

Bland Shire Council
Business Paper
Ordinary Council Meeting
28 October 2014



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
A guiding checklist for Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committees

Ethical Decision Making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Could your possible conflict of interest lead to private gain or loss at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

Conflict of Interest

- A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict: Pecuniary – regulated by the Local Government Act and Office of Local Government and, Non-pecuniary – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only).

The test for conflict of interest

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of "corruption" – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest

Identifying Problems

1st - Do I have private interest affected by a matter I am officially involved in?

2nd - Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?

3rd - Do my private interests conflict with my official role?

Whilst seeking advice is generally useful, the ultimate decision rests with the person concerned.

Agency Advice

Officers of the following agencies are available during office hours to discuss the obligations placed on Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committee members by various pieces of legislation, regulation and Codes.

Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Bland Shire Council	6972 2266	council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au	www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free: 1800 463 909	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au



Council Meeting Agenda

28 October 2014

commencing at 6:30PM

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Let us acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, their elders past and present, traditional custodians of the land we now share.

Let us be inspired by the resilience, innovation and perseverance of past generations.

Let us honour those who protect this great land, may you draw strength from your God or Faith

so that we may, here today, on behalf of our community, - build a vibrant future together.

("Pause for Reflection").

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 Councillors

Cr P Grellman

Cr L Hampton

Cr K Keatley

Cr T Lord

Cr L McGlynn

Cr B Monaghan

Cr L Pike

Cr N Pokoney

Cr P Templeton

2.2 Staff

General Manager – Ray Smith

Director Asset & Engineering Services – Will Marsh

Director Corporate, Community & Development Services – Adele Casey

Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.3 Apologies

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 16 September 2014

- **Confirmation**
That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 16 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.
- **Corrections**
- **Business Arising**

3.2 Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 14 October 2014

- **Confirmation**
That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council meeting held on 14 October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.
- **Corrections**
- **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

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

8.0 DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes *(for information)*

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

That the Council receive the staff reports.

Section 2 – Office of the General Manager *(reports for decision)*

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Section 3 – Corporate, Community & Development Services *(reports for decision)*

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Section 4 – Assets & Engineering Services *(reports for decision)*

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Section 4 – Reports for Information

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9.22	Economic Development & Tourism Report – October	228

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 Uncollectable Sundry Debtor

Local Government Act (Section 10A(2)(b))

The matters and information are personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.

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 – DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP15.2 Working in partnership with community groups, advisory committees, Government Departments, businesses and Council staff

Officer's Recommendation:

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

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes (for information)

Committee	Date/s	Minutes attached
Access Advisory Committee (Cr Grellman)	1 st August 2014 7 th November 2014	✓
Australia Day Awards Committee of the Whole (Whole of Council)	9 th December 2014	
Australian Rural Roads Group Inc (Cr Grellman)		
Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee (Cr Grellman, Cr Keatley - alternate)	10 th September 2014	
Bland – Temora RFS Zone Bushfire Management Committee (Cr Grellman, Cr Keatley - alternate)	10 th September 2014	
Country Mayors Association of NSW (Mayor & General Manager)	14 th November 2014	
Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee (CEMCC) (Mayor Pokoney, Cr McGlynn - alternate/observer, Cr Hampton - observer)	3 rd September 2014 3 rd December 2014	✓
Cultural Advisory Committee (Cr McGlynn, Cr Keatley)	25 th August 2014 24 th November 2014	✓
Economic Development Advisory Committee of the Whole (Whole of Council)	11 th November 2014	
Goldenfields Water County Council Board (Cr Templeton)	23 rd October 2014	

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

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MAYOR

Health & Wellbeing Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Monaghan, Cr Grellman, Cr McGlynn)</i>		
Heritage Advisory Committee <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman)</i>	15 th October 2014	✓
Indigenous Advisory Committee <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman)</i>	28 th October 2014	
Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Hampton, GM, DCCDS, DAES)</i>	29 th October 2014	
Local Traffic Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>	2 nd December 2014	
Murrumbidgee Medicare Local Board <i>(Cr Monaghan)</i>	9 th October 2014	
Museums Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Keatley)</i>	25 th September 2014	✓
Newell Highway Taskforce <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Hampton)</i>	7 th August 2014 7 th November 2014	
Plant Committee <i>(Cr Grellman, Cr Templeton, Cr Lord)</i>	November/December	
Public Libraries NSW South-West Zone	30 th October 2014	
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) <i>(Mayor Pokoney)</i>	26 th August 2014 27 th October 2014	
Riverina Regional Tourism <i>(Cr Lord)</i>	11 th June 2014 14 th November 2014	✓
Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole <i>(Whole of Council)</i>	11 th November 2014	

**MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
AT THE WEST WYALONG COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE ON FRIDAY 1 AUGUST
2014 - COMMENCING AT 10:30AM.**

Present: W Bowles (Chair), R Black, G Platz, A Templeman, R McDonell (Community Development Officer).

