travel expenses at cost.**
- 2. That Council determine the membership of the General Manager’s Performance Review Committee.**

Introduction

Council is in receipt of an offer from Local Government Management Solutions (LGMS) to conduct a half day workshop, in West Wyalong, for all councillors on the performance review process for general managers at a cost of \$2,000.00 + GST and travel expenses at cost.

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (section 23A) the elected body of council is responsible for ensuring that the general manager’s performance is reviewed at least annually each year.

LGMS was established in 1992 and for 20 years they have been assisting councils to meet their legislative obligations. A copy of the Performance Management Framework for General Managers is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

I have been General Manager of Bland Shire Council since May 2010 and I have participated in two annual performance reviews with a committee of councillors that formerly consisted of Clrs. Pokoney, Lord, Mangelsdorf and Smith.

It will be necessary for council to determine the makeup of a new committee given that Clrs. Mangelsdorf and Smith are no longer members of Bland Shire Council.

There is a template that was developed by consultant Stephen Blackadder that adequately meets the needs of the Local Government Act and which consists of three specific areas of review:

- Managerial Objectives
- Specific Projects
- Personal Leadership Behaviours

Financial Implications

If council agrees to conducting this workshop the cost of \$2,000.00 + GST + Travel will be met from Council’s training budget allocation for 2012/2013.

Extract from the *Guidelines for the Appointment & Oversight of General Managers*, Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet's, July 2011.

Performance Management

General Manager Performance Management Framework

The general manager is made accountable to their council principally through their contract of employment.

The role of the governing body is to oversee the general manager's performance in accordance with the Standard Contract.

The performance of the general manager must be reviewed at least annually against the agreed performance criteria for the position. Council may also choose to undertake more frequent interim reviews of the general manager's performance.

The agreed performance criteria are set out in an agreement that is signed within three months of the commencement of the contract. Development of the performance agreement is discussed below.

Establishing the framework for Performance Management

The council's governing body is to establish a performance review panel and delegate the task of performance reviews of the general manager to this panel. The extent of the delegation should be clear.

It is recommended that the whole process of performance management be delegated to the performance review panel, including discussions about performance, any actions that should be taken and the determination of the new performance agreement.

Performance review panels should comprise the mayor, the deputy mayor, another councillor nominated by council and a councillor nominated by the general manager. The council's governing body may also consider including an independent observer on the panel. Panel members should be trained in the performance management of general managers.

The role of the review panel includes:

- conducting performance reviews
- reporting the findings and recommendations of those reviews to council
- development of the performance agreement.

The governing body of council and the general manager may agree on the involvement of an external facilitator to assist with the process of performance appraisal and the development of new performance plans. This person should be selected by the governing body of council or the performance review panel. The LGSA and the LGMA can be contacted for assistance to identify suitable independent facilitators to assist in the performance management process.

All councillors not on the panel can contribute to the process by providing feedback to the mayor on the general manager's performance.

All councillors should be notified of relevant dates in the performance review cycle and be kept advised of the panel's findings and recommendations.

The panel should report back to the governing body of council in a closed session the findings and recommendations of its performance review as soon as practicable following any performance review. This should not be an opportunity to debate the results or re-enact the performance review of the general manager. The general manager should not be present when the matter is considered.

The performance management report of any council staff member, including the general manager, should not be released to the public and should be retained on the appropriate confidential council employment file. Release of such personal information to other than the Performance Review Panel, the general manager and the councillors in confidence may be a breach of privacy legislation.

Establishing the Performance Agreement

The performance agreement is the most important component of successful performance management. The performance agreement should include clearly defined and measurable performance indicators against which the general manager's performance can be measured.

As one of the general manager's key responsibilities is to oversee the implementation of council's strategic direction, it is important to align the general manager's performance criteria to the goals contained in the council's Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The performance agreement should also include the general manager's personal contribution to the council's key achievements and the general manager's core capabilities, including leadership qualities.

The performance agreement should contain but not be limited to key indicators that measure how well the general manager has met the council's expectations with respect to:

- service delivery targets from the council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan;
- budget compliance;
- organisational capability;
- timeliness and accuracy of information and advice to councillors;
- timely implementation of council resolutions;
- management of organisational risks;
- leadership etc.

The Performance Review Process

The Standard Contract requires that the performance of the general manager must be formally reviewed at least annually. The governing body of council may also undertake interim performance reviews as appropriate.

The assessment should include:

- self assessment by the general manager
- assessment by the review panel of the general manager's performance against the performance agreement.

The performance review meeting should be scheduled with sufficient notice to all parties and in accordance with clauses 7.6 and 7.7 of the Standard Contract.

The meeting should concentrate on constructive dialogue about the general manager's performance against all sections of the agreed performance plan.

The meeting should identify any areas of concern and agree actions to address those concerns.

In undertaking any performance review, care must be taken to ensure that the review is conducted fairly and in accordance with the principles of natural justice and that the laws and principles of anti-discrimination are complied with. The appointment by a council, in agreement with the general manager, of an external facilitator (see above) to advise on the process should assist council in complying with these laws and principles.

The council's governing body must advise the general manager, in writing, in clear terms, the outcome of any performance review.

The new performance agreement for the next period should be prepared as soon as possible after the completion of the previous period. The agreement should be presented to the governing body of council for discussion in a closed meeting together with the outcomes of the previous review period.

10.6 APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

16. *Develop strong community partnerships*

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the Council make the appointments of community representatives to the relevant Advisory Committees of Council for the ensuing council term.

Introduction

Council has a range of advisory committees with community representatives appointed for the four year term of Council.

At its September 2012 meeting Council agreed to extend the advertising period and reconsider the matter at its October meeting.

The table below outlines all nominations received for the relevant advisory committees.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS RECEIVED	COUNCIL DECISION
Access Advisory (6x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs Wilma Hutcheon• Mr Ron Black• Mrs Alison Templeman• Ms Gail Platz• Sue Smith• Wendy Bowles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••••
Tourism Advisory (4x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amanda Stitt• Margaret (Peg) Mrowka• Bernard Couzens• Des Delaney• Martin Lane• Malcolm Carnegie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••
Heritage Advisory (2x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dorothy (Dot) Smith• Martin Lane• Pam Butcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
Health and Wellbeing Advisory (3x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carmel Mead• Dorothy (Dot) Smith• Jill Funnell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
Cultural Advisory (4x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barry Cooper• Terrence Butcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••

Unfortunately there are still vacant positions, however if interested community representatives make application, Council can consider the request at that time.

Conclusion

The officer recommends that the nominations be received and accepted by Council.

10.7 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – PUBLIC LIBRARIES NSW - COUNTRY

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the Council appoint a representative to Public Libraries NSW - Country for the ensuing Council term.

Introduction

The Council appointed delegates and representatives to a number of external bodies at its September 2012 meeting. A vacancy exists for Bland Shire representation on Public Libraries NSW – Country.

This organisation represents the interests of country public libraries and their users throughout New South Wales. They have a vital interest in improving library services and access to information resources for all people through a range of initiatives, joint ventures and partnerships.

Conclusion

That Council determine its representative to this body for the ensuing council term.

10.8 MODERNISATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the information regarding the establishment of a Taskforce to review the Local Government Act 1993 and the City of Sydney Act 1988 be received and noted.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of advice from the NSW Division of Local Government on the establishment of a Taskforce to review the Local Government Act 1993 and the City of Sydney Act 1988.

The taskforce members are:

- Mr. John Turner (Chair)
- Mrs. Gabrielle Kibble AO
- Clr. Dr. Ian Tiley
- Mr. Stephen Blackadder (who will be well known to some Bland Shire Councillors)

A copy of the advice, including a copy of the ‘terms of reference’ is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

I anticipate that there will be opportunities for Council, as well as individual councillors and staff to have input into the review in the coming months.

Financial Implications

Nil



Circular No. 12-32
Date 27 August 2012
Doc ID. A294640

Contact LGA Taskforce Project Team
4428 4100

MODERNISATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

Purpose

To announce the commencement of the Local Government Acts (LGA) Taskforce.

Issue

- The Hon Don Page MP has appointed the LGA Taskforce to review the *Local Government Act 1993 and the City of Sydney Act 1988*. This appointment follows the release of the Destination 2036 Action Plan earlier this year.
- The Taskforce members are:
 - Mr John Turner (Chair)
 - Mrs Gabrielle Kibble AO
 - Cllr Dr Ian Tiley
 - Mr Stephen Blackadder
- The Taskforce will commence work in September this year, and will report back to the Minister by September 2013.
- The Terms of Reference of the LGA Taskforce are attached to this Circular.
- The Taskforce will work closely with the Independent Local Government Review Panel to ensure that the new legislation supports and facilitates the outcomes of this work.
- A webpage will be established on the Division's website which will enable interested persons to keep track of the progress of the review, provide ready access to LGA Taskforce publications as they become available, and facilitate the consultation process.
- The work of the LGA Taskforce is an important initiative that will assist in ensuring that NSW has the right legislative framework for strong and sustainable local government into the future.

Action

General Managers are asked to bring this Circular to the attention of councillors, council staff and their local community.

Ross Woodward
Chief Executive, Local Government
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

Division of Local Government
5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209
E dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au W www.dlg.nsw.gov.au ABN 99 567 863 195

Terms of Reference for the *Local Government Act 1993 and the City of Sydney Act 1988* Taskforce

The Local Government Acts Taskforce will consider the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *City of Sydney Act 1988*, and their practical operation so as to:

- Ensure that the legislation and statutory framework meet the current and future needs of the community, local government, and the local government sector.
- Strengthen and streamline the legislation to enable local government to deliver services and infrastructure efficiently, effectively and in a timely manner.
- Ensure that the legislation is progressive, easily understood and provides a comprehensive framework, while avoiding unnecessary red tape.
- Recognise the diversity of local government in NSW.
- Provide greater clarity on the role and responsibility of local government.
- Adopt the decisions of the Government in relation to the recommendations of the Independent Local Government Review Panel.
- Make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government for legislative changes considered necessary and appropriate for a new Local Government Act.
- Identify and recommend to the Minister for Local Government, at any time during the review process, any legislative changes that need to be implemented prior to the completion of the review.

The Taskforce comprises four (4) members and will provide to the Minister for Local Government its final report by September 2013.

Other considerations:

In carrying out its work the Taskforce will:

- Engage and consult with the wider NSW community and with local government stakeholders (including the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW, Local Government Managers Australia (NSW), local councils, village committees, county councils, regional organisations of councils, business, community, industrial and employee associations, relevant professional bodies, and government agencies) about the operation of the legislation.
- Identify key principles to underpin local government legislation in NSW. In developing these principles the Taskforce will consider legislation and its application in other jurisdictions both in Australia and overseas.
- Take account of the work, findings and government decisions, in relation to the NSW Planning System Review, the Destination 2036 Action Plan and the NSW State Plan “NSW 2021 – A Plan to make NSW number one”.
- Conduct its work in a manner that recognises the terms of reference and approach being taken by the Independent Local Government Review Panel.

10.9 INTRODUCTION OF A CONTAINER DEPOSIT / REFUND SYSTEM

*OUR INFRASTRUCTURE – reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets
“maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate”*

11. *Explore new technologies in waste management and recycling to improve the utilisation of existing resources*

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the information regarding the study on the impacts (cost/benefits) of the introduction of a container deposit/refund system (CDS) be received and noted.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the NSW Local Government and Shires Association (LGSA) in relation to an executive summary of a recent study on the impacts (cost/benefits) of the introduction of a container deposit/refund system (CDS).

The issue of the introduction of such a scheme into NSW has been on the LGSA agenda now for a number of years but has not received support from successive governments.

A copy of the correspondence, including a copy of the executive summary is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

It can be noted from the advice from the LGSA that a meeting of the Standing Council on Environment and Water (SCEW) was to meet on 24 August 2012. I have obtained a copy of a communiqué from that meeting which indicates that further investigations are to occur. A copy of the communiqué is also included as an attachment to this report.

Financial Implications

Nil



Our ref: R90/0994 Out-20724
Further contact: Robert Verhey

14 August 2012

Cr Neil Pokoney
Mayor
Bland Shire Council
PO Box 21
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671

File: GR - L3RL - A24A	Action
Action Officer: TC	<input type="checkbox"/>
RECD 18 AUG 2012	
Cop to: MAYOR, Crm, DES, EA, EP	

Dear Cr Pokoney

We are pleased to present you with the Executive Summary of the report, "The Impacts (cost/benefits) of the Introduction of a Container Deposit/Refund System (CDS) on Kerbside Recycling and Councils". A copy of the full report can be found on the LGSA website www.lgsa.org.au

This independent report, commissioned by the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW, and prepared by Mike Ritchie and Associates (MRA), provides an analysis of the potential costs and benefits of a CDS, particularly in relation to the economic impacts on councils' existing kerbside systems.

The analysis is based on modelling of the introduction of CDS alongside current kerbside recycling arrangements, and a comprehensive survey of NSW councils (to which 103 of a potential 152 councils responded). The analysis is also based on the inclusion of the same containers and the documented return rates which exist in South Australia's CDS.

The study has concluded that:

- Council kerbside recycling service costs would be reduced by 19-47% under a CDS;
- NSW councils could save \$23 to \$62 million annually on recycling costs;
- Councils across Australia could save \$69 to \$183 million annually;
- Recycling is likely to result in a payment as opposed to a charge to councils at the MRF gate;
- Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) would also benefit financially under a CDS (with revenues increased by up to 31%);
- There would be significant benefits to recycling in regional/rural/remote locations, where kerbside systems are not practicable or efficient;
- Councils would experience significantly reduced litter collection costs, and reduced environmental education costs;
- There are also clear environmental and social benefits to the introduction of CDS, largely resulting from the high return rates and opportunities for community groups to become involved in the recycling of containers.

This is an important, and timely study. You will be aware that there have been many unsubstantiated assertions during the last several years when the relative merits of a CDS have been considered. It has been suggested in some quarters that CDS would “undermine” kerbside by taking containers out of the recycling stream, thus preventing councils from benefiting from the returns for these containers.

In fact, the study has found quite the opposite, and points to significant economic benefits to councils and recyclers, which will accompany the manifest environmental and social benefits of a CDS scheme.

While many (non-council) stakeholders have warned of the dire consequences for Local Government of the introduction of a CDS, Local Government and the Associations have steadfastly and unerringly maintained that CDS would bring benefits. This study clearly bears out this position.

To assist in their deliberations, we have provided a copy of this report to the Ministers comprising the Standing Committee on Environment and Water (SCEW) which meets on 24 August 2012.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM
President
Local Government Association of NSW



Cr Ray Donald
President
Shires Association of NSW



Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW

The impacts (cost/benefits) of the introduction of a container deposit/refund system (CDS) on kerbside recycling and councils



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The impacts (cost/benefits) of the introduction of a container deposit/refund system (CDS) on kerbside recycling and councils

Document History:

File Name	Version Number	Date
LGSA CDS Impact Study 100812a	Issue 1	10 th August 2012

Author	Carmel Griffith
Checker	Mike Ritchie

This report has been prepared by Mike Ritchie and Associates for the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW in accordance with the terms and conditions of appointment.

Mike Ritchie & Associates (ABN: 58 428 736 838 143 273 812) cannot accept any responsibility for any use of or reliance on the contents of this report by any third party.

\

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Executive Summary

Commissioned by the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW, this paper explores the costs to NSW councils for kerbside recycling to investigate recent claims that councils would be worse off¹ under a container deposit scheme (CDS). The study finds that under a CDS:

- **Kerbside recycling would contain 17% less material.**
- **5% of the material in the remaining kerbside bin would be unreturned CDS material.**
- **Due to the value of the unredeemed deposits, MRF revenues would be 31% higher.**
- **Recycling is likely to result in a payment as opposed to a charge to councils at the MRF gate.**
- **Councils' overall recycling costs would be reduced by 19-47%.**
- **NSW councils could save \$23 to \$62 million annually on recycling costs.**
- **Councils across Australia could save \$69 to \$183 million annually.**

Material eligible to receive container deposits (eligible CDS material) comprises 21% of kerbside recyclables. Under a CDS and based on South Australia CDS return rates, 82% of NSW eligible CDS material generated *at home* would be diverted to depots, reducing kerbside recycling by 17%.

The remaining 18% of eligible CDS material would remain in the kerbside system, comprising 5% of the co-mingled recycling bin by weight.

The contribution of unredeemed deposits to the average commodity value (of sorted materials) is significant: increasing the value of sorted material from \$123/t to \$194/t.

The net impact on MRF total commodity value is an overall commodity value increase, or net gain, by 31%, (\$72/t).

MRF material revenues would be 31% higher under a CDS than they are today.

The extent to which these additional revenues earned by the MRFs are passed on to councils will be subject to negotiation at the time of contract renewal. It is assumed that a proportion, if not all, would be passed to councils through a gate fee reduction of which three scenarios are explored:

1. Councils receive 100% of net gain²
2. Councils receive 71% of net gain³
3. Councils receive 50% of net gain⁴.

Based on the current average MRF gate fee of \$40/t, Scenario 1 would involve a \$32/t payment to the councils on delivery of recyclables to the MRF, Scenario 2 an \$11/t payment, and under Scenario 3, councils would pay \$4/t instead of \$40/t.

Table 10-1 presents a possible range in reductions to MRF gate fees, based on the three gate fee reduction scenarios and taking into account regional variation in recycling characterisation and commodity prices.

¹ Media release, NPCIA (2012)

² Equivalent to 10 cent deposit plus 4 cent handling fee

³ Equivalent to 10 cent deposit

⁴ Equivalent to the 10 cent deposit plus 4 cent handling fee being split between the MRF and the council

Table 1-1 Possible annual reduction to MRF gate fee under a CDS

Gate fee reduction scenario	Gate fee reduction (\$/t)	New gate fee (current gate fee is \$40/t)
Councils receive 100% of net gain	\$72	Payment to councils of \$32/t
Councils receive 71% of net gain	\$51	Payment to councils of \$11/t
Councils receive 50% of net gain	\$36	Gate fee reduced to \$4/t

Table 10-2 presents the reduction to council recycling costs⁵ based on a recycling generation of 30,000 tpa, (approximately 103,000 households serviced by the MRF, equivalent to three average sized councils). Collection costs are assumed to remain constant.

Table 1-2 Possible annual reduction to overall council costs under a CDS (30,000 tpa MRF, 103,000 hh)

Gate fee reduction scenario	Saving, lower limit (\$m)	Saving, upper limit (\$m)
Councils receive 100% of net gain	\$1.6	\$2.3
Councils receive 71% of net gain	\$1.2	\$1.7
Councils receive 50% of net gain	\$0.8	\$1.3

For a 30,000 tpa MRF (103,000 households) CDS would reduce council recycling costs by between \$0.8 and \$2.3 million annually.

A CDS would reduce overall council recycling costs between 19% and 47%.

Approximately 94% of households in NSW and 92% of households in Australia have access to a kerbside recycling service. Calculated at an average saving to individual households of between \$12 and \$24 per year, Table 10-3 and Table 10-4 present possible savings across NSW and nationally.

Table 1-3 Possible annual reduction in recycling costs across NSW under a CDS

Gate fee reduction scenario	Saving, lower limit (\$m)	Saving, upper limit (\$m)
Councils receive 100% of net gain	\$41	\$62
Councils receive 71% of net gain	\$31	\$46
Councils receive 50% of net gain	\$23	\$36

Table 1-4 Possible annual reduction in recycling costs across Australia under a CDS

Gate fee reduction scenario	Saving, lower limit (\$m)	Saving, upper limit (\$m)
Councils receive 100% of net gain	\$122	\$183
Councils receive 71% of net gain	\$92	\$137
Councils receive 50% of net gain	\$69	\$107

Under a CDS, local government in NSW could save between \$23 and \$62 million per year and between \$69 and \$193 million across Australia.

These findings are contrary to recently raised concerns, following the release of the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement for public consultation, that local government would be worse off under a CDS. All indications show that both MRFs and councils would be better off under a CDS.

⁵ For collection and processing combined

COAG STANDING COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

COMMUNIQUÉ

24 August 2012

PACKAGING ON MINISTERS' AGENDA

Packaging was a priority for environment ministers in Canberra today, at the third meeting of the Standing Council on Environment and Water.

Ministers agreed to push ahead with work to find better ways to manage Australia's packaging waste, noting the strong response to the Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) released last December.

The hundreds of submissions from industry, environment groups, the community and local governments on the Consultation RIS showed strong support for further action to address the environmental impacts of packaging waste and litter.

Ministers agreed to develop a Decision RIS to undertake a more detailed analysis, including regional and other distributional impacts.

In response to consultation feedback, ministers agreed that in addition to the options considered in the Consultation RIS, including the options put forward by Boomerang Alliance and industry, three further options be included in the Decision RIS:

- an industry co-regulatory stewardship scheme focussing on beverage containers only;
- an approach similar to the Australian Packaging Covenant, with a substantial increase in industry funding for initiatives, and
- a container deposit model based on the South Australian system.

Ministers asked senior officials to consult with key stakeholders on the design elements of the additional options before they are modelled in the Decision RIS. The South Australian Minister acknowledged the importance of recognising other social and environmental factors that are more difficult to assess in economic terms.

Queensland noted that it does not oppose the progression of further national work or the development of a Decision RIS but will not be participating in or funding further work in this area as it has elected to work directly with the packaging industry.

Ministers thanked contributing stakeholders and assured them that the process would continue to be transparent and consultative.

10.10 COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CARBON PRICING MECHANISM

*OUR INFRASTRUCTURE – reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets
“maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate”*

11. *Explore new technologies in waste management and recycling to improve the utilisation of existing resources*

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the information clarifying a local council’s obligations under the carbon pricing mechanism in respect to landfill operations be received and noted.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of correspondence from Mr. Mark Dreyfuss QC MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, providing clarification on local council’s obligations under the carbon pricing mechanism in respect to landfill operations.

A copy of the correspondence is included as an attachment to this report. This letter is in response to claims made by the NSW Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Don Page MP in relation to the purchase of emissions units to meet their liabilities.

Conclusion

Council has been advised previously that as a general rule of thumb, councils that service a population of 20,000 or more will be liable for the tax if their landfill operations emit 25,000 tonnes, or more, of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-e) greenhouse gas emissions each year from waste deposited after 1 July 2012. Consequently, Bland Shire Council is not liable under the carbon pricing mechanism for emissions from its landfill operations as Council does not reach or exceed this limit.

Financial Implications

Nil



**Cabinet Secretary
Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
Parliamentary Secretary for Industry and Innovation**

14 September 2012

Dear Councillor

I am writing to you to clarify local council obligations under the carbon pricing mechanism.

Recent media reports have quoted the New South Wales (NSW) Minister for Local Government the Hon Don Page MP, suggesting that local councils that are liable under the carbon pricing mechanism for emissions from landfill facilities could breach state laws regarding certain types of investments if they purchase emissions units to meet their liabilities. These suggestions are wrong and it is unfortunate that a NSW Minister has sought to mislead councils and the public in this manner. I want to make sure that councils are fully informed about their legal position.

The Australian Government is confident that the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and related Ministerial Orders do not prevent NSW Councils from complying with the *Clean Energy Act 2011*. The restrictions outlined in the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* only apply to investment of money by local councils.

Carbon permits purchased from the Government at the fixed price will be automatically surrendered and cannot be traded or banked for future use.

During the flexible price period, commencing on 1 July 2015, liable entities will have several options for meeting their compliance obligations including purchasing carbon units at auction, purchasing international units or purchasing units generated under the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI).

If you have any questions about the carbon pricing mechanism and opportunities available through the CFI or other Government climate change measures, please contact Ms Jacqueline Roessgen on (02) 6159 7982 or via email at Jacqueline.Roessgen@climatechange.gov.au.

I look forward to working with you as the Government continues to implement our Clean Energy Future plan.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Dreyfus'.

MARK DREYFUS QC MP

10.11 HEALTH SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

- 1. Ensure health and support services and facilities to address the physical, mental and general health needs of the community*

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council support the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) in lobbying for the implementation of the 18 recommendations arising from the Senate Committee Report on factors affecting the supply of health services and medical professionals in rural areas.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) which is their response to the Senate Committee Report on factors affecting the supply of health services and medical professionals in rural areas.

There were 18 recommendations arising from the Senate Report and the NRHA is seeking support from all levels of government for the implementation of all 18 recommendations, which the NRHA claim have tremendous potential to improve health services and the distribution of health professionals in rural and remote areas.

A copy of the advice from the NRHA as well as a copy of the 18 Senate Report recommendations is included as an attachment to this report.

Conclusion

This council will be well aware of the need to improve the level of health services in rural areas and the 18 recommendations referred to above certainly align with Council’s Community Strategic Plan objectives in the area of health. This subject was also identified as a high priority by the Bland Shire community.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report.

[Show Header](#)

NRHA response to Senate report

From : National Rural Health Alliance 'nrha@ruralhealth.org.au'
To : z_records 'records@blandshire.nsw.gov.au';
Sent : 25 August 2012 17:19:38

 Potential Engagement with the NRHA.

25 August 2012

Dear Phil

NRHA Response to Senate report on the factors affecting the supply of health services and medical professionals in rural areas

The [Senate Committee report](#) on factors affecting the supply of health services and medical professionals in rural areas was published on Wednesday 22 August.

There has never before been a Parliamentary report of such central and wide-ranging importance to health services in Australia's rural and remote areas. Led by its Chair, Rachel Siewert, and its Deputy, Claire Moore, and with support from the Liberal and National Parties, the Committee has produced a set of 18 recommendations which have tremendous potential to improve health services and the distribution of health professionals in rural and remote areas.

The Committee received submissions from interested parties and held six public hearings. Those submissions and the [transcripts of the hearings](#) provide an unequalled collection of descriptions and analyses of the current state of rural health and workforce issues in Australia.

The NRHA has produced special [summary](#) and a [Media Release](#). It will be seeking acceptance by Governments and health institutions of both the substance and the spirit of all eighteen recommendations. Those of particular urgency and value include proposals for:

- HECS reimbursement for nursing and allied health;
- a leadership role for Rural and Regional Health Australia;
- a new classification system (in place of ASGC-RA on its own);
- more and better integrated support for International Medical Graduates (IMGs);
- greater equivalence of support across the professions;
- focusing on the role of institutions, including the universities and specialist Colleges;
- building on the potential of Medicare locals; and
- a National Rural Health Plan.

We commend these documents to you and will be grateful for your support for acceptance by government and implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Yours sincerely

Potential Engagement with the NRHA.

Gordon Gregory
Executive Director
National Rural Health Alliance



Senate Committees

Executive summary

Chapter 2: The distribution of medical, nursing and allied health professionals across Australia

The committee considered the distribution of medical, nursing and allied health professionals across the country. Over the last two decades there have been efforts to quantify the adequacy of the health workforce in Australia in order to ensure that policy is evidence-based and accurately reflects community requirements. The task of measuring the adequacy of the medical workforce is complex, requiring more than a national headcount.

The figures available present a picture of contrasts across the health workforce. Although statistics show that GPs and nurses are spread evenly across regions of differing remoteness on a per capita basis, we know access to this workforce is inconsistent. Medical specialist numbers plummet outside the major cities, to levels as low as one-sixth of those in the large capitals. Accessibility, particularly in remote areas, is an issue. Health care needs amongst populations may also vary, and the committee is aware of data showing higher disease burdens and poorer health outcomes in regional and remote areas for some conditions.

The committee accepts the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's view that the new national registration scheme is producing higher quality data for the numbers and types of medical and health practitioners. However the committee has heard repeatedly that there are data issues limiting the ability to analyse the factors affecting health service delivery in rural areas. The committee thinks that this is a key area of responsibility for the Department of Health and Ageing's Rural and Regional Health Australia.

Recommendation 1

The committee recommends that Rural and Regional Health Australia, as part of the Department of Health and Ageing, prioritise the collection of robust and meaningful data on rural health as part of the forthcoming review of rural health programs.

Recommendation 2

The committee recommends that Rural and Regional Health Australia, as part of the Department of Health and Ageing, review the current literature from key stakeholders and universities and develop a strategy to address the gaps in research and knowledge affecting rural health service delivery.

Health professionals can face both professional and personal barriers to entering and staying in rural locations. These barriers relate to factors including professional development, income, accommodation, and opportunities for spouses and children. Allied health professionals face additional challenges in delivering services to non-metropolitan populations. This is attributable to current Medicare and other funding arrangements, social barriers, access to appropriate, affordable and secure accommodation, and is exacerbated by lower remuneration than doctors. More effort needs to be expended in ensuring that appropriate policies are in place to promote the development and retention of multidisciplinary health teams in non-metropolitan areas.

Chapter 3: The nature of the medical profession in rural areas

The committee explored the nature of the health workforce in rural areas, specifically breaking down the types of medical practitioners working in those areas. It then examined the policy proposals of some of the specialist colleges that submitted to the inquiry.

The committee noted a growing trend towards medical specialisms and sub-specialisms. This is having a disproportionate impact on the supply of doctors in rural and regional areas. This is principally due to specialisation causing a reduction in generalist training pathways which has been cited as the area of medical practice most required in rural and regional areas.

The committee concluded that there needs to be a significant increase in rural generalist GPs. The committee is strongly supportive of the efforts of various stakeholders to increase the numbers of rural generalists in the

rural medical workforce through the development of rural generalist training pathways.

The committee is strongly supportive of the Queensland Health initiative to develop a program based on local needs. The evidence the committee has received has also endorsed the program as being successful in delivering increased access to healthcare in rural areas. The committee accepts that this program may not be suited to all areas of the country, as each jurisdiction faces distinctive challenges in terms of its dispersal of population and workforce arrangements. Each state and territory Government may wish to explore different pathways to provide increased access to health care tailored to local need.

The model adopted by the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress displays innovation necessitated by need. The emphasis on multidisciplinary teams allows professional development across the health specialties and appears to be successful in combating professional isolation. The collaboration between different education providers to provide health workers and training opportunities has also led to a steady flow of GPs, nurses and Allied Health Workers that appears to be sustainable, and the committee was impressed with the systems put in place by Congress to provide a blueprint for centrally managed healthcare in remote areas.

Recommendation 3

The committee recommends that the Commonwealth place on the agenda of the Council of Australian Governments' Standing Council on Health an item involving consideration of the expansion of rural generalist programs. It further recommends that, as part of that agenda item, the Council consider an evaluation of the Queensland Health Generalist Program and whether it should be rolled out in other jurisdictions.

Recommendation 4

The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government work with education providers and the medical profession to address the issue of the inadequate supply of rural placements for medical interns in their pre-vocational and vocational years.

Chapter 4: Attempts to address the rural medical skills deficit

The committee considered attempts that have been made over recent years to alleviate workforce pressures in rural areas. It looked at the many factors involved in the decision to work in a rural area, and how effective the various government and non-government measures have been in addressing these issues.

The committee is supportive of the efforts of the Commonwealth Government under the Rural Clinical Training and Support scheme. However, the committee does not believe that four weeks structured rural practice training is sufficient time to expose the student to the full gamut of experience available in rural Australia. The committee also heard of a number of instances where the local community had actively welcomed students and ensured that they had a positive feeling of engagement and connectedness with the area. The committee does not think that four weeks is long enough to foster that level of input from the community.

Evidence received by the committee shows a large disparity between the support provided for allied health professionals and that provided for doctors to work in non-metropolitan areas. The committee considers that this situation neither promotes access to quality healthcare in rural areas, nor does it take into account the requirements of team-based patient care.

Most of the existing support mechanisms available for medical specialists should also be available to allied health professionals and nurses. In particular the committee strongly supports the introduction of a HECS reimbursement scheme for nurses and allied health professionals for reasons of equity and incentive.

Recommendation 5

The committee recommends that the HECS Reimbursement Scheme available for doctors be extended to nurses and allied health professionals relocating to rural and remote areas as soon as possible.

Given the extensive range of government programs and measures to address different aspects of rural health, it would be beneficial if there was an office located within DoHA, similar to the Chief Nurse and Midwife, that would provide a strong voice within government on all issues relating to Australia's rural health workforce.

Recommendation 6

The committee recommends that the post of Rural and Regional Allied Health Adviser be established within Rural and Regional Health Australia to coordinate and advise on allied health service provision in rural and regional Australia.

The committee considers the expansion of eHealth and telemedicine to be an opportunity to supplement health care delivery across Australia, with particular relevance to rural and remote areas. It should not be considered as a replacement for personally delivered primary health. It has the potential to improve training, access to specialist advice and professional development and will be key in future health care delivery. However it will need to be coordinated with current management systems and agencies such as Medicare to ensure that remuneration as appropriate is delivered, and its potential is realised.

In some cases communities lack the population and infrastructure to support specialised practices, and the existing workforce in non-metropolitan areas is frequently overworked. One way to try and overcome this is by broadening the scope of skills and competencies of the existing workforce, particularly through the nurse practitioner model. The committee recognises that any reallocation of professional responsibilities will be contentious, and may encounter strong opposition from some groups. However, the committee did not receive any evidence against equipping the existing workforce to as high a level as possible. Furthermore, it is aware of evaluations showing that professionals and patients have been supportive of such initiatives.

The government is spending a significant amount of money to try and ensure adequate health services in regional Australia. The evidence provided to the committee during the course of this inquiry has highlighted deficiencies in the development and evaluation of these programs. There is an urgent and fundamental need to better understand what programs have been effective and therefore where energy and resources need to be applied.

New programs should include an evaluation strategy that will allow both assessment of the programs' impact and the creation of information needed to compare cost effectiveness with other initiatives. The government should be prepared to redirect funds from less cost effective programs to the more effective ones, but at present it appears difficult to establish which initiatives offer the best value for money for meeting the needs of regional healthcare patients.

The committee acknowledges the excellent work of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing, in its report *Lost in the Labyrinth: Report on the inquiry into registration processes and support for overseas trained doctors*, tabled in March 2012. This committee endorses the recommendations made as part of that inquiry. This committee draws particular attention to the House committee chair's comments that:

it is clear that whilst [International Medical Graduates] IMGs generally have very strong community support, they do not always receive the same level of support from the institutions and agencies that accredit and register them...

[There were] a significant proportion of witnesses describing a system lacking in efficiency and accountability, and importantly, one in which IMGs themselves often had little confidence. Many IMGs also felt that they had been the subject of discrimination, and anti-competitive practices and that this had in some cases adversely affected their success in registering for medical practice in their chosen speciality.

This committee wishes to put on the record its recognition of the work that overseas trained doctors are performing, particularly in regional Australia.

Recommendation 7

This committee endorses the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing's report *Lost in the Labyrinth: Report on the inquiry into registration processes and support for overseas trained doctors* and recommends that the Commonwealth Government accept and implement the recommendations contained therein.

Chapter 5: Australian Standard Geographical Classification for Remoteness Areas

The Department of Health and Ageing provides incentive payments to doctors based on the geographic area they work in. The greater the relative remoteness of that area, the greater incentive payment they will receive. The committee considered how incentive payments are determined and paid to doctors working outside metropolitan areas. The current scheme (which is presently under revision) is known as the ASGC-RA.

There will never be a perfect model that does not result in some anomalies as a result of the methodology used. However, evidence provided to the committee during its inquiry did not support the use of the ASGC-RA scheme in its current form as the sole determinant of classifying areas for workforce incentive purposes. Even the evidence in general support of the scheme was heavily conditional on it being augmented with further datasets to provide a more accurate representation of workforce conditions across the country. The committee was impressed with the comprehensive nature of the model developed by Professor Humphreys and his colleagues, and the merging of geographical, population and professional and non-professional indicators

certainly seems to provide a more accurate picture of the rural workforce.

The committee is supportive of the methodology and data utilised by Professor Humphreys and his colleagues and would like to see this incorporated into a new scheme.

Recommendation 8

The committee recommends that the classification systems currently used for workforce incentives purposes be replaced with a scheme that takes account of regularly updated geographical, population, workforce, professional and social data to classify areas where recruitment and retention incentives are required.

Recommendation 9

The committee recommends that the revised workforce incentive scheme include a comprehensive, public evaluation process.

Chapter 6: The role of universities and medical schools

The committee considered the role of the universities and medical schools in providing educational pathways for the rural health workforce. It discussed the current issues facing the sector and some possible remedies.

The number of medical students in Australia has risen significantly in recent years with domestic student numbers at Australian universities rising to 12 946 in 2010 from 8768 in 2006. It is not possible to say how many students will go on to become doctors in rural areas. However there has been a gradual increase in the number of rural clinical schools across the country and the majority of these are in receipt of government funding through the 'Rural Clinical School' (RCS) program. There is also a scheme, under the Rural Undergraduate Support and Coordination Program, that specifies a target of 25 per cent of Commonwealth Supported medical students who must be from a rural background.

Evidence suggests that while the rural intake target should be met and enforced, it is only one element of a complex problem, and by itself holds no promise of an increase in the rate of graduates practicing in rural areas. However the committee heard evidence that suggests that regional universities are more likely to meet the target and consequently provide more graduates that will practise in rural areas. The committee supports meaningful sanctions for those institutions that do not meet the current target, and although it understands that this is now a mandatory target with funding conditions attached, it would like those sanctions to be in the public arena, and would also like evidence of those sanctions being applied where appropriate. The committee also considers that the definition of a rural student for the purposes of a quota needs to be reviewed.

Recommendation 10

The committee recommends the publication of those cases where universities do not meet the target of 25 per cent of medical students from a rural background, and subsequent publication of information about the sanctions that are applied in those cases.

Recommendation 11

The committee recommends that the commonwealth government explore options to provide incentives to encourage medical students to study at regional universities offering an undergraduate medical course.

Recommendation 12

The committee recommends that the definition of a rural student for the purposes of a quota be reviewed, and that the review should consider strengthening the definition to only include students who have spent four out of six years at secondary school in a rural area; four out of the last six years with their home address in a rural area; or city students showing 'ruralmindedness', defined as an orientation to work in rural and regional areas, and demonstrated by a willingness to be bonded.

The committee was impressed by the success of James Cook University and the model proposed by Charles Sturt University for a new rural medical school. The provision of a full scale medical school based in regional Australia would have a significant impact on the numbers of doctors, nurses, allied health and other essential health professionals that would come from rural areas and would therefore be likely to remain in those areas after they complete their training. However the committee is also mindful that the current pressing issue is not the student numbers but the capacity in the system to adequately train those students all the way along a pathway from student to health professional who will work in rural areas.

The committee received evidence about affirmative action programs being administered by Queensland Health,

James Cook University and Queensland University, which the committee strongly support. The introduction of options for underprivileged young people to enter a career in health and the provision of appropriate support throughout their training is highly commendable. The committee urges other regional and rural institutions and appropriate education providers to examine ways that can increase the opportunities of young people in the health field, with the added benefit of increasing the likelihood of retaining a health workforce if they are sourced locally.

Effective translation of medical students into rural and regional practice requires appropriate support at all stages in the training and placement process. There do not appear to be adequate systems that will support the internships, rotations, or mentoring of the expanding number of medical students. The situation will need to be improved in regional areas if the current drive to expand the number of students is going to translate into actual health professionals working on the ground.

The committee is looking forward to the department's forthcoming review of rural health and would like to see a full exploration of ways in which blockages in the system such as the shortage of rural clinical placements can be addressed.

Recommendation 13

The committee recommends that the Commonwealth, state and territory governments review their incentives for rural GPs with the aim of ensuring that rural GPs who provide training to pre-vocational and vocational students are not financially disadvantaged.

Recommendation 14

The committee recommends the Commonwealth government consider the establishment of a sub-program within the National Rural Locum Program that would provide support for rural GPs to employ locums specifically to enable the GP to deliver training to pre-vocational and vocational medical students in rural areas.

The committee considered the accommodation issues associated with placement programs, rotations and training. It acknowledges that a placement program can only work effectively if students have somewhere to live while undertaking it. The committee notes that existing programs and stakeholders are seeking to address this issue. It is imperative that adequate policies and programs are established to manage the increasing demand.

The specific issue of housing for Aboriginal Health Workers needs to be addressed. The committee is aware of the difficulties this causes in Aboriginal communities, both for staff working in remote communities and for attracting staff to those communities. The committee urges the Commonwealth government and the state and territory governments to work together to address this need.

Recommendation 15

The committee recommends that a coordinated accommodation strategy for be developed for rural health workers, including Aboriginal Health Workers, in the government's forthcoming review of rural health programs.

Chapter 7: Medicare Locals

The committee examined evidence about the transition to Medicare Locals. Like the majority of submitters to this inquiry, the committee is of the view that the newness of the Medicare Local program makes it impossible to adequately assess its effectiveness at this time.

To be successful the program will require careful and intensive management to ensure that all the key stakeholders are adequately considered and consulted. Greater effort needs to be expended to ensure that the necessary information is available for interested stakeholders. However the committee shares the cautious optimism of the potential for Medicare Locals to fill the gaps between local hospital networks, and GP community care provision.

In the committee's view the needs assessment element of the Medicare Local program is the singularly most important aspect of their work as it will provide the strategic overview that has been missing to date. The timely dissemination of the results of the needs assessments can ensure the constructive input of many of the key stakeholders. The uncertainty over the provision of after-hours service provision is an area that requires evidence based decision making as quickly as possible to dispel the fear and anxiety that has been expressed over the status of existing services. In the medium to long term the regular dissemination of the monitoring and evaluation of the programs nationwide will also ensure that best practice is shared and replicated across the country.

Recommendation 16

The committee recommends that Medicare Locals Needs Assessment Reports are made public and a process of engagement and consultation is undertaken.

Recommendation 17

The committee recommends that where existing after hours services are operating effectively there should be no disruption to their administration or funding.

A range of evidence was put before the committee identifying potential gaps or overlaps between current policies and programs. These can include a mismatch that sometimes occurs between Commonwealth and state or territory health policy and resourcing. The committee is of the view that this particular barrier should be addressed at a national level rather than locally. The Needs Assessment Reports prepared by Medicare Locals will be a valuable resource from which to identify potential inter-jurisdictional issues.

Recommendation 18

The committee recommends that the Department of Health and Ageing prepare a brief for COAG's Standing Council on Health on existing or emerging gaps affecting the delivery of health services to rural and remote communities caused by mis-alignment between Commonwealth and state policy, including options for measures to remediate such gaps. The brief is to be based on engagement with relevant stakeholders, including state and territory governments, Medicare Locals, representatives of peak bodies such as RDAA, SARRAH and NRHA at both national and state level, and to be provided on at least a bi-annual basis.

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Senate Committees

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

2.53 The committee recommends that Rural and Regional Health Australia, as part of the Department of Health and Ageing, prioritise the collection of robust and meaningful data on rural health as part of the forthcoming review of rural health programs.

Recommendation 2

2.54 The committee recommends that Rural and Regional Health Australia, as part of the Department of Health and Ageing, review the current literature from key stakeholders and universities and develop a strategy to address the gaps in research and knowledge affecting rural health service delivery.

Recommendation 3

3.52 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth place on the agenda of the Council of Australian Governments' Standing Council on Health an item involving consideration of the expansion of rural generalist programs. It further recommends that, as part of that agenda item, the Council consider an evaluation of the Queensland Health Generalist Program and whether it should be rolled out in other jurisdictions.

Recommendation 4

3.53 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government work with education providers and the medical profession to address the issue of the inadequate supply of rural placements for medical interns in their pre-vocational and vocational years.

Recommendation 5

4.52 The committee recommends that the HECS Reimbursement Scheme available for doctors be extended to nurses and allied health professionals relocating to rural and remote areas.

Recommendation 6

4.53 The committee recommends that the post of Rural and Regional Allied Health Adviser be established within Rural and Regional Health Australia to coordinate and advise on allied health service provision in rural and regional Australia.

Recommendation 7

4.94 The committee endorses the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing's report *Lost in the Labyrinth: Report on the inquiry into registration processes and support for overseas trained doctors* and recommends that the Commonwealth Government accept and implement the recommendations contained therein.

Recommendation 8

5.67 The committee recommends that the classification systems currently used for workforce incentives purposes be replaced with a scheme that takes account of regularly updated geographical, population, workforce, professional and social data to classify areas where recruitment and retention incentives are required.

Recommendation 9

5.68 The committee recommends that the revised workforce incentive scheme include a comprehensive, public evaluation process.

Recommendation 10

6.23 The committee recommends the publication of those cases where universities do not meet the target of 25 per cent of medical students from a rural background, and subsequent publication of information about the sanctions that are applied in those cases.

Recommendation 11

6.24 The committee recommends that the commonwealth government explore options to provide incentives to encourage medical students to study at regional universities offering an undergraduate medical course.

Recommendation 12

6.25 The committee recommends that the definition of a rural student for the purposes of a quota be reviewed, and that the review should consider strengthening the definition to only include students who have spent four out of six years at secondary school in a rural area; four out of the last six years with their home address in a rural area; or city students showing 'ruralmindedness', defined as an orientation to work in rural and regional areas, and demonstrated by a willingness to be bonded.

Recommendation 13

6.62 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth, state and territory governments review their incentives for rural GPs with the aim of ensuring that rural GPs who provide training to pre-vocational and vocational students are not financially disadvantaged.

Recommendation 14

6.63 The committee recommends the Commonwealth government consider the establishment of a sub-program within the National Rural Locum Program that would provide support for rural GPs to employ locums specifically to enable the GP to deliver training to pre-vocational and vocational medical students in rural areas.

Recommendation 15

6.76 The committee recommends that a coordinated accommodation strategy for be developed for rural health workers, including Aboriginal Health Workers, in the government's forthcoming review of rural health programs.

Recommendation 16

7.41 The committee recommends that where existing after hours services are operating effectively there should be no disruption to their administration or funding.

Recommendation 17

7.43 The committee recommends that Medicare Locals Needs Assessment Reports are made public and a process of engagement and consultation is undertaken.

Recommendation 18

7.46 The committee recommends that the Department of Health and Ageing prepare a brief for COAG's Standing Council on Health on existing or emerging gaps affecting the delivery of health services to rural and remote communities caused by mis-alignment between Commonwealth and state policy, including options for measures to remediate such gaps. The brief is to be based on engagement with relevant stakeholders, including state and territory governments, Medicare Locals, representatives of peak bodies such as RDAA, SARRAH and NRHA at both national and state level, and to be provided on at least a bi-annual basis.

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**10.12 GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – MINUTES 23 AUGUST
2012**

OUR PROSPERITY – ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future “growing our population and jobs”

23. Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the Council receives and notes the minutes of the Goldenfields Water County Council meeting held on 23rd August 2012.

Introduction

As a member council of the Goldenfields Water County Council minutes of their meetings will be provided to Councillors for information.

Conclusion

A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd August 2012 are provided for information.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

MINUTES of the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held in the TEMORA office on 23 AUGUST 2012

The meeting commenced at 1:00 pm.

PRESENT

Cr P Speirs (Chair), Cr J Macaulay, Cr C Manchester, Cr J McGregor, Cr J O'Brien and Cr Palmer.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A Grant (General Manager), Mr T McClellan (Manager Administration), Mr R Barrett (Acting Manager Technology), Mr C Perry (Manager Distribution & Construction) and Mrs L Breust (Acting Executive Assistant).

1. APOLOGIES

At the June 2012 meeting Cr Mangelsdorf sought and was granted leave of absence for this meeting (minute 12/067).

An apology for non-attendance was received from Cr Morris.

12/074 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that leave of absence be granted to Cr Mangelsdorf and Cr Morris.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No interests were declared at this time.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2012

12/075 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and McGregor that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2012 having been circulated and read by members, be confirmed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No business arising from the minutes was raised.

5. PUBLIC ACCESS

No requests for public access were received.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS

No notices of motion or rescission motions were received.

7. ADMISSION OF LATE REPORTS

12/076 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Palmer that Council consider the Late Report Cowangs Reservoir to Bauloora Reservoir Pipeline Replacement Project which the Chairperson ruled to be urgent.