Apologies: W Hutcheon, Cr P Grellman, A Casey.

ITEM 1 WELCOME

W Bowles opened the meeting at 10:40am and thanked everyone for their attendance.

ITEM 2 COFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 9th of May were accepted.

Moved: R Black **Seconded:** G Platz Carried

ITEM 3 MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Actions from previous meeting

3.1.1 Identified Access issues: it was reported to the committee that the access issues noted at the previous meeting had been brought to the attention of the Director of Engineering to be followed up. The Director reported that engineering services would examine the issues.

3.1.2 Adoption of Community Access Policy: The CDO noted that the revised Community Access Policy has been adopted by Council.

ITEM 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Disability Access Awards: It was reported to the committee that the CDO has submitted an application on behalf of the Access Advisory Committee for the National Disability Awards in the category of inclusive and accessible communities.

4.2 Resignation of committee member: It was noted that committee member Sue Smith has submitted a letter of resignation to the committee. It was decided by the committee to send flowers, a letter of thanks (drafted by W Bowles) and a certificate of thanks to Sue for her time and efforts on the committee.

<p>Recommendation to Council: That the resignation of committee members Sue Smith is accepted and that letter of thanks, flowers and a certificate of appreciation be forwarded to Sue.</p>

<p>Moved: A Templeman Seconded: G Platz</p>
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4.3 Mobility Access Map: it was reported to the committee that the mobility map is in the process of being updated and is due for completion for the next meeting.

ITEM 5 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Access Committee Network Newsletter: The Access committee network newsletter was distributed to committee members.

5.2 Report from the Director of Engineering Services: A statement from the Director of Engineering Services regarding the paved area in the Main Street footpath was reported to committee members. The report outlined the proposed procedure for updates and alterations to the pavement.

In response to the comments noted in the Directors report, committee members stated that a danger is present when the corner of the tiles lift creating a lip. It was reported that the tiles near and around the Commonwealth bank are very uneven which can contribute to elderly people falling over. Committee members stated that they are continually asking community members to report access issues such as these to Council.

ITEM 6 MEDIA

A draft media release was provided to committee members to review. Committee members noted that they were happy to have the media release distributed. It was further noted that a picture of the Access Committee members should accompany the media release.

Recommendation to Council:
That the noted media release be approved and distributed.

Moved: A Templeman

Seconded: R Black

ITEM 7 PRIORITIES

Priorities noted:

- To complete and send out Access information flyers to all businesses within the Main Street outlining Access Awards and information about the access incentive scheme grant. Splatter, The Royal, Old Dry cleaners, New Elders
- To contact Alison Wason or a Riding for the Disabled representative in regard to seeking a guest speaker for International Day of People with a Disability celebrations

ITEM 8 FINANCE

There is currently \$20,000 available in the Access Incentive Scheme Grant budget

ITEM 9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the upcoming meeting has been set for 7 November 2014.

ITEM 10 CLOSE OF MEETING

W Bowles closed the meeting at 11:38am.

MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL ON MONDAY 25 AUGUST 2014 - COMMENCING AT 5:00PM.

Present: R Gelling (chair), Cr K Keatley, S Hood, K Johnston, B Cooper, J Wyse, T Butcher, C Sutton (Community Relations Officer), R McDonell (Community Development officer) R Tikerpae.

Apologies: Cr L McGlynn,

ITEM 1 WELCOME

R Gelling opened the meeting at 4:58pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

ITEM 2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES

The minutes of the AGM held on Monday 25 February, 2013 were accepted.

Moved: J Wyse **Seconded:** T Butcher Carried

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26 May, 2014 were accepted.

Moved: K Keatley **Seconded:** S Hood Carried

ITEM 4 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

R Gelling, reporting that she did not wish to continue as chairperson of the Cultural committee, declared the chair vacant and called for nominations for a new chairperson. J Wyse was nominated by B Cooper and seconded by K Keatley and accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, J Wyse was declared chairperson.