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8. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE

The Chairman did not submit a Chairperson's Minute to the meeting.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

9.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS

9.1.1 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS (G35507005)

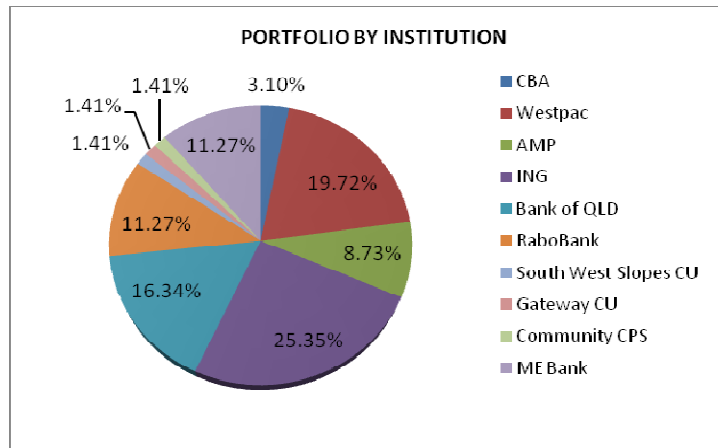
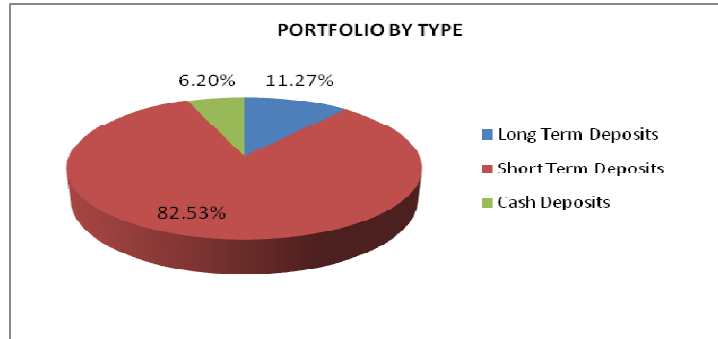
12/077 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the report detailing Council Investments as at 31 July 2012 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented for information on Council Investments in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The following details Council Investments as at 31 July 2012:

	Market Value (\$)	Term (days)	Rate	Maturity Date	% of Portfolio
Long Term Deposits	2,000,000.00				11.27%
Westpac Coupon Select Deposit (5yr)	2,000,000.00	3m BBSW+1.3%	5.39%	27/10/15	11.27%
Short Term Deposits (<1 yr)	14,650,000.00				82.53%
Gateway CU	250,000.00	98	5.73%	7/08/12	1.41%
AMP Bank	1,000,000.00	187	6.00%	7/08/12	5.63%
Community CPS	250,000.00	96	5.71%	7/08/12	1.41%
Bank of Queensland	900,000.00	125	5.75%	3/09/12	5.07%
Members Equity Bank	800,000.00	98	5.31%	3/09/12	4.51%
South West Slopes CU	250,000.00	97	5.25%	17/09/12	1.41%
RaboBank Australia	1,000,000.00	185	5.85%	15/10/12	5.63%
Members Equity Bank	1,200,000.00	94	5.13%	15/10/12	6.76%
ING Bank (Australia) Limited	1,500,000.00	209	5.91%	29/10/12	8.45%
Bank of Queensland	1,000,000.00	153	5.25%	12/11/12	5.63%
Bank of Queensland	1,000,000.00	126	5.15%	26/11/12	5.63%
ING Bank (Australia) Limited	2,000,000.00	284	5.86%	21/01/13	11.27%
Westpac Banking Corporation	1,500,000.00	215	5.00%	21/01/13	8.45%
ING Bank (Australia) Limited	1,000,000.00	189	5.13%	4/02/13	5.63%
RaboBank Australia	1,000,000.00	365	5.80%	9/05/13	5.63%
Cash Deposits	1,100,088.84				6.20%
Commonwealth Bank At Call A/c	200,000.00	At Call	3.45%	N/A	1.13%
AMP Bank At Call A/c	550,000.00	At Call	4.35%	N/A	3.10%
CBA Premium Business A/c	350,088.84	At Call	Various	N/A	1.97%
	17,750,088.84				100.00%

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Movements within Bank account for the reporting period (\$)

Cash Book balance as at 31 May 2012	90,112.70
Plus Deposits	
June	2,746,654.25
July	6,516,449.18
Less Payments	
June	2,778,898.12
July	6,205,003.87
Cash Book balance as at 31 July 2012	369,314.14
Less Outstanding Deposits	32,622.05
Plus Unpresented Cheques	13,396.75
Bank balance as at 31 July 2012	350,088.84

It is hereby certified that the above investments have been secured in accordance with:

- Local Government Act, 1993;
- Local Government (General) Regulation, 2005;
- Investment Order - dated 12 January 2011; and
- Council's Investment Policy (adopted 28/4/2011).

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

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9.1.2 OUTSTANDING WATER DEBTORS (G35307005)

12/078 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and O'Brien that the report detailing Council's outstanding water debtors as at 31 July 2012 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented for information on Council's outstanding water debtors as at 31 July 2012:

\$'s	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	45,820.01	7,628.13	106,306.05	159,754.19
Consumption Charges	106,350.95	26,206.55	257,856.19	390,413.69
Deferred Headworks	46,400.00	58.89	200,551.00	247,009.89
Sub-Totals	198,570.96	33,893.57	564,713.24	797,177.77
Less Overpayments Received				-142,349.16
Total Outstanding				654,828.61
Less Bulk Council Accounts Outstanding				0.00
Less Headworks Accounts Outstanding				-247,009.89
Total Outstanding from Retail Customers				407,818.72

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.1.3 CARRY OVER OF INCOMPLETED WORKS (G35201005)

12/079 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Manchester that

- The following items be carried-over into the 2012/13 capital works program, with funding via the Infrastructure Replacement Reserve (internal restriction):

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>(\$)</u>
Mt Daylight - New Reservoir Inlet	15,000
Radio Facilities - Rosemont Radio Site	10,000
Depot Upgrade - Cootamundra	20,000
Temora Office (records storage budget)	17,000
Reservoir Rehabilitation - Barellan	250,000
Pump Station Jugiong - Major Upgrade	1,025,000
Filtration Plant Jugiong - Replace Control System	285,000
Mains Replacement - Oura Pumping Station	18,000
Total	1,640,000

- That the Temora Office alterations be approved (\$17,000) plus an additional vote of \$3,000 also funded from the Infrastructure Reserve; and

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3. That the \$30,000 budgeted for Reservoir Cathodic Protection be carried-over into the 2012/13 non-recurrent maintenance works program.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

In order to carryover incompleted works at 30 June into the new financial year, it is necessary for Council revoke the unexpended portion of those votes. In some cases the budgets were adjusted at the March QBR to better reflect expected expenditure to 30 June, with the remainder already included in the 2012/13 capital works program.

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Approx. Funds Req'd (\$)</u>
Mt Daylight - New Reservoir Inlet	15,000
Radio Facilities - Rosemont Radio Site	10,000
Depot Upgrade - Cootamundra	20,000
Temora Office (records storage budget)	17,000
Reservoir Rehabilitation - Barellan	250,000
Pump Station Jugiong - Major Upgrade	1,025,000
Filtration Plant Jugiong - Replace Control System	285,000
Mains Replacement - Oura Pumping Station	18,000
Total	1,640,000

These capital works are to be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve (internal restriction) and will be reflected in the September quarterly budget review. They are also now included in the updated *Capital Works Progress Report* listed elsewhere in this business paper.

The records storage expenditure has come in under budget as a more cost effective option was implemented. The \$17,000 carry-over is ear-marked to fund alterations to the front counter area of the Temora office to make it more secure for staff. The contractor originally engaged to build the office has been approached for some construction suggestions and quotes. At the time of this report a quote has not been received. An additional vote may be required when detailed estimates are known.

There is also a non-recurrent maintenance item that is requested to be carried-over. \$30,000 was allocated to Reservoir Cathodic Protection. This money was allocated to provide cathodic protection to the Coolamon Reservoir and arrangements for the works required have commenced.

Recommendation

1. That the following items be carried-over into the 2012/13 capital works program, with funding via the Infrastructure Reserve (internal restriction):

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>(\$)</u>
Mt Daylight - New Reservoir Inlet	15,000
Radio Facilities - Rosemont Radio Site	10,000
Depot Upgrade - Cootamundra	20,000
Temora Office	17,000
Reservoir Rehabilitation - Barellan	250,000
Pump Station - Jugiong Major Upgrade	1,025,000
Filtration Plant Jugiong - Replace Control System	285,000
Mains Replacement - Oura Pumping Station	18,000

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Total 1,640,000

2. That the Temora office alterations be approved subject to reasonable estimates being obtained; and
3. That the \$30,000 budgeted for Reservoir Cathodic Protection be carried-over into the 2012/13 non-recurrent maintenance works program.

9.1.4 2011/12 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (G35401005)

12/080 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien that

1. The Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 (including movements in restricted assets) be formally adopted, as presented, for referral to Council's Auditor;
2. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to sign the Statements by Councillors and Management on the preparation of the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2012;
3. The General Manager be delegated the authority to issue the audited Financial Statements immediately upon receipt of the auditors reports subject to their being no material audit changes or audit issues; and
4. Council present the final audited Financial Statements and Auditors Reports to the public at a public meeting to be held in conjunction with its ordinary meeting in October.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Council's draft Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 have been prepared with Council's auditors actually completing their onsite audit on 31 July and 1 August.

Under section 413 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to refer its draft Financial Statements for audit. The Auditor's Report will be made available to Council after it has formally resolved the referral.

It is envisaged that Council will present its Financial Statements to the public in conjunction with its ordinary October meeting.

The primary statements of the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements (statements subject to audit) are attached (Attachment 9.1.4.A). Councillors will be supplied with a complete set of reports, including the Auditor's Reports, for the public meeting.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

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9.1.5 WATER DEBTOR WRITE OFFS (75172 & 72605)

12/081 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that

1. Council write-off \$305.04 (186kl) from water account 75172, being half the difference between the excess bill and normal consumption for lost water beyond the customer's reasonable control; and
2. \$4,805.07 be written off water account 72605 following the sale of land for overdue rates and charges.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

75172

A request has been received for account relief from a rural customer following severe flooding along Kockibitoo Road, Ganmain. In similar circumstances to a report that came to Council last meeting, it is claimed that floodwaters washed away a length of their private pipeline from the water meter. As floodwaters disguised the service break, subsequent water losses went undetected.

72605

Water to this customer was permanently disconnected in January 2001 for non-payment. Outstanding charges, including Interest, totalled \$7,072.10.

The property was recently included in a sale of land for overdue rates and charges by Narrandera Shire Council.

Narrandera Shire Council has since advised that Council's share of the proceeds from the sale were \$2,267.03. As the debt is taken to be fully satisfied under s719(b) of the Local Government Act 1993, the remaining amount outstanding is required to be written off.

Recommendations

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2 WORKS REPORTS

9.2.1 JUNE/JULY 2012 (G95507005)

12/082 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester & O'Brien that the Works Report for June and July be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Distribution & Construction

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Water Losses & Mains Repairs

NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
304.	1/6	-	-	Junee, Junction Street	-	-	-	Other
305.	1/6	-	-	Weethalle, Kolkilbertoo Road	100	-	10	Split Pipe
306.	4/6	-	-	Ganmain, Dulah Road	100	-	-	Split Pipe
307.	4/6	-	-	Ungarie, Ungarie Condobolin Road	150	-	2	Joint Failure
308.	4/6	-	-	West Wyalong, Ungarie Condobolin Road	150	-	2	Joint Failure
309.	6/6	-	-	Ariah Park, Wellman Street	90	-	2	Split Pipe
310.	7/6	-	-	Naradhan, Bootoowa Road	150	-	5	Other
311.	8/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Split Pipe
312.	8/6	-	-	Marrar, Strathmore Lane	80	-	50	Split Pipe
313.	10/6	-	-	Junee, Aerodrome Lane	200	-	30	Split Pipe
314.	11/6	-	-	Eurongilly, Dollar Vale Road	80	-	20	Split Pipe
315.	12/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Pinchgut Lane	80	-	5	Split Pipe
316.	13/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Old Cootamundra Road	100	-	2	Split Pipe
317.	15/6	-	-	Junee, Roedigers Lane	200	-	5	Hole In Pipe
318.	18/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Split Pipe
319.	18/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Split Pipe
320.	18/6	-	-	Coolamon, Lonsdales Lane	200	1	50	Other
321.	19/6	-	-	Coolamon, Coolamon Ardlethan Road	100	-	10	Split Pipe
322.	19/6	-	-	Barellan, Garoolgan Merribee Road	100	-	2	Other
323.	19/6	-	-	Barellan, Dan Curtis Lane	100	-	2	Split Pipe
324.	20/6	-	-	Coolamon, Reg Hancocks Lane	80	-	1	Hole In Pipe
325.	22/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Split Pipe
326.	22/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Split Pipe
327.	29/6	9.30	3.00	Wyalong, Slee Street	150	-	150	Split Pipe
328.	29/6	-	-	Cootamundra, Blackgate Road	100	-	2	Hole In Pipe
1.	3/7	-	-	Temora, Burley Griffin Way	375	-	2	Other
2.	3/7	-	-	Marrar, Bussenschutts Lane	50	-	50	Split Pipe
3.	4/7	9.30	12.00	Coolamon, Marrarvale Road	80	8	100	Split Pipe
4.	5/7	-	-	Matong, Pine Street	100	-	-	Other
5.	6/7	-	-	Junee, Park Lane	20	1	1	Joint Failure

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NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
6.	6/7	10.00	12.00	Coolamon, Lonsdales Lane	200	2	-	Other
7.	7/7	-	-	Cootamundra, Dirnaseer Road	100	-	80	Split Pipe
8.	16/7	11.00	2.30	Marrar, Coffin Rock Lane	100	-	20	Split Pipe
9.	18/7	-	-	Ardlethan, Bygoo Road	80	12	20	Split Pipe
10.	19/7	11.00	4.00	Barellan, Mulga Street	100	-	50	Joint Failure
11.	20/7	10.00	11.30	Temora, Golders Lane	100	-	50	Joint Failure
12.	20/7	11.00	4.30	Binya, Burley Griffin Way	100	-	25	Joint Failure
13.	20/7	-	-	Coolamon, Gibbons Lane	100	6	25	Split Pipe
14.	20/7	-	-	Cootamundra, Pinchgut Lane	100	-	2	Split Pipe
15.	20/7	-	-	Cootamundra, Dirnaseer Road	100	-	2	Split Pipe
16.	21/7	-	-	Ariah Park, Coolamon Road	100	-	25	Split Pipe
17.	22/7	-	-	Ariah Park, Coolamon Road	100	6	25	Split Pipe
18.	25/7	-	-	Junee, Crudens Lane	80	-	50	Split Pipe
19.	27/7	-	-	Junee, Wyoming Lane	150	-	-	Split Pipe
20.	30/7	-	-	Cootamundra, Olympic Hwy	100	-	2	Hole In Pipe
21.	30/7	-	-	Eurongilly, Kamerooka Lane	32	3	10	Joint Failure

Complaints

Water Quality

Dirty Water

20/06/2012 43 Thanowring Road Temora
 13/07/2012 137 Polaris Street Temora
 23/07/2012 7 Roberts Street Junee
 23/07/2012 2 Harold Street Junee
 30/07/2012 76 Gundagai Road Junee

Other Problems:

Nil.

A total of 63 service difficulty and fault reports were received for June/July.

Construction & Major Maintenance

The following significant works were undertaken in June/July 2012:-

- Serviced ACV's and PRV's across the scheme.
- Serviced, inspected and repaired vehicles, small plant and power tools.

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- Replace 250mm Reflux Valve at Oura No6 Bore.
- Overhauled Wyalong No1 pump and motor.
- Fabricate new shelves for IT store.
- Fabricate and install 9 pipe supports for new pipe work at Demondrille & Cootamundra Pump Station.
- Repair and modify tool boxes on fitters utes.
- Fabricate 350mm Y piece for Oura Bores.
- Constructed key box for Wyalong Standpipe.
- Fabricated gantry for removing access hatch on Junee Balance Tank.
- Constructed electrical mains pole for Bauloora Reservoir.
- Routine maintenance on No1 pump at Oura Pump Station & No1 pump at Ariaiah Park.
- Re-install Ariaiah Park No1 pump after being serviced.
- Repaired Hylands Bridge No1 foot valve.
- Test Ariaiah Park/Tara pump.
- Put Matong Bores back into service after overhaul completed.
- Maintenance of bearings, lip seals and mechanical seals on Tara Pump Station, Jugiong Treatment Plant and Weethalle Pump Station.
- Cleaned Brobenah, Binya, Garoolgan, Bectric and Tenandra Reservoirs.
- Flushed trunk mains from Hylands Bridge Pump Station to Barellan PRV pit. Also flushed from Y piece to Binya.
- Organised scrap steel located at Bauloora Reservoir ready for sale.
- Completed Demondrille Pump Station upgrade.
- Renewed air valves between Demondrille Pump Station and Wombat Hill Reservoir.
- Conducted routine cleaning of Brawlin, Frampton and Dirnaseer Reservoirs.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.2.2 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT (G35201005)

12/083 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Manchester that the report detailing the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 31 July 2012 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

This report is presented for information on the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 31 July 2012:

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Description	Location	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Program Estimate (\$)	Total Expend to Date (\$)	Comment
New System Assets						
Site Acquisition / Construct Radio Facilities	Rosemont Radio Site	1/7/2011	30/6/2012	10,000	0	Completed - awaiting invoice from NSWFB
Site / Easement Acquisition	\$20k opportunistic budget per year	1/7/2012	30/6/2016	20,000	0	On-going
Security Fence	Cowangs Reservoir	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	25,000	0	Not yet commenced
Mains Extension	\$50k opportunistic budget per year	1/7/2012	30/6/2016	30,000	N/A	\$30k to be allocated in 2012/13
Mains Extension	Loftus St Temora	1/7/2011	30/11/2012	20,000	4,102	In progress
Additional Storage	June	1/7/2011	30/6/2013	3,500,000	1,500	Cost revised up from \$3m to \$3.5m (Originally \$6m)
New Inlet Arrangements	Mt Daylight	1/7/2011	30/11/2012	15,000	0	In progress - temp arrangement currently being trialled
Renewals						
Bore Construction	Oura Bores	1/7/2010	30/6/2013	300,000	0	In progress
Depot Upgrade	Cootamundra Depot	1/7/2010	31/10/2012	272,311	221,879	Final seal delayed until after winter (\$32k)
Office	Temora Office Records Storage	1/11/2011	31/7/2012	30,000	13,665	Completed
Major Upgrade	Jugiong No.1 Pump Station	1/7/2009	30/6/2013	2,130,000	595,865	HV upgrade in progress.
Regrade & Seal Road	Jugiong Treatment Plant	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	42,000	0	Not yet commenced
Pump Access - Slab Support	Jugiong Treatment Plant	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	20,000	0	Not yet commenced
Pump Access - Sheet Piling	Jugiong Treatment Plant	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	60,000	0	Not yet commenced
Replace Control System	Jugiong Filtration Plant	2/4/2010	30/6/2013	500,000	214,242	In progress
Standpipe Relocation	Wyalong	1/11/2011	30/6/2012	10,000	9,028	Completed
Mains Replacement	Weethalle towards Barellan	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	175,000	0	Not yet commenced

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Mains Replacement	Harefield Rd Junee	1/6/2012	30/6/2013	45,000	14,580	In progress
Mains Replacement	Coursing Park	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	140,000	0	Not yet commenced
Mains Replacement	Junee Gaol	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	35,000	0	Not yet commenced
Mains Replacement	Strathmores to McKenzies Ln	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	50,000	0	Not yet commenced
Mains Replacement	Eurongilly	1/6/2012	30/6/2012	8,000	6,879	Completed
Mains Replacement	Pattersons Ln	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	27,000	0	Not yet commenced
Mains Replacement	Oura Pump Stn	1/7/2011	31/8/2012	20,000	2,612	In progress
Mains Replacement	Demondrille PS Pipework	16/5/2011	31/8/2012	150,000	168,414	In progress
Mains Replacement	Ardlethan, Area St (210m)	1/5/2012	31/8/2012	40,000	31,682	Completed
Mains Replace (incl inlet/outlet works, service cut-ins)	Cowangs to Bauloora	1/4/2010	30/9/2012	17,915,320	17,794,085	Completed - Some minor expenses still outstanding
Reservoirs Painting	Junee Reservoir	1/12/2011	30/6/2013	330,000	1,267	In progress
Reservoir Rehabilitation Program	Various Reservoirs	1/7/2010	30/6/2012	213,076	212,722	Completed
Reservoir Rehabilitation	Barellan Reservoir	1/7/2012	30/6/2013	250,000	1,914	In progress

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3 OTHER REPORTS

9.3.1 CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2011/12 (G95809505)

12/084 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that the Critical Water Availability report to the end of June 2012 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Acting Executive Assistant

Included in the Business Paper (refer attached) are the water production graphs for the five sources and the three bulk councils to the end of June 2012. Table 1 below provides more detail on the total consumption during the period.

Table 1 - Period - 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

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Source	Current Allocation (%)	YTD Consumption	YTD Maximum Allocation	Revised YTD Maximum Allocation	Percentage of Revised Allocation
Jugiong	100%	3,380	5,590	5,590	60.47%
Oura	100%	3,300	6,000	6,000	55.00%
Mt Arthur	100%	431	762	762	56.50%
Mt Daylight	100%	261	295	295	88.51%
Hylands Bridge	100%	111	165	165	67.52%
Total All Sources		7,483	12,812	12,812	58.40%
Cootamundra	100%	593	1,561	1,561	37.97%
Harden *	100%	393	1,213	1,213	32.36%
Young	100%	911	2,076	2,076	43.86%

NB:

YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.

The total year to date consumption as at the end of June 2012 is running at 58% of allocations and is below the 14 year average and consumption predictions.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.2 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES & PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO COUNCILLORS POLICY (CP: 022) (G40350505)

12/085 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and O'Brien that Council adopt the draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy (CP: 022), for public exhibition.

Report prepared by Manager Administration

Council is required to submit its expenses and facilities policy to the Division of Local Government by 30 November each year, following its mandatory public exhibition.

An amended appendix has been drafted for attachment to the existing Policy that outlines specific monetary limits for Council to consider for adoption. Having reviewed the remainder of the existing policy, it is believed that it adequately meets the Guidelines.

Attached (Attachment No. 9.1.5.A) is a draft attachment to the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy for Council's consideration.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.3 CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL POLICIES (G40350505)

12/086 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Macaulay and O'Brien that Council adopt the following policies:

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CP: 033 Work, Health and Safety Policy
CP: 034 Return to Work Policy
CP: 035 Workers Compensation Policy

Report prepared by General Manager

Recent changes to the Work Health & Safety legislation has resulted in the requirement for Council to adopt additional policies in relation to WH&S. Draft policies have been prepared by staff and are attached (refer Attachments 9.3.3.A to 9.3.3.C) for the consideration of Council. Following formal adoption these policies will be included in Council's Policy Register.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.4 DELEGATIONS TO THE GENERAL MANAGER (G40057005)

12/087 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien that subject to not receiving direction on any particular matter from Council and subject to:

- (a) The requirement of the Local Government Act and Regulation;
- (b) Any other relevant legislation;
- (c) Any expressed policy of the Council;
- (d) Any regulations of any public authority other than Council; and

pursuant to the powers conferred on the General Manager under Part 3 of Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act, the General Manager be authorised to exercise or perform the powers, authorities, duties, functions as specified in schedule 1.

Schedule 1 – General Manager (Andrew Grant) Delegations

General Authorities

The functions of the Council pertaining to the responsibilities of the General Manager as specified in:

- the Local Government Act and Regulations;
- other legislation under which Council has powers, authorities, duties and functions; and
- any adopted Council documents.

Limitations

This delegation is limited by the general provisions of s377 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Report prepared by General Manager

The purpose of this report is formalise Council's delegations to the General Manager in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

Set out below is a Delegations template that has been developed to provide all necessary delegations to the General Manager, other than those prescribed under section 377 of the Act, to enable the daily management function of the Council to proceed unabated.

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Similar templates have been developed for Council staff to enable them to perform their duties under formal authorities and protections as delegated by the General Manager.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.5 STAFF PICNIC DAY (G70204010)

12/088 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that

1. Approval be granted for the Union Picnic Day to be held on Monday 29 October 2012;
2. The day be treated as a normal public holiday and that the office be closed; and
3. Those non-union employees who would normally work on that day will be required to take annual leave.

Report prepared by the General Manager

In accordance with Council's Award provisions, a request has been received from local delegates of the United Services Union to hold their annual Union Picnic Day on Monday 29 October 2012.

Union membership is now held by a majority of Council staff. This seriously compromises Council's ability to function normally on the day in question.

For both practical and safety reasons, it is suggested that the Union Picnic Day be treated similar to a normal public holiday and that the office be closed. All non-union employees who would normally work on that day will be required to take annual leave.

Any union employee required to work would be granted an additional day off as per award.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.6 GOLDENFIELDS WATER ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ASSET REGISTER (G05600501)

12/089 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor that Council approve expenditure of approximately \$30,000 for Opus International to update Council's current asset register.

Report prepared by the Acting Manager Technology

Council will recall Item 11.4 and subsequent resolution 12/023 of the February 2012 meeting accepting the price of \$35,000 to \$50,000 submitted by Opus International Consultants Pty Ltd for the preparation of an Asset Management Plan. Council will also recall item 9.3.6 and subsequent resolution 12/063 of the June 2012 meeting accepting the final document.

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In order for Opus to complete the asset management plan Goldenfields supplied a copy of its asset register which gave an expected life and predicted replacement value for all assets. The register was in spreadsheet form and was previously considered adequate for Council's requirements.

Council was required to undertake a complete revaluation of its assets, including a more accurate break up of assets into components that depreciate at different rates.

Opus suggested some changes to assets within the register, including breaking up the urban/rural pipe work and the pump station assets more definitively.

This will give a better indication of remaining asset life aiding in the preparation of future budgets by pinpointing assets at the end of their useful life and required maintenance to achieve their life expectancy.

Opus has provided Goldenfields an indicative price of \$30,000 to carry out the required work. OPUS is on the Local Government Procurement pre selected list and as such can be used without quotation.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.7 COWANGS RESERVOIR TO BAULOORA RESERVOIR PIPELINE
REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE (G95207002)**

12/090 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor that

1. The update report on the Cowangs Reservoir to Bauloora Reservoir pipeline replacement project be received and noted.
2. Council give approval for the General Manager to continue negotiations with Futter Park Pty Ltd in the aim of reaching an amicable settlement.

Report prepared by the Acting Manager Technology

Council will recall this item coming at the June council meeting as item 9.3.9

Goldenfields has continued to finalise outstanding issues relating to the Cowangs Reservoir to the Bauloora Reservoir pipeline replacement project. All but three of the landholder's accepted Goldenfields offer of compensation to undertake revegetation works in accordance with their own rotations and specific requirements. Goldenfields employed a local contractor to undertake the revegetation on two of the properties.

The remaining property is Futter Park owned by the Kings School Parramatta who rejected the compensation offer and requested Goldenfields engage a suitable contractor to revegetate the property. This has been difficult due to the terrain and nature of the existing soil. Quotes have been requested; no responses have been received.

Futter Park rejected the offer of easement compensation and informed Goldenfields that the property manager who signed the original acceptance did not have the capacity to do so. They agree with the project in principal but requested a higher amount for the acquisition of the easement and a management fee to manage expected future issues arising from the continued deterioration of the redundant water mains. They also

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requested Goldenfields sign an indemnity agreement accepting all future liability for the redundant water mains.

Goldenfields accepted the increase in easement acquisition compensation supplied by an independent valuer (initial offer \$16,000 independent valuers amount \$20,000), but rejected the management fee of \$15,000 and indemnification of Futter Park from any issues relating to the deterioration of the redundant water mains.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.8 APPLICATION FOR RURAL CONNECTION RANNOCK ROAD COOLAMON (G95151005)

12/091 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Palmer that

1. Council refuse the application until spare capacity can be proven in Rannock Road.
2. Council advise the Applicants of its decision by letter addressing all reasons for the rejection of the Connection Application.
3. Council give consideration to flow restricted supply on rural properties with on farm storage and give direction on policy development.

Report prepared by the General Manager

Murray and Naomi Higman have requested water connection to their property CALDWELL, Rannock Road Coolamon.

The owners were originally offered a connection in 2004. At this time the offer was not taken up by the applicant due to negotiations with Coolamon Shire. Council has received further requests from the owners for a connection (Attachment 9.3.8.A).

Currently the main passing the property is at capacity regarding flow and pressure limitations. There has been loss of supply problems further along this line. Addition of another connection would increase the supply problems on the line.

The introduction of flow restricted services and on farm storage in rural areas would allow a greater usage of capacity and supply to more consumers. This would necessitate producing a new service standard for rural connections.

Recommendations

Recommendation made was adopted.

9.3.9 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday 25 October 2012 at Council's Temora office commencing at 1.00pm.

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9.3.10 LATE ITEM: COWANGS RESERVOIR TO BAULOORA RESERVOIR PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (G95207002)

12/092 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Macaulay and McGregor that

1. Council apply to the Department of Local Government requesting the Minister for Local Government and the Governor of New South Wales to approve "compulsory acquisition with the consent of the owners" of the easements in accordance with s30 and compulsory acquisition by agreement of the easement in accordance with s29 (4) of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* over Crown and Government land.
2. The agreed compensation be paid to affected landholders on registration of the easement.

Recommendation

Recommendation made was adopted.

10. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Councillors Manchester, McGregor and Speirs thanked Councillors Macaulay, O'Brien and Mangelsdorf for their commitment to the Board and wished standing Members all the best for the upcoming elections.

Councillors O'Brien and Macaulay thanked the Board, the General Manager and staff of Goldenfields Water County Council for all their hard work and wished them all the best for the future.

Mr Andrew Grant advised that there will be a Service Board organised and a small memento of thanks to outgoing Councillors.

Councillor Palmer raised a question in relation to the Tender for Scrap Metal advertised in the paper. He asked if it was possible to tender for part of the scrap or tenders for the whole amount only would be considered. It was advised that only tenders for the removal of all of the scrap would be considered. Councillor Palmer also expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Councillors and noted there has been an improvement of how all of the Councils now work together for a positive community.

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Council, the Meeting closed at 2:48pm.

10.13 MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE BLAND SHIRE HERITAGE, GOLD TRAILS AND TOURS

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

3 Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire.

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Bland Shire Council seeks additional matching funds up to the amount of \$105,000 and that Bland Shire Council matches the \$105,000 to be allocated towards the Bland Shire Heritage, Gold Trails and Tours, (\$105,000 to be sourced and \$105,000 from Bland Shire Council totalling \$210,000).

Introduction

Council at its meeting held on 21 August 2012 resolved to defer the matter relating to the phase two project items for Cooinda Park until such time as those projects had been referred to the Cooinda Park – Wetlands Coordinating Committee.

There were a number of meetings of this committee held over the past 12 months and I refer councillors to the report to the October 2011 Council meeting which included the following:

Cooinda Park Precinct Project

The balance of the funding will be allocated to the Cooinda Park Precinct project and at the Cooinda Park Precinct working party meeting held on 13 October it was agreed that subject to funding stage one of the project will include:

- *Completion of the wetlands landscaping and plantings (estimated \$120,000) including interpretive panels;*
- *Provide additional caravan parking and dump point (estimated \$57,000);*
- *Establish a heritage area for large historical items (estimated \$15,000 for the concrete slab) including interpretive panels; and*
- *Upgrade of existing BBQ facilities (estimated \$82,000).*

The report submitted to Council on 21 August 2012 included the following works for Cooinda Park:

Description	Amount
Photo anodised interpretative signs	36,155
Steel framed powder coated interpretative sign frames	14,400
Interpretative sign research, photography graphic design	72,500
Printing of the Bland Shire Heritage, Gold Trails & Tours Booklet	11,410
Russell Drysdale Statue	25,000
Phase One Total	159,465

New BBQ Shelter x 2 (Cooinda Reserve & Rotary Park)	64,000
New BBQ's x 2 (Cooinda Reserve & Rotary Park)	18,000
Waste Dump Area (Cooinda Reserve)	12,000
Heritage Area Concrete Slabs (Cooinda Reserve)	15,000
Caravan and Parking Area (Cooinda Reserve)	45,000
Pedestrian Crossing Area (Cooinda Reserve & Rotary Park)	34,000
Phase Two Total	188,000

It can be seen from comparing the two lists of projects that they are almost identical and the fact that back in October 2011 there was agreement from the coordinating committee to proceed there should be no cause to refer this matter back to that committee.

A coloured copy of the schematic of the area, showing the proposed developments, is included as an attachment to this report for the benefit of all councillors, noting however, that this plan was previously submitted to council in October 2011.

Conclusion

Consequently, the same recommendation from the August 2012 report is now resubmitted to council for consideration.

Financial Implications

Bland Shire Council has budgeted \$200,000 for Matched Grant Funding and \$15,000 of this has been set aside for the Tourist Information Shelters leaving a balance of \$185,000 for this project.



SECTION 2 - CORPORATE SERVICES

10.14 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – SEPTEMBER 2012

OUR LEADERSHIP – Setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15 – To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: Director Corporate Services

Officer’s Recommendation

1. That Council receive and note the statement of Bank Balances, Rates Collections and Investments for the month of September, 2012.
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 1 September 2012 to 30 September 2012, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$4,063,215.84

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2012.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 September, 2012

ACCOUNT	DEBIT	CREDIT
General Fund	\$ 1,277,028.26	
Invested Funds		
Fixed Deposits	\$7,500,000.00	
Deposits at Call	\$ 2,099,950.42	
	\$10,876,978.68	
Percentage of investment to Net Balance		88.26%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30.09.2012
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OCTOBER, 2012

Balance as at 1.09.2012 \$1,436,635.84

Add Receipts

For month of September 2012 3,903,608.26

Includes

19.09.2012 – Local Govt Grants Commission 665,706.50

04.09.2012 – Bankwest Investment Plus Interest 1,014,958.90

20.09.2012 – Bankwest Investment Plus Interest 1,014,958.90

19.09.2012 – ANZ Investment Plus Interest 506,744.99

Less Payments

For month of September 2012 4,063,215.84

Includes

04.09.2012 – Rural Bank Term Deposit 1,000,000.00

14.09.2012 – National Australia Bank Investment 1,000,000.00

Cash Balance 1,277,028.26

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$350,000.00

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period September 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012.

I CERTIFY,

That the accounts included in the accounts summary and totalling as detailed under:

-

Fund		Voucher No.s	Total
General		22353 - 22444	111,640.24
Autopay	Creditors	31378 - 31682	3,420,467.47
Autopay	Payroll	10/13 – 13/13	527,732.48
September Bank Charges			3,375.65
			<u>\$4,063,215.84</u>

1. Are fully supported by vouchers and invoices and have been fully registered.
2. The responsible officer concerned has certified that the goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered to order and/or that the services for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered according to order.
3. Official orders have been issued for the supply of such goods and services. The goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been checked with the entries in the goods order book.
4. The prices and computations of every account are correct.
5. The prices for the goods supplied or services rendered under the contract or quotation in accordance therewith and in all cases the prices charged are according to order and as far as I am able to ascertain fair and reasonable.
6. The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations in connection therewith have been complied with.

Further I also certify that the Ledger has been reconciled with the bank statements for the last preceding monthly period.

.....
 Director of Corporate Services

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 16 October 2012, has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices. These vouchers have been duly certified as to receipt of goods, the rendition of services, to prices and computations, and to costings.

.....
General Manager

CERTIFICATE OF CHAIRMAN OF ORDINARY MEETING

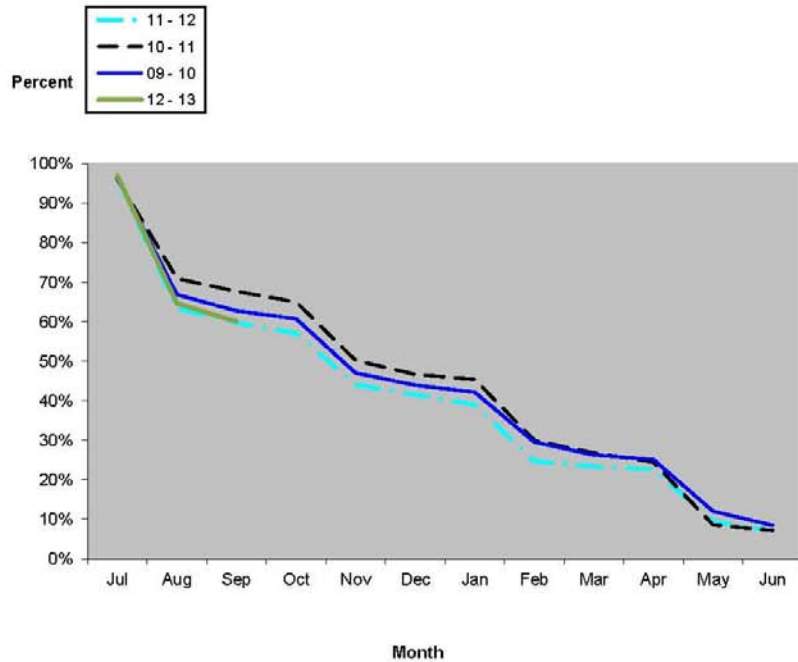
I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling \$4,063,215.84 was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 16 October 2012 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

STATEMENT OF RATES AS AT 30 September 2012

RATE	Levy	Arrears	Adjustments	Interest	Total	Pension Rebate	Collections	Balance	2012-13	2011-12
General	\$5,675,740.99	\$323,616.99	-\$5,920.37	\$6,126.42	\$5,999,564.03	-\$78,741.83	-\$2,464,176.26	\$3,456,645.94	58.38%	57.93%
Sewerage	\$1,112,760.00	\$130,064.20	-\$2,491.73	\$2,377.48	\$1,242,709.95	-\$37,483.19	-\$410,384.36	\$794,842.40	65.95%	66.27%
Garbage/Services/Legal	\$767,034.00	\$149,359.94	\$15,130.56	\$2,857.92	\$934,382.42	-\$44,211.54	-\$320,161.14	\$570,009.74	64.03%	64.12%
Overpayments	\$0.00	\$0.00					-\$10,722.00	-\$10,722.00		
TOTALS:	\$7,555,534.99	\$603,041.13	\$6,718.46	\$11,361.82	\$8,176,656.40	-\$160,436.56	-\$3,205,443.76	\$4,810,776.08	60.01%	59.75%

% of Rates



Debt Analysis	Properties	Balance
Sale of Land	0	\$0.00
Future Sale of Land Arrangements	38	\$40,355.56
Debt Collection	95	\$202,462.67
Centrepay	106	\$323,114.77
	50	\$54,381.31
Total	289	\$620,314.31

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 30th September 2012. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

DATE	INVESTED WITH WHOM	INVESTED AMOUNT	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
28-September-2012	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	181	4.88%	28-March-2013
08-August-2012	NAB (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	90 Days	5.00%	06-November-2012
22-May-2012	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	180 Days	5.27%	22-November-2012
14-September-2012	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	120	5.04%	14-January-2013
10-July-2012	IMB (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	90 Days	5.00%	08-October-2012
21-August-2012	IMB (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	90 Days	5.10%	19-November-2012
04-September-2012	RURAL BANK	1,000,000.00	153	5.05%	04-February-2013
27-September-2012	ANZ (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	91	4.65%	27-December-2012
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,494.37	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	2,049,456.05	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	<u>9,599,950.42</u>			

I certify that the above investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Regulation and Council's Investment Policies.

Lehman Brothers Managed Funds 79,009.85 Managed Funds

I certify that the above investment has been reconciled with Council's General Ledger Accounts.

Director Corporate Services

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - STAFF REPORT

Mayor

10.15 JUNE 2012 BUDGET CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15 – To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Director Corporate Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

- 1. That the Officer’s report be received and noted**
- 2. That the Council approves the carry forward budget amount of \$730,155.98 to the 2012/2013 financial year expenditure**

Introduction

Council is required as per Clause 15 of the Financial Management Regulations 1999 to authorise expenditure.

The carry forward amounts are part of the approved budget for the 2011/12 financial year, and a Council decision is required to carry forward any unexpended funds.

Conclusion

The actual bottom line result for the 2011/12 financial year indicates that sufficient funds are available to be restricted for carry forward into the 2012/2013 financial year.

Financial Implications

As per the schedule attached to this report, and the explanations provided most of the funds are required for continuing projects already commenced in 2012 and other committed project funds from the 2011/12 financial year.

	Carry Forward Summary		
	Description	Requested Carry Forwards	Comment
EXECUTIVE			
	Matching Grant Funding	200,000.00	<i>At the end of 2011-12 no grant funding match was required but is still require for future applications of Grant Funding</i>
	Transfer from Community Facilities reserve	(200,000.00)	
	TOTAL	0.00	
CORPORATE SUPPORT			
	Legal Expenses	62,039.82	<i>Committed Legal expenses as per council resolution in 08-09 for action on Grange investments & Lehmann Bros</i>
		(62,039.82)	<i>As above, back to Restricted assets to be used in 2012-13</i>
	Council Software Package	450,000.00	<i>REROC tender process not yet finalised. To carry over to 2012-13 when it is expected that process will be completed with a vendor chosen.</i>
	Internal Audit Committee	20,000.00	<i>Committee as yet to be set up. Still in progress and should carry over budget to 2012-13</i>
	Internal Audit Committee Reserve	(20,000.00)	<i>As above, put to Restricted assets to be used in 2012-13</i>
	Tourism		
	Event Sponsorship	5,000.00	<i>Request to Carry forward \$5,000 of the balance of the Event Sponsorshipfor "Paris in the West".</i>
	TOTAL	455,000.00	
COMMUNITY SERVICES			
	Community Development		
	Access Plan Implementation	7,130.00	<i>Directory Community Services requested carry forward balance of Access Plan Implementation budget to cover 2 access grants approved June 2012.</i>
	Youth Services	2,244.71	<i>Request by the Youth Services officer to carry forward the balance of Ident funding for music events.</i>
	In Rhythm Drumming Training - Grant Income	825.00	<i>Balance of \$3,000 grant funding to be restricted for use in 2012-13</i>
	Transfer to Restricted Assets	(825.00)	
	Community Development - Other Revenue	1,773.27	<i>Request to restrict net result after Pink Carpet event to use at 10thousandgirl workshop.</i>
	Transfer to Restricted Assets	(1,773.27)	
	Community Relations		
	Community Donations	767.75	<i>Council Resolution 30/3/12 to provide funding up to \$5,000 for Blaze-Aid. To 30/6/12 expenditure is \$4,232.25</i>

Carry Forward Summary			
		Requested	Comment
	Description	Carry Forwards	
	Community Donations	4,100.00	<i>Carry forward from Community Donations for Ungarie Basketball Court Resurfacing. Refer Council Minute 5.6 26 June 2012.</i>
	TOTAL	14,242.46	
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			
Support			
	Weethalle Museum	5,000.00	<i>Directory Community Services requested carry forward from the Community donations budget \$5,000 approved June 2012 Council meeting for assistance to the Weethalle museum.</i>
Development Control			
	Council Buildings Maintenance Project	8,155.27	<i>Contribution by Barrick to Mens Shed was \$9,787.27. Expenditure of Barrick contribution \$1,632. Balance to be carried to 2012-13</i>
	Council Buildings Project	26,835.00	<i>Balance Yet to be expended. Carry to 2012-13</i>
	Council Buildings Maintenance Project	68,580.75	<i>Balance Yet to be expended. Carry to 2012-13</i>
	TOTAL	108,571.02	

Carry Forward Summary		
Description	Requested Carry Forwards	Comment
ROADS WORKS & TRANSPORT		
Plant Workshop		
New Carpenters Workshop	25,000.00	<i>Program not commenced in 2011-12. Request to carryover to 2012-13 as work still needs to be done.</i>
Fleet Management Program	20,000.00	<i>Carry forward of funds required as investigations are still continuing regarding existing system to meet the requirements of Fleet management.</i>
ROAD WORKS & TRANSPORT		
Council Projects		
Main Street Beautification	59,137.00	<i>Request by Engineering Services to carry forward the balance of the 2011-12 budget as this project has been commenced and is to be completed in 2012-13 financial year</i>
TOTAL	104,137.00	
PUBLIC SERVICES		
Parks & Gardens		
Wetlands Capital(200,000 over 4 years)	18,498.00	<i>This is a project spread over 4 years at \$50,000 per year. Balance of funds for first year is to be carried forward to 2012-13 and added to budget for 2012-13..</i>
Telemetry Pumps	2,300.00	<i>Engineering services has requested balance of funds to be carried forward to 2012-13 for completion of Telemetry works</i>
McCann Park Softfall	8,170.00	<i>Engineering services has requested balance of funds to be carried forward to 2012-13 for completion of Softfall at McCann Park.</i>
Noxious Plants & Pest Control		
Lachland CMA Grant	14,024.50	<i>Grant for \$24,000 was received in 2008-09 financial year. Was not expended in that year and should have been Externally Restricted. There was expenditure in 2011-12 of \$9,957.50 of these funds and the balance needs to be taken up as an external restriction</i>

Carry Forward Summary		
Description	Requested Carry Forwards	Comment
Sporting Ovals		
Perseverance St Rec Ground Development	800,935.00	<i>Project has commenced and is yet to be completed so a request is made to carry forward the unexpended balance to 2012-13.</i>
Transfer from Community Facilities Reserve	(800,935.00)	
Ron Crowe Oval Improvements	5,213.00	<i>Engineering services has requested balance of funds to be carried forward to 2012-13 for completion of Ron Crowe oval improvements.</i>
TOTAL	48,205.50	
SEWERAGE SERVICES		
Computers connected to server and internal/external phones	5,000.00	<i>Engineering Services requested carry forward as work yet to be commenced in 2011-12 and to carry over for commencement in 2012-13</i>
Pump Station Screening Equipment	2,600.00	<i>Engineering Services requested carry forward of balance of 2011-12 budget for completion 2012-13</i>
Walls Between settling ponds	63,261.00	<i>Engineering Services requested carry forward of balance of 2011-12 budget for completion 2012-13</i>
Telemetry for Ungarie Works	21,656.00	<i>Engineering Services requested carry forward of balance of 2011-12 budget for completion 2012-13</i>
Transfer from Reserves	(92,517.00)	<i>Transfer from Sewer reserves for carry forward requests in Sewer</i>
	0.00	
NET RESULT	730,155.98	

SECTION 3 – COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

10.16 CHILDREN SERVICES UNIT POLICY ADOPTION

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

- 4. Ensure services are accessible for all residents including the aged, people with a disability, young people and families*

Author: Director Community and Development Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the Council adopts the Children Services Unit policies as attached:

- **Health & Safety – Administration of First Aid**
- **Health & Safety – Sun Protection**
- **Health & Safety – Water Safety**
- **Health & Safety – Nutrition/Food/Beverages/Dietary Requirements**
- **Engagement of Family Day Care Educators Policy**
- **Assessment & Approval of Family Day Care Residences & Approved Family Day Care Venues Policy**
- **Monitoring, Support & Supervision of Family Day Care Educators Policy**

Introduction

As required by the NSW Department of Education and Communities and the Accreditation board, children services policies are required to be regularly updated. In order for this process to be completed, Council is required to adopt the policies.

Due to the change in regulation to the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 160, Monitoring, support and supervision of FDC educator’s policy and Engagement of Family Day Care educator’s Policies have been significantly changed and are therefore the equivalent of new policies. Assessment and approval of FDC residences for the children services unit is a new policy for adoption.

Conclusion

By keeping policies up to date and reflecting the requirements within the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 160 ensures Council services remain licensed and accredited.

Financial Implications

Nil



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES UNIT POLICY STATEMENT

CORPORATE VALUES

Put the community first • Work together as a committed team • Respect and value each other • Have open & honest two-way communication • Act with integrity and honesty • Continuously improve our services • Keep ourselves and others safe

HEALTH AND SAFETY - Administration of FIRST AID

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 2012

Policy Objective:

Bland Shire Council will ensure:

- all staff will hold a first aid qualification; exceptions to this will be casual staff where this training will be provided as required.
- all children, staff, families and visitors who are involved in accidents and incidents whilst at the centre and require first aid to be administered will be done so according to guidelines and recommended practices of a first aid qualification;
- all incidents will be documented and stored according to regulatory requirements; and
- a risk management approach to health and safety shall be adopted.

Policy Statement:

First aid is the emergency aid or treatment given to persons suffering illness or injury following an accident and prior to obtaining professional medical services if required. It includes emergency treatment, maintenance of records, dressing of minor injuries, recognition and reporting of health hazards and participation in safety programs.

Our education and care service is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment. We recognise our responsibility to provide first aid facilities that are adequate for the immediate treatment of injuries and illnesses. The staff of our service are aware of their duty of care to children, families, staff and visitors in providing appropriate first aid treatment.

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- NSW Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2001
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 85, 86, 87, 89, 122, 136, 245
- Link to National Quality Standard: 2.1.4

Definitions:

In this policy "staff" refers to staff employed by Bland Shire Council Children's Services and educators registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Recommended Practices:

Professional Development of Staff

The Approved Provider will ensure:

- that all staff are supported to ensure they hold current recognised first aid qualifications;
- all staff have undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training (from 1 January 2013);
- all staff have undertaken current approved emergency asthma management training (1 January 2013); and
- employee induction includes an induction to the first aid policy.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- ensure the skills and competencies of trained first aiders are maintained and skills are kept up to date, refresher first aid and CPR training will be scheduled and maintained in a staff register;
- collaborate and consult with staff to develop and implement a risk assessment and management plan; and
- ensure first aid guides and publications are accessible to staff at all times to assist them in their understanding and administration of first aid.