ITEM 5 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1.1 Ralph Tikerpae to address the meeting: Ralph Tikerpae entered the meeting at 5:18pm and provided a report to the committee on his successful selection into the prestigious sculptures by the sea competition and showed images of the artwork. Ralph's successful sculpture is inspired by and also titled Terra Nullius. Ralph further reported that he will also have sculptures displayed in the Sydney Botanical Gardens as part of the upcoming "Artisans in the Gardens" exhibition which will begin on 19th October 2014.

5.1.2 Sculpture by the sea exhibition: R McDonell reported to the committee that Council is considering the notion of putting out an expression of interest to gauge community interest in the idea of a overnight bus tour to Sydney to view the Sculpture by the Sea exhibition. Committee members reported that they would be interested in attending the exhibition. R McDonell to put out expression of interest to the community.

5.1.3 *Imag_ne* public Artwork: R McDonell reported to the committee that the *Imag_ne* artwork has been locked in and will be displayed in the Shire from December 2014 – February 2015.

The following sites were recommended by the committee in order of preference as suitable locations for the installation of the artwork while in the Shire:

1. The Community Rose Garden/Lion's Park
2. McCann Park
3. The vacant block next to the Roundabout Bakery

ITEM 6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Dream Big Conference report: R McDonell provided a report on the Dream Big Conference to the committee which touched on current research and trends, best practice and new ideas in Cultural Engagement.

6.2 Discussion regarding Cultural space and VIC: The committee noted that Council has previously adopted a resolution to investigate a combined multipurpose cultural space and visitor information centre (April, 2013). It was also noted that \$50,000 has been allocated by Council for the investigation of a cultural space.

The committee reaffirmed its belief that a combined multipurpose cultural space and visitor information centre would be the most viable option for Council and the most accessible to both visitors and the community.

The committee expressed its frustration about community members having to travel to other areas to access cinemas and cultural entertainment and as such, spending their money outside the community.

The committee agreed that the multipurpose cultural space needs to be intimate and not too large, be low maintenance and accommodate a small theatre and a static display space.

The committee moved that Council reallocate the \$50,000 in funding earmarked to investigate a cultural/exhibition space to investigate a combined cultural space/Visitor Information Centre at a location/s determined by Council.

The committee would welcome the opportunity in the future to provide feedback to Council regarding identified possible locations.

Recommendation to Council:

That Council endorse the provision of a cultural space in any investigations regarding a new Visitor Information Centre and that the designs for a cultural space include provision of a small theatre and a static display space.

Recommendation to Council:

That the \$50,000 in funding Council has allocated in its budget to investigate a cultural/exhibition space be reallocated to commence investigations into a combined cultural space and Visitor Information Centre.

***Staff note:** Council has since commenced an extensive community consultation process regarding visitor information and cultural needs. The above recommendations from the Cultural Committee will be put to Council for consideration following the completion of the consultation process.*

6.3 Dramatic Society meeting report: R McDonell reported to the committee that the West Wyalong Dramatic Society has recommenced and has plans to hold a small production in November, with a musical to follow in May 2015. A casting night will be held on Tuesday 26 August to seek performers for the first production.

6.4 Crowd Funding: R McDonell provided a short report to the committee outlining Crowdfunding - a new online method for funding projects. A full report on the Crowdfunding workshop will be distributed to committee members.

6.5 The Night Fever Show: A proposal for the Night Fever theatre restaurant production was put forward to the committee for their consideration. The committee agreed that they would not like to pursue the idea of hosting the production in West Wyalong. The committee noted that they would like the idea of hosting the Faulty Towers theatre/restaurant production revisited. R McDonell to reinvestigate the Faulty Towers production and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

6.6 Eastern Riverina Arts report: A written report from Scott Howie at ERA was distributed to committee members. Scott noted the following as being highlights of recent activity within the Bland Shire:

1. West Wyalong based artist Lucy Buttenshaw is currently exhibiting in the Window Gallery in our office premises in Wagga Wagga.
2. Show me the Money funding workshop was held in July with six people attending, and a number of potential CASP projects identified.
3. Scott has been working with Adele Casey on developing a Public Art Policy for the Shire.
4. Dream Big was successfully held last week, with three staff from West Wyalong attending.
5. Successfully brokered a relationship between Peter Cox and events West Wyalong for the Fabulous Castanets.
6. Supported the tour of Fanny Lumsden and the Thrillseekers, with a concert in Weethalle

6.7 Cultural groups report:

West Wyalong Regional Music Inc. (WWRMI): K Johnston noted that due to a number of unsuccessful grant applications, the Winter Wind and Strings School will not be going ahead as planned this year. It was reported that WWRMI is thinking of going into recess due to a lack of community interest. K Johnston reported that the group has received funds from Bland Shire Council and Barrick Cowal and will be required to give the funds back as the project will no longer be going ahead.