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

The Approved Provider will:

- provide a child-safe environment.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- guide staff in regularly conducting risk assessments of the environment to determine likely injuries and illnesses that might occur, and rectify their potential causes;
- introduce preventive measures to eliminate the risk, or control measures to minimise the risk;
- review and analyse accident, injury, incident and 'near miss' data; and
- collaborate with staff to develop a first aid plan for the service (i.e. identification of first aid qualified staff, contact details of emergency services and other emergency contacts, details of the nearest hospital or medical centre, map identifying location of first aid kits at the service, first aid contents checklist, response procedure following an incidence of illness or injury. See sample).

Staff will:

- regularly undertake risk assessments in the environment in order to plan safe experiences for children.

Administration of First Aid to Children, Families, Staff and Visitors to the Centre

The Approved Provider will:

- ensure that there is always at least one first aid qualified staff on the premises at all times.

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- ensure that enrolment records for each child include a signed consent form for the administration of first aid and the approved products to be used;
- review and sign off on all documentation when first aid has been administered; and
- dial 000, and call for an ambulance when emergency medical treatment is required or delegate this responsibility.

In general:

- administration of first aid will be done in accordance with first aid training and undertaken by a qualified first aider;
- as per the first aid plan, and in the interests of avoiding delay of treatment, in the first instance, first aid will be administered by the person who has witnessed the incident/injury/illness;
- the nominated supervisor and families (where first aid is being administered to a child) will be notified of the nature of the incident/accident; and
- the person administering first aid will be the person who completes the incident/illness/injury/trauma record and passes to the responsible person for verification and signing by parent or guardian.

First Aid Supplies

The Approved Provider will ensure that:

- the centre is supplied with an appropriate number of first aid kits for the number of children being educated and cared for by the service;
- the first aid kits are suitably equipped, easily accessible and recognisable; and
- first aid kits are carried on field excursions.

Staff will:

- ensure a first aid box checklist is kept in every first aid kit;
- staff will regularly monitor supplies and update stock as required; and
- discard and replace out of date stock.

Documentation and Record Keeping

Staff will:

- complete an incident, injury, trauma and illness record for all incidents/injuries/trauma/illnesses occurring at the centre; and
- ensure that a copy of the accident/incident report will be made available for parents/guardians on request.

The Approved Provider will:

- ensure records are confidentially stored for the specified period of time as required by the Regulation.

Managing Serious Incidents

The Approved Provider will ensure:

- any serious incident occurring at the centre will be documented on a SI01 Notification of Serious Incident Form and reported to the Department of Education & Communities within 24 hours;
- a copy of the incident report will be provided to the family as soon as possible; and
- staff are aware of the procedures around managing serious incidents.

The Nominated Supervisor or responsible person will:

- notify parents of any serious incident; and
- arrange for medical intervention if required.

Staff will:

- manage serious incidents as per this policy; and
- notify the Nominated Supervisor immediately after the serious incident has occurred.

Policy Availability

The first aid policy will be readily accessible to all staff, families and visitors, and ongoing feedback on this policy will be invited.

Review

Management and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of the first aid policy regularly. Updated information will be incorporated as needed.

References:

- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011
- Community Child Care Cooperative – sample policy – Administration of first aid – accessed 24 May 2012

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID			
Superseded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number

Related Council Policy/Procedure

DRAFT



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HEALTH AND SAFETY – Sun Protection

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 2012

Policy Objective:

Bland Shire Children's Services will follow best practice guidelines to protect children, family members and staff from the damaging effects of sun exposure.

Our service will continue to remain a *SunSmart* service.

Policy Statement:

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research has indicated that young children and babies have sensitive skin that places them at particular risk of sunburn and skin damage. Exposure during the first 15 years of life can greatly increase the risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Early childhood services play a major role in minimising a child's UV exposure as children attend during times when UV radiation levels are highest.

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Definitions:

In this policy "staff" refers to staff employed by Bland Shire Council Children's Services and educators registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Recommended Practices:

Our sun protection strategies are:

Outdoor Activities

The service will use a combination of sun protection measures whenever *UV Index levels reach 3 and above*. This will include:

- From October to March sun protection is required at all times. Extra sun protection is needed between 11am and 3pm and during this period outdoor activities should be minimised. Minimising outdoor activities includes reducing both the number of times (frequency) and the length of time (duration) children are outside.
- From April to September (excluding June and July) outdoor activity can take place at any time. However, from 10am–2pm sun protection is required.
- In June and July when the UV index is mostly below 3, sun protection is not required.

All sun protection measures (including recommended outdoor times, shade, hat, clothing and sunscreen) will be considered when planning excursions and activities.

Shade

All outdoor activities will be planned to occur in shaded areas. Play activities will be set up in the shade and moved throughout the day to take advantage of shade patterns.

The service will provide and maintain adequate shade for outdoor play. Shade options can include a combination of portable, natural and built shade. Regular shade assessments should be conducted to monitor existing shade structures and assist in planning for additional shade.

Hats

Staff and children are required to wear sun safe hats that protect their face, neck and ears. A sun safe hat is:

- Legionnaire hat.
- Bucket hat with a deep crown and brim size of at least 5cm (adults 6cm).
- Broad brimmed hat with a brim size of at least 6cm (adults 7.5cm).

Please note: Baseball caps or visors do not provide enough sun protection and therefore are not recommended.

Children without a sun safe hat will be asked to play in an area protected from the sun (e.g. under shade, veranda or indoors) or can be provided with a spare hat.

Clothing

When outdoors, staff and children will wear sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (especially the shoulders, back and stomach) as possible. This includes wearing:

- Loose fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered neckline.
- Longer style skirts, shorts and trousers.

Children who are not wearing sun safe clothing can be provided with spare clothing.

Please note: Midriff, crop or singlet tops do not provide enough sun protection and therefore are not recommended.

Sunscreen

All staff and children will apply SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every 2 hours or as required by product recommendation. Sunscreen is stored in a cool, dry place and the use-by-date monitored.

Babies

Babies under 12 months will not be exposed to direct sunlight and are to remain in dense shade when outside. They will wear sun safe hats and clothing and small amounts of SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen may be applied to their exposed skin.

Role Modelling

Staff will act as role models and demonstrate sun safe behaviour by:

- Wearing a sun safe hat (see Hats).
- Wearing sun safe clothing (see Clothing).
- Applying SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors.
- Using and promoting shade.
- Wearing sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (optional).

Families and visitors are encouraged to role model positive sun safe behaviour.

Education and Information

Sun protection will be incorporated regularly into learning programs. Sun protection information will be promoted to all staff, families and visitors.

Policy Availability

The sun protection policy, updates and requirements (including hat, clothing and sunscreen) will be made available to staff, families and visitors.

Review

Management and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy regularly. The centre's sun protection policy must be submitted every two years to the Cancer Council for review to ensure continued best practice.

References:

- National Health and Medical Research Council - www.nhmrc.gov.au May 2012
- NSW Department of Health - www.health.nsw.gov.au May 2012
- Cancer Council - www.cancercouncil.com.au May 2012
- Community Child Care Cooperative – sample policy – Sun Protection – accessed 24 May 2012

Evaluation

- The service demonstrates SunSmart behaviours with the wearing of suitable clothing and application of sunscreen.
- Sun exposure is limited throughout the day in accordance with Cancer Council recommendations.
- The curriculum and program incorporates sun safety awareness experience.

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID			
Superseded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number

Related Council Policy/Procedure



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HEALTH AND SAFETY – Water Safety

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 2012

Policy Objective:

Children's safety and well-being will:

- be protected in and around water through supervision and prevention; and
- be promoted through the availability of clean, hygienic water for play and for drinking.

Policy Statement:

The safety and supervision of children in and around water is of the highest priority. This relates to water play, excursions near water, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in the service environment. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 168
- Links to National Quality Standard: 2.1.1; 2.3.2; 7.3.5

Definitions:

In this policy "staff" refers to staff employed by Bland Shire Councils Children's Services and educators registered with Bland/Temora Family Day Care.

Recommended Practices:

The Nominated Supervisor will:

1. Provide guidance and education to staff and families on the importance of children's safety in and around water.
2. Ensure work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play.

Staff will:

1. Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities will be supervised at all times and containers or troughs will be emptied onto garden areas after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
2. Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
3. Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left in play areas or accessible to children.
4. Provide clean drinking water at all times. This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming. Water containers will be securely sealed. At the end of each day, the water container will be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

Operational Safety

1. Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 38-40 degrees Celsius. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced annually by a qualified plumber.
2. A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursion taking place. Particular attention will be focused upon water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.
3. Adults may carry and consume hot drinks only in a thermal cup or mug with a screw lid that prevents spilling.

- Water for pets at the setting must be changed regularly and only be accessible to children when adults are present.

Family Day Care

- No child while in the care of an Educator as part of the Education and Care service is to swim in a pool at the Educators home at any time while the service is being provided.
- Educators are not to take children to a public swimming pool or other persons pool for any reason.
- Water troughs or containers will only be filled to a safe level. These will be emptied immediately after use.
- Water play activities will be supervised at all times. If a small wading pool is being used, the Educator will stand immediately beside it at all times.
- All water holding containers must be stored to ensure they cannot refill with water.
- Buckets used for cleaning will be emptied immediately.
- Any water hazards ie ponds or fountains at the premises that could constitute a drowning hazard are securely covered or inaccessible to children.
- No child will participate in an excursion where a water hazard is not fenced appropriately unless higher ratios are maintained and discussed with the Co-ordination Unit.
- Wading pools, sprinklers, soaker hoses may be used if children are constantly in the sight of the Educator at all times. On the completion of play with wading pools etc. they must be emptied and put away each time.
- Ensure pools are fenced and gated according to the Swimming Pools Act 1992 and provide the Co-ordination Unit with a certificate of currency every two years.
- Ensure any pool filters are inaccessible to children.

Evaluation

Supervision and access to water within the service is managed effectively by staff to ensure children remain safe and healthy.

References:

- National Health and Medical Research Council - www.nhmrc.gov.au
- NSW Department of Health - www.health.nsw.gov.au
- Pool and Water Safety - www.kidsafe.com.au
- Water use and restrictions see - www.sydneywater.com.au
- Childcare Service Handbook 2011-2012 (DEEWR)
- Swimming pools Act 1992
- Kidsafe www.kidsafensw.org accessed May 2012

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A		
	Manex	N/A		
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services			
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Superseded Policy				
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number	

Related Council Policy/Procedure
Work, Health and Safety
Excursions



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HEALTH AND SAFETY: Nutrition/Food/Beverages/Dietary Requirements

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 2012

Policy Objective:

Our care and education service will:

- role model healthy eating and activity throughout the day to all children and families;
- promote the six key *Munch and Move* messages to promote healthy, active habits in children from a young age;
- support families in educating their children about healthy food choices.

Policy Statement:

Research has shown that one in five preschoolers are either overweight or obese. By the time children in NSW reach kindergarten, almost 18% are either overweight or obese. The 2007 *National Children's Nutrition and Physical Activity Survey* found that the dietary patterns of many Australian children are less than optimal with high consumption of salt and saturated fat, and low consumption of fruit and vegetables. Given that children are increasingly spending long periods of time in centre-based and family day care, early childhood staff can role model healthy eating and encourage young children to make healthier food choices. This will contribute to the prevention of weight problems in children, allowing children to thrive physically, socially and intellectually, and in turn contribute to prevention of nutrition-related chronic diseases.

Definitions:

In this policy "staff" refers to staff employed by Bland Shire Council Children's Services and staff registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Statutory Legislation & Considerations

- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 77, 78, 79, 80
- Links to National Quality Standard: 2.2.1, 2.2.2

Recommended Practices:

Professional Development of Staff

- All staff will attend *Munch and Move* professional development training or receive similar training and information;
- Staff & Volunteers that assist in preparing fruit will be inducted on food handling and hygiene procedures.

Provision of Food and Drinks at the Service

The Nominated Supervisor will:

- Ensure that all children have access to safe drinking water at all times;
- Ensure that all children are offered food and beverages appropriate to the needs of each child on a regular basis throughout the day;
- Ensure that staff are aware of the need to implement adequate health and hygiene practices and use safe practices for handling, preparing and storing food to minimise risks to children being educated and cared for by the service.

- Ensure that as per the Medical Conditions Policy the centre shall remain a nut free centre when required and that all dietary requirements relating to medical conditions are adhered to.
- Staff have access to Munch and Move Resource Manuals. NSW Ministry of Health, 2012

Staff will ensure that:

- Healthy eating is promoted through role modelling.
- Children are encouraged to make healthy food choices.
- All mealtimes are positive, relaxed and social.
- Children are encouraged to try new foods, and their food likes and dislikes are respected.
- Children are positively involved in mealtimes.
- Staff will adhere to best practices around safe storage and heating of both expressed breast milk and formula.
- They implement adequate health and hygiene practices and use safe practices for handling, preparing and storing food to minimise risks to children.
- Ensure that as per the Medical Conditions Policy the Bland Shire Children's Services shall remain a nut free centre and that all dietary requirements relating to medical conditions are adhered to.
- The introduction of solids to babies and toddlers will be done in consultation with families and in line with recognised guidelines.

Supporting Families

- Staff will support families' choices regarding infant feeding, including breastfeeding and bottle feeding where required.
- The service will provide families with up to date information on dietary requirements of young children to ensure optimal growth and development, and provide families with opportunities to discuss ways to maximise the health and well-being of their child/ren.

Education and Information

- Staff will engage children in learning experiences that are fun and enjoyable and incorporate key messages around healthy eating.
- Implemented learning experiences will be guided by the EYLF principles and incorporate the child's identity.
- Families will be provided with current information about recommended guidelines around dietary requirements, screen time and physical activity.

Policy Availability

This nutrition/food/beverages policy will be readily accessible to all staff, families and visitors, and ongoing feedback on this policy will be invited.

Review

Management and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of the nutrition/food/beverages policy regularly. Updated information will be incorporated as needed.

Evaluation

The Bland Shire Children's Services will encourage families to provide appropriate and healthy food and beverages to all children and meal times will be relaxed and model healthy eating to children.

References:

- Community Child Care Cooperative – sample policy - Nutrition/Food/Beverages/Dietary Requirements – www.cccc.org.au accessed 4.6.2012
- *Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Guidelines for Early Childhood Settings*. NSW Department of health – www.health.nsw.gov.au – accessed may 2012

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID			
Superseded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number

Related Council Policy/Procedure
Medical Conditions Policy
Screen time and physical activity
Health, hygiene and Safety

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ENGAGEMENT OF FAMILY DAY CARE EDUCATORS POLICY

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: TBA

Policy Objective:

- To ensure that the best possible educators are attracted to and retained by the scheme.
- To support continuity between care and home routines by the recruitment of educators whose cultural and linguistic backgrounds reflect those of families and the local community.

Policy Statement:

Bland/Temora Family Day Care Scheme will endeavour to attract and retain competent and suitable educators for the service.

Relevant Legislation:

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 169(2b)

Definitions:

This policy applies to educators registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Recommended Practices:

Prospective educators are required to:

1. Submit a written application for the position of educator, accompanied by copies of any relevant qualifications, two written references, and other appropriate documentation as stated in the application.
2. Give consent for the Working with Children Check to be carried out on themselves and on any persons over the age of 18 residing at their home.
3. Undergo a Police Check for themselves and any person over the age of 18 who normally resides at their home.
4. Have a current First Aid Certificate.
5. Hold or be significantly working towards a Certificate III in Child Care.
6. Hold an approved current Certificate in Managing Asthma and Anaphylaxis.
7. Be a fit and proper person to be concerned with providing a family day care service.
8. Be physically and emotionally able to care for young children.
9. Complete training modules as required by the scheme as part of their induction process.
10. Have an appropriate understanding of young children's needs and development, including:
 - i. The individual differences between children.
 - ii. Activities that stimulate a child's growth and development.
 - iii. Nutrition, health, hygiene and safety.
 - iv. Behaviour management.
11. Be responsive to children.
12. Be able to communicate effectively with adults.
13. Be aware of and sensitive to the needs of young children and their families, including children from a range of cultures and religions and children with disabilities.
14. Be assessed with regard to their ability to interact positively with children.
15. Be prepared to answer any questions designed to Coordination Unit of their ability to provide quality home-based care.

16. Allow Coordination unit staff to help them assess the safety of their home environment, according to the Education and Care Services Regulations , including fencing, gates, tools and equipment, storage of poisons, matches, knives, electrical appliances, etc.
17. Ensure that their home complies with the assessment (above) and is adequate for the provision of the service.
18. Be prepared to allow Co-ordination Unit staff to inspect their home during the normal hours in which they operate their service.
19. Be prepared to sign an agreement with the Scheme, stating their obligations as a educator and as a member of the Bland/Temora Family Day Care Scheme.
20. Be prepared to abide by the policies and procedures of the Scheme and the Education and Care Services Regulations and the Children Education and Care Services National Law.
21. Be prepared to abide by the Code of Conduct at all times.
22. Attend training sessions arranged by the scheme as part of their induction process.

References:

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011.

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID			
Superceded Policy	Carer Selection		
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number

Related Council Policy/Procedure



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ASSESSMENT AND APPROVAL OF FAMILY DAY CARE (FDC) RESIDENCES AND APPROVED FDC VENUES POLICY

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: TBA

Policy Objective:

- To ensure that the health, safety and wellbeing of children being educated and cared for by the service are protected.
- To assist prospective and current FDC Educators to identify potential hazards to children in the operation of a FDC business and to reduce the risks associated with these.

Policy Statement:

- Bland/Temora FDC Scheme will not utilise approved venues as part of their service.
- The Coordination Unit must conduct an assessment of each residence:
 1. Before care can be provided to children as part of the service.
 2. At least annually.

Relevant Legislation:

- Education and Care Services Regulation
- Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority Standard 2.3
- National Law: Section 167
- National Regulations: Regulation 116 (1,2,3), 117 (1,2)

Definitions:

This policy applies to educators registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Recommended Practices:

Educator Workplace Safety Audit

The Family Day Care Service must ensure as part of the assessment that:

- a) any glazed area of a residence is:
 - Inaccessible to children; and
 - Is 0.75 metres or less above floor level
- b) The glazed area must be:
 - Glazed with safety glass if the Building Code of Australia requires this: or
 - Treated with a product that prevents glass from shattering if broken; or
 - Guarded by barriers that prevent a child from striking or falling against the glass.
- c) The residence is suitable for the ages and abilities of the children likely to attend the service
- d) There are suitable nappy change arrangements for children attending
- e) The existence of any water hazards, water features or swimming pool at or near the service and how this risk can be minimised.
- f) Risks posed by any animals at the service.

The Educator Workplace Safety Audit must be completed by all educators registered with Bland/Temora Family Day Care, annually before their registration expires.

Educators and Coordination Unit staff will arrange a mutually convenient time to review the Educator Workplace Safety Audit once it has been completed by the Educator, in their residence.

Educators must indicate the areas of the home which will be used for the operation of their childcare business. These areas must be indicated on a floor plan of the building. This floor plan forms part of this Educator Workplace Safety Audit. Any changes to the areas used in the home must have a Safety Audit completed before the areas can be used for care.

A copy of the completed and signed document will be kept at the Coordination Unit Office and the original is to be kept by the Educator and made available upon request.

It is the Educators responsibility to ensure that the areas of the home which will be used for the operation of their childcare business (i.e. your home and excursions) are a safe place for children at all times.

Prospective Educators

Prospective Educators will undergo a preliminary audit to review what changes and/or adjustments will need to be made before they commence the application process.

Renovations and changes to the service:

Any proposed renovations, changes relating to the service (eg. new pet) or any changes to the residence that will affect the education and care provided to the children at the service must be notified to the Coordination Unit, in writing, at least one month before these changes occur.

Any changes to the areas used in the home must have a Safety Audit completed before the areas can be used for care.

References:

Education and Care Services National Regulations
Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A		
	Manex	N/A		
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services			
EDRMS Doc. ID				
Superceded Policy				
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number	

Related Council Policy/Procedure



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MONITORING, SUPPORT AND SUPERVISION OF FDC EDUCATORS POLICY

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: TBA

Policy Objective:

Visits to educators' homes are made regularly by members of the Coordination Unit.

These visits are conducted in order to support the educator and children and to monitor the care being provided.

The visits may be unscheduled or may be arranged in advance.

Policy Statement:

The Bland/Temora Family Day Care scheme will endeavour to ensure that all educators receive a minimum of one home visit per month to enable the monitoring of the quality of care, provide support for the educator in all areas, to observe the children in care, to discuss issues that arise within the scheme and to maintain records.

Relevant Legislation:

Education and Care Services National Regulations

Definitions:

This policy applies to educators registered with the Bland/Temora Family Day Scheme.

Recommended Practices:

The Coordination Unit staff should:

1. Ensure to visit each educator regularly to enable channels of communication between staff and educators to be kept open, and to ensure the above purpose of home visits is fulfilled.
2. Conduct one home visit each month and endeavour to provide a second contact by phone or in person within the month. The home visit should be unscheduled so that the staff member can observe care in progress, identify the needs of the educator and children, and offer support.
3. Cover the following areas during visits:
 - a. Monitoring of the quality of care
This quality will be determined by the state of hygiene, nutritional quality of meals, standard of adult/child interactions, appropriateness of behaviour management techniques, and the availability of stimulating experiences provided for children.
 - b. Supporting the educator in all areas
The staff member may choose to discuss issues surrounding children's needs and experiences, parental issues, community perceptions, professional development and administrative requirements.
 - c. Observing the children in care
Staff members must have the opportunity to observe and interact with the children in care. They may identify and discuss children's developmental needs, activities to extend learning and behaviour management issues.
 - d. Maintaining records
Staff members will complete Home Visit records of each visit to ensure records are current. These records will cover the issues discussed and observed during the visit and be signed by both the staff member and the educator.

- e. Issues arising in the scheme
Staff members may discuss such issues as policy changes, insurance, training, meetings and placements.
4. Conduct visits at different times of the day and week to enable the staff member to observe all children in care.
 5. Contact the educator through telephone calls, Playgroup or by the educator visiting the office, when it is not possible for a visit to occur.
 6. Conduct visits in the individual educator's home to ensure that care is monitored in the environment in which it takes place.
 7. Discuss all relevant issues with the educator at the time of the visit. Educators should read and sign reports written during the home visit.
 8. Leave a visit card to inform the educator that a staff member has been to visit if the educator is not home at the time of the visit.
 9. Leave a visit note or complete a parent flyer to be passed on to each parent/guardian notifying them of the staff member's visit on that day.

References:

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority

Appendices:

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID			
Superseded Policy	Visits to educators homes - FDC		
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Previous Policy Number

Related Council Policy/Procedure

10.17 FOOD FOR FINES

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

- 4. Ensure services are accessible for all residents including the aged, people with a disability, young people and families*

Author: Director Community and Development Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the library partner with the Salvation Army and St Vincent De Paul to provide hampers for the community via the “Food for Fines” campaign.

Introduction

For the last nine years Bland Shire Library has partnered with the Salvation Army and St Vincent De Paul to assist with the provision of food hampers in the community. The contributions made by library clients have been highly valued and greatly appreciated. The library has also received positive media attention from across the state many other libraries have also adopted the program.

The food for fines campaign allows members of the community to bring in non perishable food items and goods, place them into hampers and in return library staff will remove any outstanding library fees due if requested by the contributor. Many people do not request their fees to be removed as they are happy to contribute the goods to charity.

Financial Implications

The project has the potential to decrease the fines income, however as the program has been running for last nine years, allowance for this has been included in the estimated income for the 2012/13 budget.

10.18 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES – CRICKET HONOUR BOARDS

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

- 3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire*

Author: Community Relations Officer

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council contribute \$750 (GST Inc) towards the purchase of two honour boards from its Strengthening Communities budget for the West Wyalong Cricket Association.

Introduction

West Wyalong cricket historian John Scascighini has written to Council seeking a financial contribution towards the purchase of two honour boards. The honour boards would feature the names of cricketers who scored a century, took a hat trick or took seven wickets or more while representing the West Wyalong Cricket Association in a representative match.

Mr Scascighini has compiled a list of players to have achieved the feat and there will be space on the boards for additional names to be added in the future. Mr Scascighini intends for the boards to be displayed at a “prominent public place”. He has received a quote and paid a deposit for the purchase of the honour boards, with the total cost being \$2781.99.

Conclusion

Mr Scascighini has donated the resources for the project thus far and the financial request represents approximately 25% of the total cost.

Financial Implications

Council has \$40,000 in its Strengthening Communities Program budget (formerly Community Donations and Event Sponsorship) as yet, no funds have been allocated in the 2012/13 financial year however there are 3 requests within this business paper for Council’s consideration.

10.19 STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES – NSW COUNTRY REGIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

OUR PROSPERITY – ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future “growing our population and jobs”

20. Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community and economy

Author: General Manager

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council authorise the payment of an amount of \$3,366.00, in the form of Strengthening Communities funding, to the West Wyalong Swimming Club, to assist with the costs associated with the hosting of the 2013 NSW Regional Country Swimming Championships being held in West Wyalong from 25th to 28th January 2013, being the Australia Day long weekend.

Introduction

Council has received an Event Sponsorship Application from the West Wyalong Swimming Club for assistance in hosting the 2013 NSW Regional Country Swimming Championships being held in West Wyalong from 25th to 28th January 2013, being the Australia Day long weekend.

A complete copy of the application will be tabled at the meeting, however, in summary the amount being sought is \$3,366.00 which is made up as follows:

- \$420.00 – printing of Programs
- \$1,820.00 – Purchase and installation of a P.A. system
- \$1,126.00 – Purchase of an additional portable unit for the P.A. system

This event is one of only three (3) Regional Championships being held throughout the State and is therefore a ‘feather in the cap’ of the local swimming club to have earned the right to host such a prestigious event on the NSW swimming calendar.

Hosting of the event will provide significant economic and social benefits to the West Wyalong business sector and wider community with between 500 to 700 actual competitors and assuming 2 – 3 family members, total visitors could be close to 2500 – 3000.

The event will also attract local and state media coverage.

Conclusion

Council’s support of this event will align with Council’s Strategic Plan objectives as well as promoting the Holland Park Swimming Complex for future major swimming events.

Financial Implications

Council has \$40,000 in its Strengthening Communities Program budget (formerly Community Donations and Event Sponsorship) as yet, no funds have been allocated in the 2012/13 financial year however there are 3 requests within this business paper for Council’s consideration.

SECTION 4 – ENGINEERING SERVICES

10.20 RACE TRACK - WEST WYALONG HARNESS RACING CLUB

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

- 3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire*

Author: Director Engineering Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council donate up to \$18,000 for the purpose of council completing improvement works on the racing track to enable the West Wyalong Harness Racing Club to better use the race track.

Background

Council has received representations from the Vice President of the West Wyalong Harness Racing Club stating, in part:

“-- in regards to the current condition of the race track due to the recent flood damage which has washed ruts and caused to much damage for us to fix with our small machines, It would be greatly appreciated if the shire could help with the grading of race track –“

The estimate for completing these works is \$18,000. It is considered that the track's state has deteriorated and if these works were completed it would return the track to its original condition.

Financial Implications

The \$18,000 can be allocated from Council's 2012-2013 Strengthening Communities Program. Council has \$40,000 in its Strengthening Communities Program budget (formerly Community Donations and Event Sponsorship) as yet, no funds have been allocated in the 2012/13 financial year however there are 3 requests within this business paper for Council's consideration.

Conclusion

It is believed that these works would improve the amenity of the public in particular the West Wyalong Harness Racing Club.

10.21 RE-ALIGNMENT BLOW CLEAR ROAD

Our Infrastructure – Reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets “maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate.

10. *Work in partnership with key stakeholders to improve road infrastructure for vehicle and pedestrian access*

Author: Director Engineering Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council approve of the re-alignment of Blow Clear Road.

Background

Blow Clear Road is reasonably straight on either side of the area proposed to be realigned, however, the road bends severely to go around the hill at the area where realignment is proposed. This is considered undesirable because of the need to slow down and the shortening of sight distance. It is believed that the road would be far better to traverse if the grade was straightened and if the bend was more “flowing”. A design has been prepared to lower the roadway in this area and to provide a sweeping bend. There would be a large volume of gravel that would need to be removed to achieve this and it will be some years before the re-alignment is completed. Copies of the location and design will be distributed at the meeting.

Financial Implications

The works, if adopted, would form part of council’s Road to Recovery grant program. The excavation of the gravel that is obtained will be used on various council road works in order to reduce the overall cost, this will occur over a number of years. The deviation roadworks and the final road preparation will be included in an RTA roads program for the relevant year.

Environment Implications

None

Conclusion

That the re-alignment of Blow Clear Road be adopted.

10.22 TAXI PARKING AREA MAIN STREET, WEST WYALONG

Our Infrastructure – Reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets “maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate.

10. *Work in partnership with key stakeholders to improve road infrastructure for vehicle and pedestrian access*

Author: Director Engineering Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That Council approve of the taxi parking area remaining in its current location within Main Street West Wyalong but starting 3m away from the pedestrian crossing nib.

Background

In the middle of 2012 the Local Traffic Committee adopted a parking layout for the Main Street which was basically the same as current but allowing for the new “nibs”. Part of the plan was the location of the Taxi rank just west of the pedestrian crossing on the north side. The Taxi rank was approved on a trial basis. The operations of the taxi area have been observed over the past months and comments have been received from the general public. The use of this area for Taxi’s has proved to be satisfactory, for due to the limited vision around the bend when pulling out, the taxi use has proved that they are the most suitable user since they do not pull out as often as other vehicles and they pull out in a forward direction.

However, there has been some comment from the public that when a taxi is parked close to the crossing it is harder to see oncoming traffic. The sight distance has been improved due to the nib projecting further into the road and due to the area being made a 40km/hr zone the traffic is moving reasonably slowly. When the comments were investigated it was found that the sight distance could be improved if the Taxi parking area was placed away from the start of the pedestrian crossing nib.

Since the location of the taxi parking area is not moving this matter does not need to be referred back to the Local Traffic Committee.

Financial Implications

The works are currently funded under the main street project.

Environment Implications

None

Conclusion

That the taxi parking area remain in its current location but start 3m away from the nib of the pedestrian crossing.

10.23 STREET CLEANING 2012-2013 ALLOCATION

Our Infrastructure – Reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets “maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate.

13. *Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible.*

Author: Director Engineering Services

Officer’s Recommendation:

That the 2012 – 2013 street cleaning budget be increased to \$91,450.

Background

In the 2012 – 2013 budget, \$77,250 was allocated for Street Cleaning. These monies are to fund council’s street cleaning contract. When looking at the expenditure for the first quarter of this financial year, it was found that there appeared to be an over expenditure to the contract for the agreed works that were being completed. Further investigation revealed the council rate charges for the street bins was also being charged to this area. The rate charge in 2012 – 2013 budget for the Main Street bins is \$14,200. In order that the budget reflects the true charges for the street cleaning contract, the street cleaning budget should be increased by \$14,200.

Financial Implications

After discussions with council’s finance section, the additional \$14,200 can be supplied from council’s reserves.

Environment Implications

None

Conclusion

That the 2012 – 2013 street cleaning budget should be increased by \$14,200, to \$91,450.

SECTION 5 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Officer's Recommendation:

That the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- **10.24 - Engineering Services Report – September**
- **10.25 - Engineering Services Report – October**
- **10.26 - Community Services Report – September**
- **10.27 - Community Services Report – October**
- **10.28 - Development Statistics – August 2012**
- **10.29 - Development Statistics – September 2012**
- **10.30 - Status Of Commercial Development Applications Under Consideration - October 2012**
- **10.31 - Ranger Activities – August**
- **10.32 - Ranger Activities – September**
- **10.33 - Library And Children Services Unit – September**
- **10.34 - Library And Children Services Unit – October**
- **10.35 - Bland Shire Economic Development & Tourism Report – September**
- **10.36 - Bland Shire Economic Development & Tourism Report - October**

10.24 ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT - SEPTEMBER

*OUR INFRASTRUCTURE – reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets
“maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate”*

13. *Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible.*

Author: Director – Engineering Services

Introduction

The following work was carried out:-

1. **National And State Road Maintenance**
Routine maintenance as per single invitation contract carried out on MR57 South & SH17.
2. **Regional Roads Maintenance**
- Bitumen patching and guide posting carried out on MR231, MR57N and MR368.
3. **Regional Road Repair Program**
Shoulder widening has started on MR398 west through the R2R program, 2.2 km of shoulder widening has been completed.
4. **Shire Roads Maintenance**
Bitumen Patching carried out on the following;
 - Bygoo Road
 - Kolkilbertoo Road
 - Tallimba Road
 - Quandialla Road
 - Burcher Road
Gravel Patching carried out on the following;
 - Back Creek Road
 - Bodels Lane
 - Mandamah Road
 - Bartels Lane
 - Morangorell Road
 - Lake Cowal Road
 - Lonergans Lane
 - Troths Lane
 - Meaghers Lane
 - Moonbucca Road
Gravel Resheeting R2R carried out on the following;
 - Fullers Lane – 3.9 km
 - Cottingley Lane – 3.8 km
 - Morangorell Road – 3.15 km
 - East Bland Lane - 2.5 km
 - Bartels Lane – 1.1 km
Gravel Resheeting FAG carried out on the following:-
 - Wyrra Road - 2.5 km
 - Beckom Road 5.5 km

Flood Damage work carried out on;

- Merrengreen Road (6.4km)
- Mulga Lane (1.4 km)
- Worners Lane (1.2 km)
- Campbells Lane (1 km)
- Quiltys Corner (0.5 km)
- Buttenshaws Lane (2 km)
- McCaskies Lane (6.8 km)
- Mud Hut East (1.7km)
- Clowery Tank Road (4.25 km)
- Corringale Lane (1.5km)
- Barrons Lane East (0.72km)
- Wests Lane (2.07 km)
- Waarbilla Road (4.5 km)
- Bodels Lane (1.58 km)
- Burrangong Road (1.58 km)

Guideposting has been done on a number of rural sealed roads, minor gravel patching has been done on a number of unsealed roads within the shire.

5. Town & Village Maintenance

- Regular street sweeping, mowing of towns and villages carried out.
- Bitumen patching carried out in the streets of West Wyalong, Barmedman and Ungarie.
- Kerb and Gutter repair in West Wyalong.

6. Town Street Construction

- Neeld Lane reconstruction in progress.

7. Sporting Fields

- Maintenance to all sporting ovals and surrounds
- Maintenance to lawn and monumental cemetery.
- Maintenance to Herridge, Cooina and Rotary parks.
- Water leaks at Redman Oval and Park Street Recreation Ground repaired.
- Line marking for rugby league, Australian rules, little athletics and school carnivals.
- Tree planting at saleyards and cemetery.
- Getting Ron Crowe ready for opening.
- Gypsum and dolomite put out on all ovals.
- Spraying for broadleaf weeds at Perseverance Street ovals and Redman oval.
- Irrigation extended at Herridge Park.
- Goal posts removed at Recreation ground for athletics and cricket.
- Irrigation checks carried out at all ovals and pump stations.
- Top dressing of cricket wicket.
- Fertilising of cricket wicket.

8. Sewer

West Wyalong

- Barnado Park toilets
- Tallimba toilets
- Weethalle toilets
- Apex Park toilets
- Ron Crowe toilets

- Caravan Park toilets
- Cooinda Park toilets
- Herridge Park toilets
- Operator Street
- Northcott Street
- Wootten Street
- Court Street
- Grenfell Street
- Railway Road
- Brown Street
- Neeld Street
- Dumaresq Street
- Barrier Street
- Cassin Street

Ungarie

- Herbert Street
- Ethel Street

Barmedman

- Queen Street
- Robertson Street

Weethalle

- Weethalle Street

9. **Noxious Weeds/Environmental**

- Noxious Weed and Environmental staff held noxious weed displays at the Weethalle and Barmedman Shows.
- The Environmental Officer attended a Lachlan CMA forum and Reference Group Workshop.
- Noxious Weeds Control staff underwent First Aid training.
- Environmental inspections were carried out on stock pile and rest area sites on Goldfields Way.
- Various inspections were carried out on Council land, Railway and Grain Corp sites for Spiny Burr Grass.
- Council obtained a Noxious Weed permit to store, transport and display noxious weeds.
- The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:
 - **Spiny Burr Grass control burning** - Calleen, Clear Ridge Road.
 - **African Boxthorn** – Ungarie Showground, Yiddah Road, Cottingleys Lane, Ungarie Rifle Range Road.
 - **Roadside vegetation control (tree suckers)** – MR 371, Kolkilbertoo Road.
 - **Roadside shoulder vegetation control** – West Wyalong – Condobolin Road, Rankins Springs Road, Hillston Road, Lake Road, Wamboyne Road, and Naradhan Road.
 - **General Weed control** – Ungarie Showground, Ungarie Village, Barmedman drainage, West Wyalong nature strips and drains, Wyalong lanes, West Wyalong Memorial Cemetery.
 - **Hazard control work** – Naradhan Landfill.
 - **Rabbit control** – Mid-Western Highway.

10.25 ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT - OCTOBER

*OUR INFRASTRUCTURE – reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets
“maintaining and improving the Shire’s assets and infrastructure in a changing climate”*

13. *Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible.*

Author: Director – Engineering Services

Introduction

The following work was carried out:-

- 1. National And State Road Maintenance**
Routine maintenance as per single invitation contract carried out on MR57 South & SH17.
- 2. Regional Roads Maintenance**
- Bitumen patching and guide posting carried out on MR231, MR57N and MR371.
- 3. Local Roads Construction**
Shoulder widening has started on Clear Ride Road through the R2R programme.
- 4. Shire Roads Maintenance**
Bitumen Patching carried out on the following;
 - Bygoo Road
 - Tallimba Road
 - Quandialla Road
Gravel Patching carried out on the following;
 - Back Creek Road
 - Younga Plains Road
 - Thulloo Road
 - Parkinsons Lane
 - Mirrool Road
Gravel Resheeting R2R carried out on the following;
 - Cottingley Lane – 3.8 km
Gravel Resheeting FAG carried out on the following:-
 - Wyrra Road - 2.5 km
 - McCrones Lane 3.4 km
Flood Damage work carried out on;
 - Mildil Road 2 km
 - McCaskies Lane 6 km
 - Waarbilla Road 5.1 km
 - Hollands Lane 2.5 km
 - Worners Lane 1.312 km
 - Hatelys Lane 1.7 km
 - Ridleys Lane 0.5km
 - Gunn Road 1.2 km
 - Sullivans Lane 1.5 km
 - Campbells Lane 1 km

- Wests Lane (2.07 km)

Guideposting has been done on a number of rural sealed roads, minor gravel patching has been done on a number of unsealed roads within the shire, drainage works has been completed on Gibsonvale Road.

5. Town & Village Maintenance

- Regular street sweeping, mowing of towns and villages carried out.
- Bitumen patching carried out in the streets of West Wyalong, Barmedman and Ungarie.
- Kerb and Gutter repair in West Wyalong.

6. Town Street Construction

Neeld Lane reconstruction has been finished.

7. Saleyards

Sale date – 26.9.2012
Sheep yarded – 14678
Yard fees - \$8806.80

8. Sporting Fields

- Maintenance to all ovals and surrounds.
- Maintenance to lawn and monumental cemetery.
- Maintenance to Herridge, Cooina and Rotary Parks
- Linemarking for rugby league and Little Athletics.
- Watering of trees at saleyards and cemetery.
- Park Street Recreation Ground, Ron Crowe and Perseverance Street Oval sprayed with Destiny for rye grass.
- Park Street Recreation Ground and Ron Crowe Oval sprayed with Acceliprin to kill black beetle.
- Perseverance Street Ovals sprayed with Pride to kill black beetle.
- Cemetery and Herridge Park sprayed for broadleaf weeds.
- All ovals and surrounds sprayed for broadleaf weeds.
- Irrigation checks carried out on all ovals and pump sheds.
- Fertilising of cricket wicket.
- Tree pruning at cemetery.
- Maintenance to skate park.
- Maintenance to lawn section at Council Depot.

9. Sewer 1.9.12 – 30.9.12

- Barrier Street;
- Court Street,
- Gilbert Street
- Barrier Street
- Brown Street x 2
- Stranger Street
- Welcome Street
- Park Street
- Emu Street
- Wootten Street
- Dumaresq Street
- Neeld Street

- Caravan Park
- Ungarie Retirement Village

Public Toilets

- Cooinda Park toilets x 2
- Apex Park toilets x 2
- Lions Park toilets

10. Noxious Weeds/Environmental

- Noxious Weed and Environmental staff held noxious weed displays at the Ungarie and West Wyalong Show, and assisted on the Noxious Weeds stand at the Henty Field Day.
- The Environmental Officer attended the Emergency Management meeting, and the Bland Creek Catchment Committee AGM.
- Noxious Weeds Control staff underwent Traffic Control training.
- Environmental inspections were carried out on stock pile and rest area sites on Goldfields Way.
- Various inspections were carried out on Council land, Railway and Grain Corp sites for Spiny Burr Grass.
- The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:
 - **African Boxthorn** – Fullers Lane, Goldfields Way, Newell Highway.
 - **Prickly Pear** – By-pass Road, Race Course Road.
 - **Wild Radish** – Kolkilbertoo Road, Gunns Road.
 - **St John's Wort** – Kolkilbertoo Road, West Wyalong – Condobolin Road, Weethalle township, McDermotts Lane, Chanters Lane.
 - **Roadside vegetation control (tree suckers)** – Kolkilbertoo Road.
 - **Roadside shoulder vegetation control** – Naradhan Road, Kikoira Road, Boreamble Road, Lake Road, West Wyalong – Condobolin Road, Merringreen Road, Crown Camp Road, Bena Road, Goldfields Way, Wamboyne Road, Blow Clear Road, Dundas Road, Tallimba Road, Brolga Road, Wamboyne Road, Collins Lane, Ridleys Lane, Paynes Road.
 - **General Weed control** – Sale yards, West Wyalong and Wyalong lanes and drains, West Wyalong Memorial Cemetery, Tallimba lanes.
 - **Rabbit control** – West Wyalong Memorial Cemetery.

10.26 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT - SEPTEMBER

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Director Community and Development Services

Community Relations

Website

Bland Shire Council launched its new website on Wednesday, September 5. The website has been built with the capabilities to utilise a host of exciting new technologies and interactive features not previously available through Council's former site.

The site will allow members of the community to easily interact with Council with a few simple clicks of the mouse button. One of the many new features of the site is online forms. The first online form which has been created and released for public usage is the Australia Day nomination forms. For the first time, members of the community can nominate an outstanding group or individual for an Australia Day award completely online.

Council will eventually add grants and donations application forms and many more online forms. The new site has the capacity to provide every Council form online, including those which require payment. The new site has also been specifically designed to operate effectively on mobile phone and tablet devices while social media integration through the site has also vastly improved. The inclusion of a community calendar allows community groups to promote their event through the website with a couple of simple clicks while the inclusion of video and audio content opens up new opportunities to promote and distribute information.

Another feature is an inbuilt emergency mode, which can provide up to date emergency information to the public. The inclusion of RSS feeds will allow people to be instantly alerted when new information becomes available. RSS feeds have also been incorporated into other sections of the website. None of these features were previously available through the former site and the cost to implement these features on the former website was prohibitive.

Council will also save more than 50 per cent on ongoing training, support, service and hosting fees through the new arrangements.

West Wyalong Show

Bland Shire Council had a display in the industrial hall at the West Wyalong Show. The display included various giveaways and information about various Council services in the community.

The stall was manned by Council staff and Councillors throughout the day and proved a worthwhile forum to interact with the community. Visitor numbers to the display were steady throughout the day.

Flood assistance

After months of campaigning, Council received a bitter sweet result in its efforts to secure flood assistance funding for the Bland Shire.

When Council's second application for a Category C declaration was rejected by the State Government on the grounds that there was insufficient damage (\$23.7 million) to the agricultural sector, Federal Minister Nicola Roxon broke standard procedures to make a special disaster declaration for the township of Ungarie. While wonderful news for Ungarie it was a bitter pill to swallow for farmers and local businesses whose livelihoods are still being threatened by the floods.

Following the Ungarie announcement, Council helped to facilitate articles in major country newspapers to highlight the failure of the State Government to assist flood stricken farmers. When news of the special declaration for Ungarie was announced, Council helped facilitate a visit from Centrelink on the following Monday where a temporary processing centre was established at the Ungarie Hall.

Community Development Officer

Bald Archy 2012 Exhibition

The 2012 Bald Archy Exhibition was hailed another great success. The Opening night was attended by approximately 80 people with official ceremony hosted by Jan Wyse and opened by Deputy Mayor Dot Smith.

There were 985 people who attended the event, (approximate 30% of West Wyalong & Wyalong township population) and \$1479.70 was raised in door takings for the fourteen hosting community groups.

Council has been investigating alternate/additional cultural exhibitions such as Art Express; a dynamic and popular exhibition featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the artmaking component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts. It includes a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, painting, photomedia, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fibre, and time-based forms.

September/October School Holiday Program - Tweens

Two holiday program activities have been organised by Council aimed at the 'Tweens' of Bland Shire (aged 8-12years). As it was identified this group had limited opportunity for participating in the existing programs offered in the holidays

An excursion to the movies and Botanical Gardens in Wagga will be held on Tuesday 25th September and an excursion to Dubbo Zoo will be held on Wednesday 3rd October.

10.27 COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT - OCTOBER

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Director Community and Development Services

Community Relations

Website

Bland Shire Council launched its new website on Wednesday, September 5.

In the first month since its launch, the website attracted 1814 unique visitors. Essentially this means that 1814 different individuals, families or couples have viewed the site since its launch. Google Analytics data reveals that 42.62% per cent of traffic generated by the website are new visitors who had not previously visited www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au.

The website has been built with the capabilities to utilise a host of exciting new technologies and interactive features not previously available through Council's former site.

The site will allow members of the community to easily interact with Council with a few simple clicks of the mouse button. One of the many new features of the site is online forms.

The first online form which has been created and released for public usage is the Australia Day nomination forms. For the first time, members of the community can nominate an outstanding group or individual for an Australia Day award completely online.

Community grants and donations application forms were added on September 28.

The new site has the capacity to provide every Council form online, including those which require payment.

The new site has also been specifically designed to operate effectively on mobile phone and tablet devices while social media integration through the site has also vastly improved.

During September, the site was accessed by 430 visitors using a mobile device.

The inclusion of a community calendar allows community groups to promote their event through the website with a couple of simple clicks while the inclusion of video and audio content opens up new opportunities to promote and distribute information.

Another feature is an inbuilt emergency mode, which can provide up to date emergency information to the public. The inclusion of RSS feeds will allow people to be instantly alerted when new information becomes available. RSS feeds have also been incorporated into other sections of the website.

None of these feature were previously available through the former site. The cost to implement these features on the former website was prohibitive.

Council will also save more than 50 per cent on ongoing training, support, service and hosting fees through the new arrangements.

Bland Bulletin

The October edition of the Bland Bulletin was officially released on October 5 with website subscribers receiving their digital copy a week earlier. The Bulletin was distributed throughout the Shire to inform the community about Council events, activities and initiatives.

West Wyalong Show

Bland Shire Council had a display in the industrial hall at the West Wyalong Show.

The display included various giveaways and information about various Council services in the community.

The stall was manned by Council staff and Councillors throughout the day and proved a worthwhile forum to interact with the community.

Visitor numbers to the display were steady throughout the day.

Flood assistance

After months of campaigning, Council received a bitter sweet result in its efforts to secure flood assistance funding for the Bland Shire.

When Council's second application for a Category C declaration was rejected by the State Government on the grounds that there was insufficient damage (\$23.7 million) to the agricultural sector, Federal Minister Nicola Roxon broke standard procedures to make a special disaster declaration for the township of Ungarie.

While wonderful news for Ungarie it was a bitter pill to swallow for farmers and local businesses whose livelihoods are still being threatened by the floods. Following the Ungarie announcement, Council helped to facilitate articles in major country newspapers to highlight the failure of the State Government to assist flood stricken farmers.

When news of the special declaration for Ungarie was announced, Council helped facilitate a visit from Centrelink on the following Monday where a temporary processing centre was established at the Ungarie Hall.

Council has been invited to attend a mini-expo in Ungarie when Centrelink make a follow up visit on September 28.

Men's Shed

Council has assisted the West Wyalong Men's Shed with grant applications with the Australian Men's Shed Association and Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal.

Preliminary discussions have also been held about developing a mentoring program with local youth.

Community Development

Bald Archy 2012 Exhibition

The 2012 Bald Archy Exhibition was hailed another great success. There were 985 people who attended the event, (approximate 30% of West Wyalong & Wyalong township population) and \$1479.70 was raised in door takings for the fourteen hosting community groups.

Council has been investigating alternate/additional cultural exhibitions such as Art Express; a dynamic and popular exhibition featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the artmaking component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts. It includes a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, documented forms, drawing, graphic design, painting, photomedia, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fibre, and time-based forms.

September/October School Holiday Program - Tweens

Two holiday program activities were organised aimed at the 'Tweens' of Bland Shire (aged 8-12years).

An excursion to the movies and Botanical Gardens in Wagga was held on Tuesday 25th September. The bus was filled to capacity with 22 students attending. The event was a great success.

The Dubbo Zoo excursion was held on Wednesday 3 October. The participants enjoyed encountering the animals and experienced many exciting keeper activities.

New Residents Meet & Greet

As part of the Community Plan strategy to "Provide information, support, liaison services to individuals and groups" a New Residents Meet & Greet event was held on Wednesday, October 10 in the Bland Library. The updated New Residents package was relaunched and provided to those attendees. It is also available on the Bland Shire website.

Providing information about local services and connecting new residents with other new residents and local Council staff helps to provide a smooth transition into the Bland Shire community and reduce isolation.

Way 2 Go Volunteer Manager Training

CDO and YCDO attended Way 2 Go Volunteer Managers Training in Albury, on October 11. This course will provide our community development officers with the knowledge, skills and tools to conduct Volunteer workshops in the coming year for local individuals, community and sporting groups.

Provision of volunteer workshops addresses the Community Plan Strategy 'Encourage volunteering in local community'.

Fun Run

Final preparations are being made for the Community Fun Run to be held on Sunday November 4. Volunteers are currently being sought to assist on the day.

Youth

Bland Shire Unplugged

The third issue of youth magazine Bland Shire Unplugged was distributed at the end of August. This issue saw the introduction of a three month calendar of future youth related events and programs.

Lachlan Catchment Management Authority kindly donated seedstick packs as a free gift to 200 readers to help celebrate and promote National Tree Day.

Blue Light Disco

Members from across NSW Police & Community Youth Clubs (PCYC) visited West Wyalong on Friday 28th September to host a Blue Light Disco for youth of the Bland Shire. With them they brought Hip Hop personality KG from Sydney, who began the evening with a Hip Hop Workshop and returned to finish the event with games & prizes (including an Ipad).

Bland Shire Council supported this event through publicity and the YoBS (Youth of Bland Shire) committee ran the canteen on the night to raise money for future youth events and programs. The PCYC expressed their interest in including West Wyalong again on the 2013 tour.

School Holiday Program

Jewellery Making

Six young people enjoyed an introductory session to jewellery making in the Bland Shire Library on Wednesday 26th September. They learnt the skills involved in creating earrings and bracelets.

Henna Tattoos

Henna Tattoo artist Maheen Rehman from Wagga Wagga conducted a class on Henna Tattooing. She inspired the young people present to create their own designs and use the henna ink on each other. Four lucky young people were also chosen to receive a tattoo from Maheen.

NRMA Safer Driving School

The NRMA tutors visited West Wyalong on Wednesday 3rd October for the popular NRMA Safer Driving School (held every school holidays). 'L Plate' drivers have the opportunity to participate in a one hour lesson in automatic or manual vehicles with professional instructors to gain three hours of log book time.

HSC Lock in

2012 HSC students were invited to attend a 'lock-in' study session held at Bland Shire Library on Wednesday 12th September. Attendance doubled from the 2011 night. The students were given the opportunity to study in groups and familiarise themselves with Library study resources (including YourTutor one-on-one online tutoring). Due to the success of the program the Library will offer a second session on Wednesday 17th October.

Golden Dramatic Minds Festival

The Golden Dramatic Minds Festival is back in 2012 with the introduction of a Youth Mental Health Promotions Worker funded by Barrick Cowal for three years. The position will coordinate the festival and work with the young people involved to deliver their performance. The Festival offers schools within the region the opportunity to write and perform a short play based on a mental health of their choosing to promote mental health and the assistance available. The Festival will be held at Temora Town Hall on Friday 9th November.

10.28 DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS – AUGUST 2012

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Manager Development Services

Development Applications

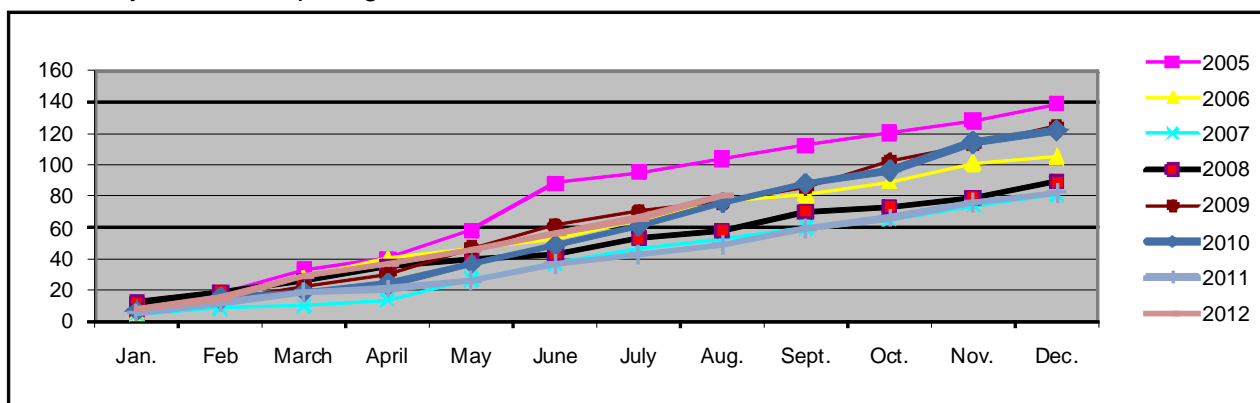
The following table details the number and value of development applications received by Council, during August 2012.

Development Type	Current Year			
	August 2012		Year to Date 1.01.12 – 31.08.12	
	Number	Value \$	Number	Value \$
Residential	7	647,700	37	2,692,714
Industrial	2	40,000	4	203,500
Commercial	1	Nil	21	1,096,500
Rural Residential	0	Nil	2	80,000
Subdivisions	0	Nil	3	Nil
Other	4	7,000	13	7,000
TOTAL	14	694,700	80	4,079,714

There were three ‘Other’ applications for tree removals. The one Commercial application received was for an ‘A’ framed sign which does not add any value.

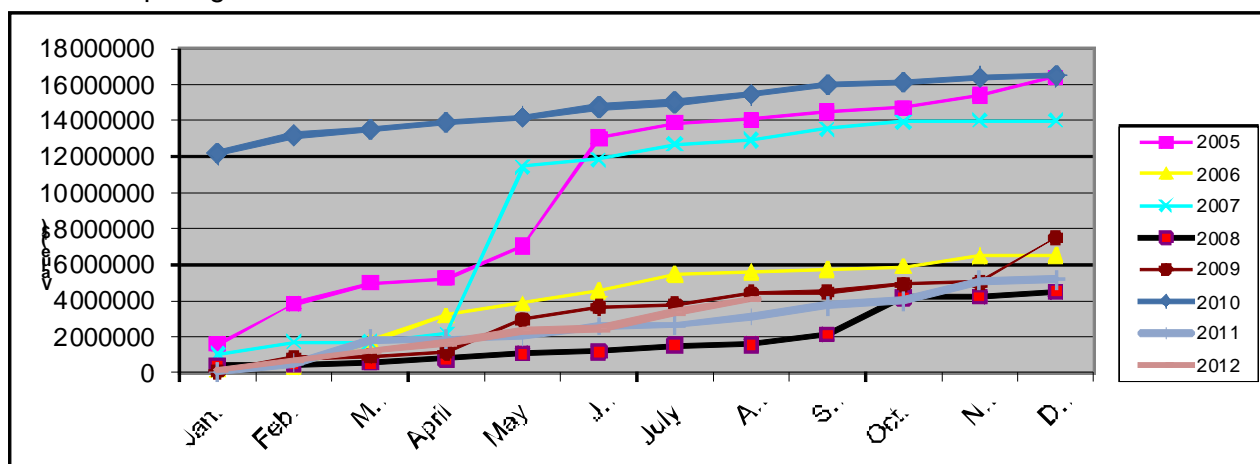
Number of Development Applications

The following graph details the cumulative total number of development applications received by month comparing 2005 to 2012.



Value of Development Applications

The following graph details the cumulative value of development applications received by month comparing 2005 to 2012.



Note: Seniors Living Development on Ungarie Road, contributed to the spike in value of development applications with a value of over \$8 million during the year 2007. The values as shown for 2010 are attributed to this development also.

Summary – August 2012

- The following Development Applications were determined all by approval during August:

App No.	Property	Development
DA/2013/011	141 Main Street, West Wyalong	External & Internal Painting of a Heritage Building
DA/2013/012	9 Pope Street, Tallimba	Construction of an Access Ramp for the Disabled
DA/2013/013	106 Railway Road, West Wyalong	Lopping of twelve (12) trees
DA/2013/014	37 Blyth Street, Wyalong	Construction of a Garage and a Carport
DA/2013/015	1 Dumaresq Street, West Wyalong	Erection of a Storage Shed
DA/2013/016	86 Hatelys Lane, West Wyalong	Installation of a Weighbridge
DA/2013/024	63 George Bland Avenue, Wyalong	Removal of six (6) trees

- Construction Certificates issued - Four (4)
- Complying Development Certificates issued- Nil (0)
- Activity Applications issued - Nil (0)
- Building Certificates issued - Nil (0)
- Subdivision Certificates issued - Nil (0)
- Occupation Certificates issued - Ten (10)
- Completion Certificates issued- Nil (0)
- Section 149 Certificates issued - Twenty - Four (24)

10.29 DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS – SEPTEMBER 2012

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Manager Development Services

Development Applications

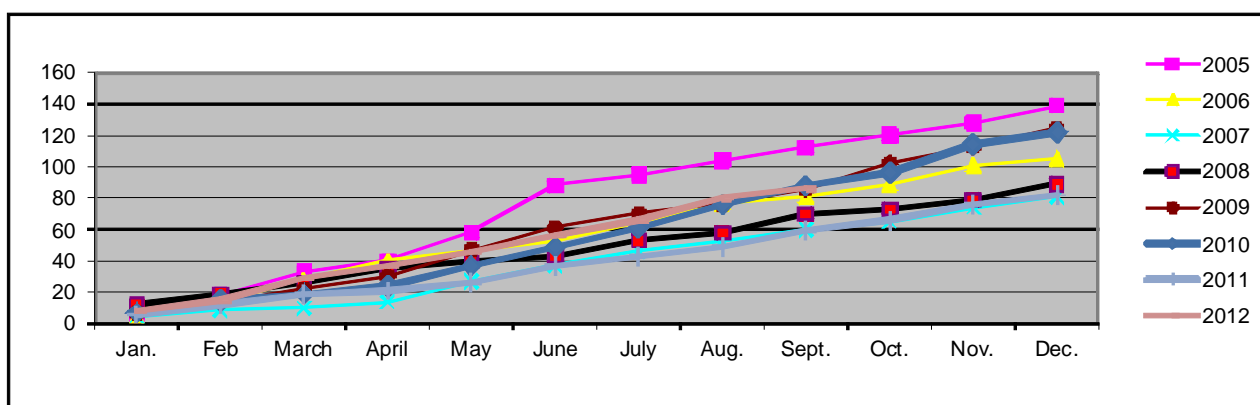
The following table details the number and value of development applications received by Council, during September 2012.

Development Type	Current Year			
	September 2012		Year to Date 1.01.12 – 30.09.12	
	Number	Value \$	Number	Value \$
Residential	2	19,070	39	2,711,784
Industrial	1	550,000	5	753,500
Commercial	1	6000	22	1,102,500
Rural Residential	1	170000	3	250,000
Subdivisions	0	Nil	3	Nil
Other	1	Nil	14	7,000
TOTAL	6	745,070	86	4,824,784

There was one 'Other' application for tree removals.

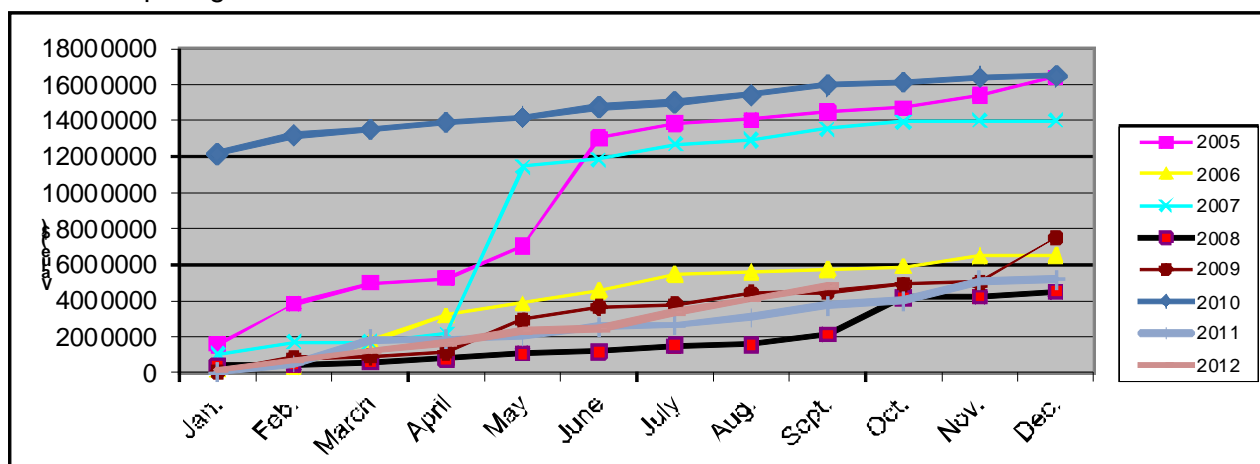
Number of Development Applications

The following graph details the cumulative total number of development applications received by month comparing 2005 to 2012.



Value of Development Applications

The following graph details the cumulative value of development applications received by month comparing 2005 to 2012.



Note: Seniors Living Development on Ungarie Road, contributed to the spike in value of development applications with a value of over \$8 million during the year 2007. The values as shown for 2010 are attributed to this development also.

Summary – September 2012

- The following Development Applications were determined all by approval during September:

App No.	Property	Development
DA/2013/010	2 Monash Street, West Wyalong	Demolition of an existing Carport, Construction of a Storage Shed and a Shade Sail Structure
DA/2013/017	Footpath adjacent to 122 Main Street, West Wyalong	Use of Footpath – Display of Goods
DA/2013/019	26 Wilga Street, West Wyalong	Additions to an existing Dwelling
DA/2013/020	20 Old Hospital Road, West Wyalong	Residential Storage Shed
DA/2013/021	210 Neeld Street, Wyalong	Verandah and Entertainment Area
DA/2013/023	6 Wilga Street, West Wyalong	Removal of One Tree
DA/2013/025	9 Court Street, West Wyalong	Removal of One Tree
DA/2013/027	60 Wollongough St, Ungarie	Demolition of an Awning
DA/2013/029	25 Dumaresq St, West Wyalong	Alterations to a Dwelling (Replace Fire Damaged Roof)

- Construction Certificates issued - Five (5)
- Complying Development Certificates issued- Two (2)
- Activity Applications issued - One (1)
- Building Certificates issued - Nil (0)
- Subdivision Certificates issued - Nil (0)
- Occupation Certificates issued - Six (6)
- Completion Certificates issued- Nil (0)
- Section 149 Certificates issued - Nineteen (19)

10.30 STATUS OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION - OCTOBER 2012

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Manager Development Services

Background

The following report has been prepared to provide Council with an update of the status of commercial development applications currently being assessed and/or under consideration.

DA 2013/009 – Car Washing Facility, 292 Neeld St, West Wyalong

<u>Description</u>	Demolition of an existing dwelling, construction of Car Washing Facility – three manual washing bays, one automatic bay & a dog wash facility
<u>Value</u>	\$564,000.00
<u>Received</u>	23 July 2012
<u>Advertisement</u>	Application has been notified to adjoining properties and previous objectors as per Council’s policy.
<u>Referrals sent</u>	Internal Referrals have been sent. External Referrals have been sent to RMS & Goldenfields Water.

Please note the applicant for this application is the same applicant in regard to the previous development consent issued DA/2011/007 for the same development on 15 November 2011. The application is now proposing to place the development further to the west than the approved location, to mitigate the impact on the existing motels to the east and north.

Development consent has been issued for the proposed development under delegated authority on 11 September 2012.

DA 2013/016 – Installation of Weighbridge, 86 Hatelys Lane, West Wyalong

<u>Description</u>	Installation of Weighbridge
<u>Value</u>	\$200,000.00
<u>Received</u>	2 August 2012
<u>Advertisement</u>	Due to the existing operation and the location of the proposal at the site, it has been determined that the application does not need to be advertised.
<u>Status</u>	Development consent was issued for the proposed development on the 14 August 2012.

DA2013/022 – Industrial Storage Shed, 3 Calleen St, West Wyalong

<u>Description</u>	Industrial Storage Shed
<u>Value</u>	\$48,000.00
<u>Received</u>	16 August 2012
<u>Advertisement</u>	Application has been notified to adjoining properties as per Council's policy. No objection/s where received.

Status

Council is currently awaiting payment of additional fees and advice from the applicant in regard to the proposed proximity of the structure to the adjoining boundary considering the fire requirements under the Building Code of Australia.

DA 2013/028 – Liquid Fuel Storage Facility, 10 Calleen St, West Wyalong

<u>Description</u>	Liquid Fuel Storage Facility
<u>Value</u>	\$550,000.00
<u>Received</u>	24 September 2012
<u>Advertisement</u>	Applicant provided letters from adjoining property owners advising they have no objection to proposal, therefore in accordance with Council's DCP, the application has not be advertised to adjoining property owners.

Status

Application is currently being assessed by staff.

10.31 RANGER ACTIVITIES - AUGUST

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

18. Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective and customer focused practices.

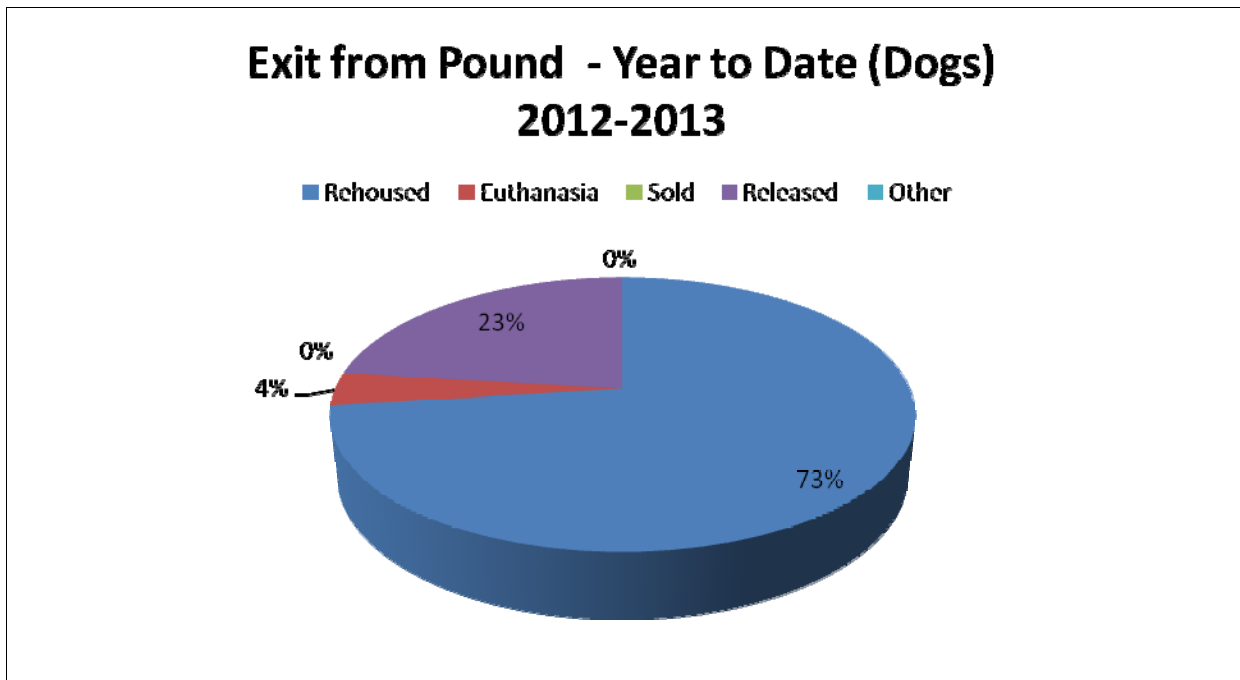
Author: Manager Development Services

Companion Animal Activities

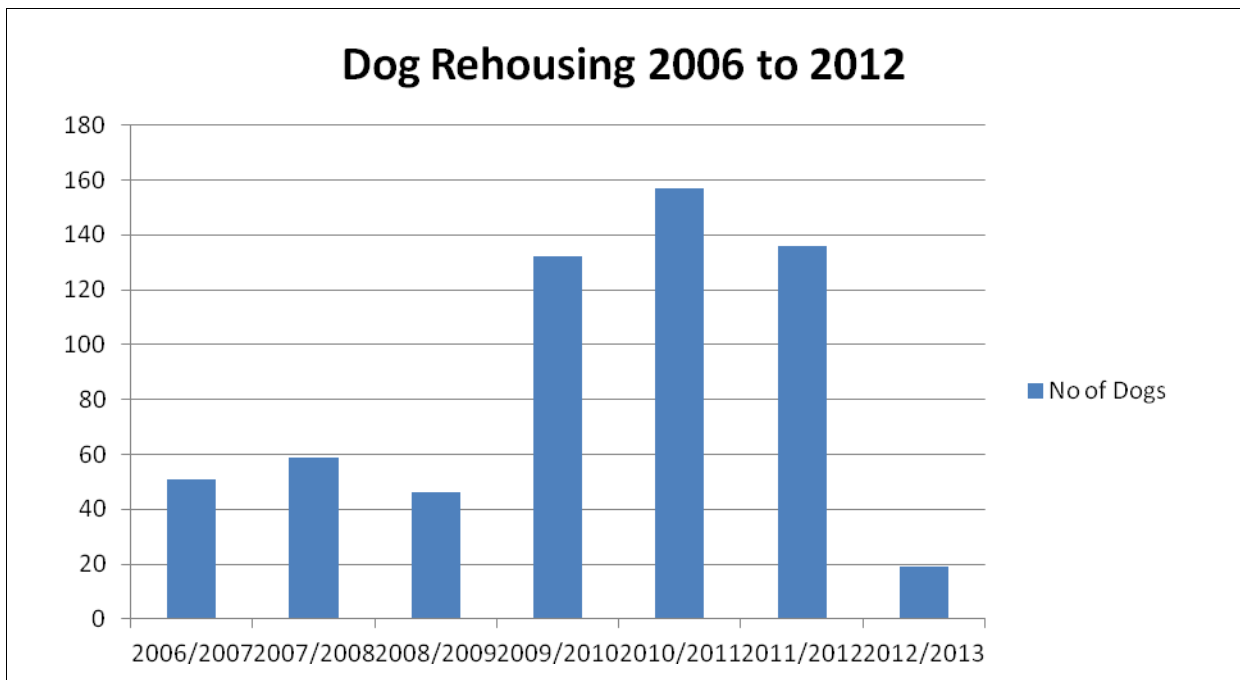
The following table summarises the management of companion animals during the month of August 2012:

	Dogs	Cats
Seizure Activities:		
Seized	4	10
Returned to Owner	0	0
Transferred to Pound from Seizure Activities	4	10
Animals in Pound at start of month	3	0
Dumped	2	0
Surrendered	5	0
Total Animals in Pound	14	10
Released to Owner	1	0
Euthanased	1	9
Sold	0	0
Stolen from Pound	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Died at Pound	0	1
Rehoused	9	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	11	10
Animals in Pound at end of month	3	0

The following chart summarises the methods in which companion animals (dogs) exit the pound:



The following chart summarises the rehousing statistics from 2006 to 31 August 2012:



10.32 RANGER ACTIVITIES – SEPTEMBER

OUR LEADERSHIP – setting a benchmark for community standards “a well run council acting as the voice of the community ... leading by example”

15. To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

18. Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective and customer focused practices.

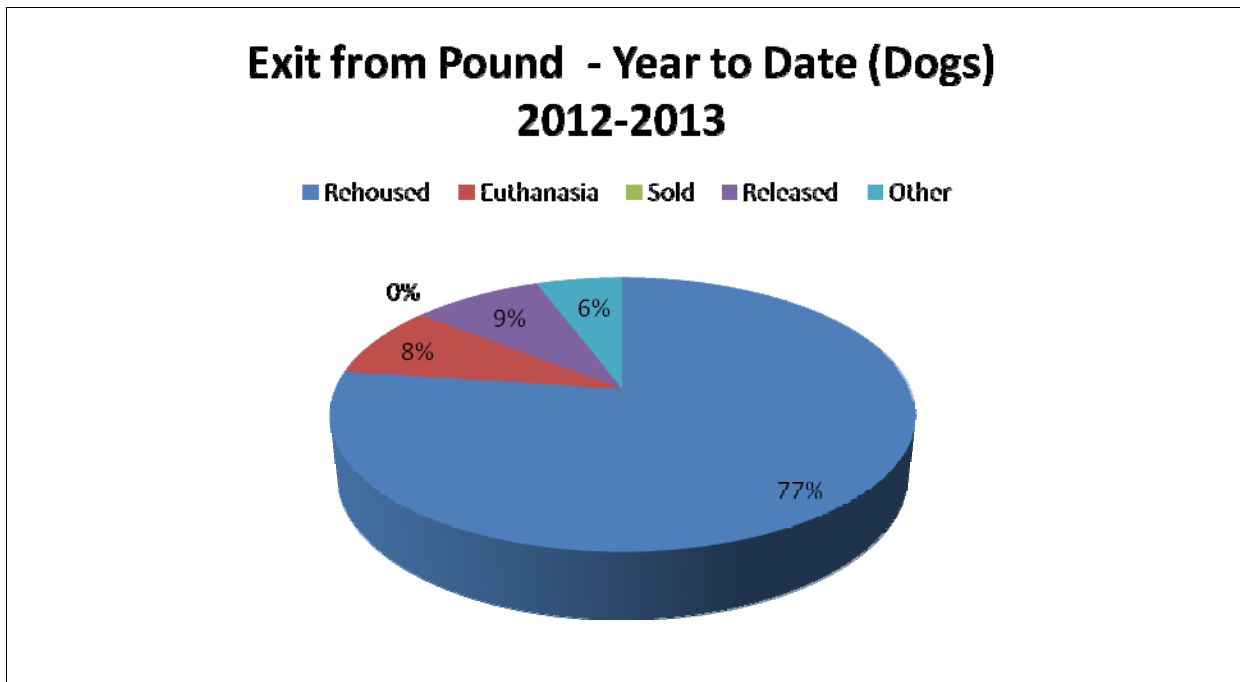
Author: Manager Development Services

Companion Animal Activities

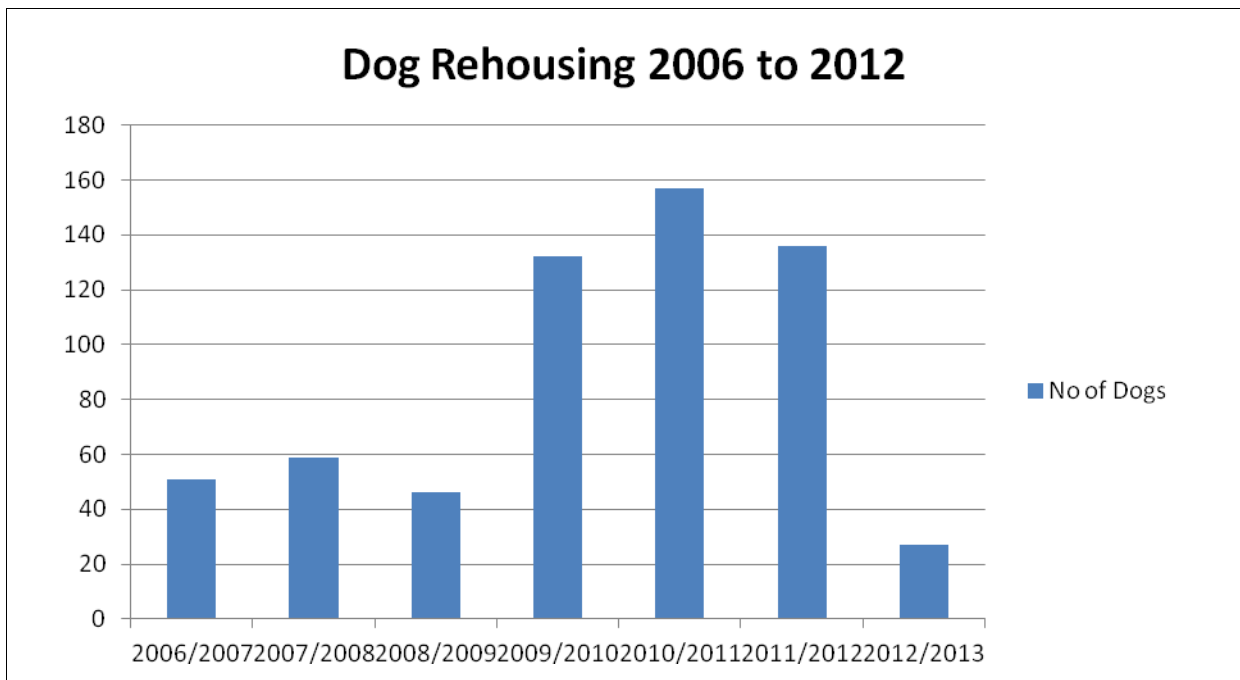
The following table summarises the management of companion animals during the month of September 2012:

	Dogs	Cats
Seizure Activities:		
Seized	6	7
Returned to Owner	1	0
Transferred to Pound from Seizure Activities		
Animals in Pound at start of month	3	0
Dumped	8	1
Surrendered	2	1
Total Animals in Pound	18	9
Released to Owner		
Euthanased	3	9
Sold	0	0
Stolen from Pound	1	0
Escaped	0	0
Died at Pound	1	0
Rehoused	8	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	15	9
Animals in Pound at end of month		
	3	0

The following chart summarises the methods in which companion animals (dogs) exit the pound:



The following chart summarises the rehousing statistics from 2006 to 30 September 2012:



10.33 LIBRARY AND CHILDREN SERVICES UNIT - SEPTEMBER

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

Ensure services are accessible for all residents including the aged, people with a disability, young people and families, 4.7 & 4.8

Author: Manager Library & Children Services

Library

Children’s Book Week

The library ran a range of competitions for primary and high school aged children to celebrate Children’s Book Week. The library celebrated Children’s Book Week from the 18-24th of August. Local schools were invited to visit the library for information sessions. A total of 450 school children visited the library during the week.

On Thursday 23th of August the library also ran a night time story time for preschool and kindergarten aged children. The children and parents were encouraged to visit the library in their pyjamas. This was also very successful and is planning to organise another night time story time session in December.

History Week 2012

History Week is celebrated each year in September across NSW and the goal is to share with the community stories that show how history is interesting, relevant and all around us. The library was successful in being offered a professional speaker for history week. Andrew Tink a visiting fellow at the Division of Law at Macquarie University and former politician will be visiting West Wyalong on Wednesday 12 of September. The talk will discuss the story behind Australia’s first civil law case.

HSC Lock In

The library will be running a study session for year 12 students on the 12th and 19th of September. The library will be providing a quiet study space and an opportunity to access the libraries online resources, relevant library materials and study space. The library will be open after hours specifically for students who are studying for the HSC.

School Holiday Program

The library school holiday program is participating in a combined promotion with the Vacation Care and Youth Services. The library will be running four holiday’s sessions during this period and will also be participating in two youth holiday programs. The Library will be running its school holiday program from September 24th – 5th of October.

Membership Drive

As part of National Get Reading Campaign, the library is promoting Australian literature in September. The library is also running a membership drive. All community members who join the library during the month will receive a free Good Reading Magazine and library bag.

FDC & MRU

CSU Matters

Paperwork delays and staff illness have caused some staffing issues at CSU with FDC and MRU staff required to assist the preschool with the role of Responsible person. The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) require a responsible person in the building at all times whilst a Centre based service is caring for children, therefore a Certified Supervisor from FDC or MRU staff have been required to remain in the building during these times. This has caused some disruption to staffing but we have ensured that there has been no interruption to any of Councils Children's Services.

There have also been delays with the DEC processing of venue approvals and applications; many are not being processed for 3-4 months. This is due to the changes in service regulations and new paperwork requirements by all children's services, as well as changes with the DEC.

Family Day Care:

Educator Issues

Family Day Care educator, Sharon Reddie has returned from maternity leave to recommence as a part-time educator.

All FDC educators recently attended training in Managing Asthma and Anaphylaxis. This mandatory training is required under the Education and Care National Regulations.

Staff Matters

Congratulations to Shanay Imrie who was successful in her application for the role of Child Development Officer for FDC.

Waiting List for 2013

Advertisements have been placed in both the West Wyalong Advocate and The Temora Independent for child care bookings for next year.

FDC currently has very limited places available for care in both areas.

It takes a Village

Attendance for this Community Capacity Building Program has fluctuated and is currently under review. The program is targeting preschool aged children, adults and seniors in the community. The coordinators of the program have found it challenging to provide a service that meets the needs of a range of community members. The "It takes a Village" initiative has been trialled at Barmedman, Ardlethan, Tallimba and Kikiora.

Community members of various ages have been invited to attend and to try a variety of programs. Programs that have been offered include; yoga sessions, craft workshops, photography workshops, computer training, pedicures and manicures as well as activities for children. Many of the participants also indicated an interest in attending TAFE training and small business training. A presentation from TAFE on training options was arranged however has been postponed due to the small number of bookings.

“It takes a village” program has been successful at Kikiora and has had a cross section of the community attending. The coordinators are confident that with time the program will be successful in other communities. The coordinators recognise that different communities have different needs and are mindful of the fact that they need to continue to meet these needs as well as meet the funding bodies guidelines.

Mobile Resource Unit

Playgroup

Playgroups have been running as normal this month with numbers fluctuating at different venues.

- We celebrated Father’s Day this term with children creating numerous artworks and display’s for their dads!
- We conducted our quarterly fire drills this month at all venues. Educators demonstrated, reminded and instructed parents and children what to do and where to go in case of an emergency.

Ungarie Preschool

Preschool children have been preparing for the Ungarie Show with artworks and displays being created. The children’s artwork will be on display at the Ungarie show on Saturday 8th September. Children and educators have also celebrated Father’s Day with lots of craft being made. Children and educators constructed a vegetable garden in the backyard. Three new children are now in attendance bringing the total enrolment to 19 children.

Preschool Staff have been invited to participate in meetings with the Kindergarten teacher and Assistant Principal at Ungarie Central school to discuss improvements to the transition to school program. This will improve communication between the Preschool and school and allow for easier transitions and clear expectations as to what is required of a child before they attend school.

Vacation Care

The Vacation Care Program is participating in a combined promotion with the Library and Youth Services. Advertising commenced for all three services children’s activities for the upcoming September/October holidays. The Vacation care service will be running its school holiday program from September 24th – 28th.

Toy Library

Toys have been borrowed by the Bland Shire Library so that members of the community become more aware of the service. Enrolments have increased during the month of August.

Preschool Report

Events for children at the Preschool

- Preschool children attended a science workshop on the 16th of August.
- Preschool children attended a drumming workshop on the 3rd of September.
- The preschool held its annual art show in late August. The art show was an opportunity to show case the artistic talents of the children as well as an opportunity to invite family and friends to see the preschool in action.

Open Information/Orientation Day

An Open Information Day will be held on Monday, 8 October, at 1.00pm, for all families who are interested in enrolling their children in 2013.

Activities will be provided for children in the Bilby Room whilst an information session will be held in the Gecko Room for the parents.

Children with Additional needs

- School transition programs have been implemented for children with special needs.
- Kim Grey from SCAN (Supporting Children with Additional Needs) visited the Preschool recently. SCAN is the funding body for children with special needs. This funding is extremely important as it enables the Preschool to employ Special Needs Assistants to work with our many special needs children.

Preschool Census and data collection

- The preschool recently submitted information to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for the 2012 National Preschool Census. This census has been conducted annually since 1993 and forms the basis for determining Supplementary Recurrent Assistance funding to eligible preschools under the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000*.
- The Preschool recently completed the annual data collection for the Children's Services Program (CSP) for 2012. The Census was for the fortnight 30 July to 10 August. The data collected is used to determine funding allocations and to assist with the evaluation and planning of the Preschool service.

Training

- Four staff attended Refresher First Aid training. This is mandatory training that is required under the Education and Care National Regulations.
- Two staff will be attending Fire Warden training on Thursday, 20 September.
- All preschool staff recently attended training in Managing Asthma and Anaphylaxis. This mandatory training is required under the Education and Care National Regulations.
- Preschool Director attended a webinar session on undertaking staff appraisals
- Staff attended a webinar on Time management

10.34 LIBRARY AND CHILDREN SERVICES UNIT - OCTOBER

OUR PEOPLE – our greatest and most important asset “a strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community”

Ensure services are accessible for all residents including the aged, people with a disability, young people and families, 4.7 & 4.8

Author: Manager Library & Children Services

Family Day Care:

All educators and staff have now completed the Asthma and Anaphylaxis training and will meet the 2013 National Regulatory requirement.

Three educator workplace safety audits were conducted this month.

The final play groups for term three were held at a local park in both Temora and West Wyalong, with children, educators and staff all enjoying an end of term sausage sizzle.

Mobile Resource Unit:

Playgroup:

Numbers have gradually increased this month as the warmer weather has arrived. Many families are enjoying the sessions on offer. There was a terrific turn out to the end of term play sessions held in local parks and play grounds.

Ungarie Preschool:

The children of Ungarie Preschool celebrated the end of term with many successful show entries this year with all children being presented with a certificate. Congratulations to the children on their fabulous show entries!

Vacation Care:

A successful Vacation Care program was held this month with the Basketball skills and Disco days being the most popular. Unfortunately, the excursion to the Temora Aviation museum was cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

Toy Library

The September holidays allowed for a clean-up of the toy library.

Prep School:

Open Information/Orientation Day

An Open Information Day will be held on Monday, 8 October, at 1.00pm, for families interested in enrolling their children in 2013.

Activities will be provided for children in the Bilby Room whilst an information session will be held in the Gecko Room for the parents.

Term 4 dates

Due to preschool open day, preschool will resume for the children on Tuesday 9th of October.

Training

- Two staff members attended Fire Warden training.
- Staff received training in using ipads in an educational environment

Library:

Programs for children

- **September/October Holiday Program**

The library ran another successful holiday program. The programs ranged from a craft afternoon, learning about plants, sand craft and cooking workshop. All the activities were fully booked. The library has been trialling targeting different age groups for different activities and holding the activities in the afternoon. This has been well received and it is planned to continue this in the future.

- **Family Day Care visits**

Family Care Educators and children are now visiting the library each month for a story time session. This provides the educators to utilise the library resources and the children to benefit from a story time session. These sessions will continue monthly until the end of the year.

Annual Author Visit

Bland Shire Library will be hosting Michael Pryor, visiting author from Monday 22nd of October until Friday 26th of October. Michael is an award winning children's and young adult author. During this week, Michael will be visiting all the local schools in the Shire as well as running workshops at the library. Schools have already begun preparing their students for this visit by introducing their students to his books.

The libraries annual author visit is an opportunity for local children to meet a successful published author and deepen their knowledge of a specific Australian author. It provides students with a new understanding into the design, content and theme of books. It will also provide them with an opportunity to ask questions and engage in dialogue. Previous author visits have been very popular and children have gained from the author visit.

In addition to speaking to school groups Michael Pryor will also be in attendance at the Bickies and Books club on Wednesday 24th of October. On Thursday 25th of October, adults and children will have the opportunity to meet the author and ask questions about writing and books.

Paris in the West

As part of Paris in the West, the library will be hosting a workshop with Mary Moody on Saturday 20th of October. Mary Moody is a successful gardening author and writer of travel books. Library members will have the opportunity to meet Mary Moody, have their books signed and hear her talk about the writing process.

Library Outreach

- **Ungarie Expo**

Library staff participated in a Service expo held at Bing Park, Ungarie on Friday 28th of September. This was an opportunity for the library to promote its services to the Ungarie community as well as highlight the new Book Deposit station that is located at the Art and Craft Shop.

- **Ungarie Day Group**

The library is now providing a monthly selection of library material for the Ungarie Day Group. This new service has been well received by the group and plans are in place for the group to visit the library for an orientation visit.

Public Library Statistics

The library recently completed its annual library statistics which is a requirement under section 5 of the Library Act 1939. These annual statistics are collected each year by all public libraries in NSW. The Library Council of NSW makes careful inquiry into the administration and management of every local library in NSW. In support of this duty, the State Library collects comprehensive statistics from councils annually about their library services. The key annual statistics are collected and used by public libraries for planning, developing and managing library services.

Increased Library Funding

As part of the revitalising regional library grant program each of the 111 regional and rural councils will be receiving \$16,000 in funding to enhance their library service. This funding is additional to grants and subsidies provided through the state library of New South Wales. Bland Shire library was recently informed that it would be receiving this funding in the 2012/2013 financial year. State library staff will be working with library staff work to determine how the grant money will be spent.

10.35 BLAND SHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM REPORT – SEPTEMBER

OUR PLACES – where our sense of community shines “providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy”

5. *Promote and facilitate a diverse range of retail and business in the community.*
8. *Plan, provide and support a range of community and cultural activities to meet the needs of residents and visitors.*

OUR PROSPERITY – ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future “growing our population and jobs”

20. *Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community and economy.*
21. *Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment*
23. *Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire.*

Author: Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor

September Economic Development and Tourism Report

Bland Shire Council’s Economic Development and Tourism Advisor has been involved in the following activities:

- **Market Place**

Bland Shire Council has been working with the Market Place developers to attract other tenants to the Market Place, that will create employment and secondary and multiplier economic benefits in the Bland Shire.

- **Newell Highway Brochure**

Bland Shire Council has received a resolution proof for editing and approval and Bland Shire Council is finalising the text.

- **Bland Shire Council TQUAL Application**

Bland Shire Council visited the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism in Canberra and met with Departmental Staff to discuss Bland Shire Councils unsuccessful TQUAL application.

- **Bland Shire Council Community Heritage Application**

Bland Shire Council visited the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities in Canberra and met with Departmental Staff to discuss Bland Shire Councils unsuccessful Community Heritage application.

- **Gold Trail**

Bland Shire Council has been providing input into the expanded Gold Trails project and needs to provide narrative and images relating to the Bland Shires gold heritage by 30 September 2012.

- **Energy Tree Cropping Workshop**

Following the Energy Tree Cropping Workshop that was held in West Wyalong on Thursday 2 August 2012, seven parties have expressed an interest in the project.

- **Country Rugby League**

Bland Shire Council will arrange a meeting with Country Rugby League to discuss other future rugby league game opportunities.

- **Tourism Information Shelters**

Bland Shire Council has been working on the Tourism Information Shelter structures and content with CB Engineering, Martin Lane Design and Littlewood Sign Solutions.

- **Regional Development Australia Riverina**

Bland Shire Council has submitted project forms for the Industrial Lands and Coinda Reserve and Rotary Park to Regional Development Australia Riverina.

- **Visitor Economy Taskforce Report**

The NSW Government established the Visitor Economy Taskforce to develop a strategy to double overnight visitor expenditure to NSW by 2020.

The Taskforce members were Russell Balding, AO (Chairman), The Hon. Bruce Baird AM, John King OAM and Sandra Chipchase, Chief Executive Officer, Destination NSW.

The Facts

- Tourism alone supports 289,600 jobs in NSW (160,300 direct and 129,300 indirect jobs);
- Direct tourism employment in NSW ranks above employment for agriculture, forestry and fishing and mining;
- Total NSW tourism consumption is \$28.7 billion;
- Tourism contributes \$11.1 billion to the State's Gross State Product – this ranks above agriculture, forestry and fishing and just below mining;
- There are more than 94,000 tourism businesses in NSW, of which 51,000 are micro, small or medium-sized;
- The NSW Events calendar generates an estimated \$600 million per annum in direct expenditure for NSW;
- Business events expenditure in NSW is estimated at \$778 million;
- There were 149,375 million international and domestic visitor nights spent in NSW in the year ending December 2011;
- Overnight visitor expenditure to NSW is currently \$19.3 billion (\$18.3 billion in 2009);
- Overnight visitor expenditure in NSW is currently 40 per cent from intrastate visitors, 33 per cent interstate visitors and 27 per cent international visitors.

The above facts do not take into account the broader economic impact of the visitor economy. Sources: NSW Tourism Satellite Accounts (2008-09), TRA 2011 and BDA 2012.

Whilst no concise definition has been globally settled, the visitor economy takes into account broader economic activity than what has been historically defined as tourism and events. It encompasses the direct and indirect contributions to the economy resulting from a person (a 'visitor') travelling outside their usual environment for holiday, leisure and events and festivals, business, conventions and exhibitions, education, to visit friends and relatives and for employment in NSW. In other words, the full value chain of the visitor economy is being accounted for. This includes intrastate, interstate and international visitors.

Bland Shire is heavily embedded in the Visitor Economy taskforce with the 3,200 vehicles that travel on the Goldfields Way and Newell and Mid Western Highways on a daily basis.

The Taskforce was charged with developing a strategy to double overnight visitor expenditure to NSW by 2020. The Taskforce has produced a comprehensive report with 48 recommendations and 171 associated actions to deliver on the NSW target. A Government response to the report will be released to the public by the end of October 2012 in the form of a Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan. This Plan will outline the actions for achievement by industry and Government in partnership.

10.36 BLAND SHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM REPORT - OCTOBER

OUR PLACES – where our sense of community shines “providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy”

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20. *Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community and economy.*
21. *Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment*
23. *Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire.*

Author: Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor

October Economic Development and Tourism Report

Bland Shire Council’s Economic Development and Tourism Advisor has been involved in the following activities:

- **Market Place**

Bland Shire Council has been working with the Market Place developers to attract other tenants to the Market Place, that will create employment and secondary and multiplier economic benefits in the Bland Shire.

- **Newell Highway Brochure**

Bland Shire Council has received a resolution proof for editing and approval and Bland Shire Council and the text has been finalised.

- **Gold Trail**

Bland Shire Council has been providing input into the expanded Gold Trails project and has provided narrative and images relating to the Bland Shires gold heritage. The next Gold Trail meeting will be in Boorowa on 11 October.

- **Country Rugby League**

Bland Shire Council met with Terry Quinn and Bert Lowrie from Country Rugby League (CRL) on Monday 17 September to discuss other future rugby league game opportunities. Following this meeting Bland Shire Council has submitted an Expression Of Interest to host the 2013 Under 16s & 18s & T1 & T2 Seniors Rugby League Games on Saturday 29 June 2013.

- **Tourism Information Shelters**

Bland Shire Council has been working on the Tourism Information Shelter structures and content with CB Engineering, Martin Lane Design and Littlewood Sign Solutions.

- **Regional Development Australia Riverina**

Bland Shire Council has submitted project forms for the Industrial Lands and Cooina Reserve and Rotary Park to Regional Development Australia Riverina. Bland Shire Council attended the RDA meeting that was held in Temora on 13 and 14 September.

- **Destination NSW**

The General Manager and Senior Economic Development Tourism Advisor met with Destination NSW on Tuesday 18 September in Sydney to discuss Bland Shire Councils Heritage Gold, Trails and Tours and Bird Trails. We also discussed Bland Shire being associated with Parkes in and on their website and database and they are working on changing Bland Shire's links to the Riverina. Destination NSW also invited the Senior Economic Development Tourism Advisor to have further discussion with them about the Bland Shire Councils projects.

- **Straits Resources**

The General Manager and Senior Economic Development Tourism Advisor met with Straits Resources on Tuesday 18 September in Sydney to receive an update on Straits Resources exploration activities in the Bland Shire.

- **Gillie & Marc**

The General Manager and Senior Economic Development Tourism Advisor met with Gillie & Marc Monday 17 September in Sydney to discuss the Russell Drysdale Monument.