West Wyalong Town Band: The band has purchased a full set of drums and started another member on the saxophone.

West Wyalong Community Radio: The community radio is currently looking for additional presenters and has recently acquired a new console. It was reported that the radio is still in need of some new equipment to take a 500 watt transmitter to extend the broadcast range to 100 kilometres.

ITEM 7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 24 November 2014.

ITEM 6 CLOSE OF MEETING

J Wyse closed the meeting at 6:41pm.

MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM

Present: Pam Butcher (Chair), Guy Marchant, Cr Liz McGlynn, David Scobie (Heritage Advisor), Dot Smith, Martin Lane

Apologies: Cr Peter Grellman, Lesley Duncan,

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by Martin Lane and seconded by Cr Liz McGlynn that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2014 are taken as read and confirmed.

CARRIED

ITEM 1 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Heritage Strategy – G Marchant advised the Committee that strategy was placed on public consultation as per Council's resolution and that no enquires nor comments were received. As such a report has been prepared for the October Council meeting seeking Council's endorsement of the strategy.
- Church St Plaque – plaque is being developed.

ITEM 2 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In

- Nil

Correspondence Out

- Nil

ITEM 3 REPORTS

Nil

ITEM 4 HERITAGE ADVISORY REPORTS

D Scobie provided the committee with a verbal update on his activities during his visits in September and October.

D Scobie raised concerns that Amaran's funded painting was not as per the approved colour schedule as such it was agreed by the Committee that no funding was to be provided. *G Marchant was to check status of funding application.*

ITEM 5 HERITAGE ASSISTANCE FUND

Nil

ITEM 6 PROJECTS

6.1 Reg Rattey Memorial

- G Marchant advised the Committee that the Expression of Interest was being finalised with the assistance of Eastern Riverina Arts. The EOI will details Council's expectations, family's comments & wishes as well as the formal military story behind the awarding of the VC medal.
- G Marchant advised that selection committee for the proposals submitted would include member/s of this committee, the family & relevant Council staff. Final make of committee has yet to be determined.
- Cr Liz McGlynn advised after discussion with Rob Rattey the family were happy to move the date to a weekend. In addition to this after discussion with Cr Pokoney, Cr McGlynn also raised concerns about getting school children to event during the week. General discussion was had in regard to this issue and it agreed that the date would remain as previously agreed.
- Guy requested that the Committee list who they would like to see formally invited to the event. The Committee agreed on the following general list;
 - Prime Minister
 - Governor General
 - Federal Member/s
 - Chief of Army, including current company representatives
 - Chief of Navy
 - Chief of Air Force
 - NSW Governor General
 - State Member/s
 - Returned Service League – both State & Local
 - Local Returned Service Men & Women
 - Councilors
 - Family
 - Local Schools
 - Whole of the Bland Shire community.

G Marchant is to provide list to relevant staff member/s.

- 6.2 Main Street Panels – two panels are planned to be erected within the next 2 - 3 weeks. Staff are currently working on two more panels.

ITEM 7 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 7.1 Call for Committee Representations – G Marchant advised Committee that this would be the last meeting of the current Committee and that nominations for the committee should have been lodged by now.
- 7.2 G Marchant advised Committee that Council agreed at the September council meeting that the Heritage Committee should meet on bi-monthly bases. As such the next meeting will be 3 December. It was agreed that should Council receive funding requests then G Marchant may call for an additional meeting.

- 7.3 M Lane raised the proposed renaming of Mid Western Hwy to Wiradjuri Hwy. G Marchant advised that this was not a matter for this committee and advice was provided in regard to raising concerns and/or questions through local members.
- 7.4 M Lane raised the new Rail Trail projects for NSW and spoke to the possibility of utilising the Burcher line. G Marchant advised that this was not a matter for this committee and should be raised through the Visitor Economy and Tourism Advisory Committee of the whole.
- 7.5 D Smith advised the Committee that the after recent visit to the wetlands, the Probus Group wishes to pass on their thanks to Council staff for the tour, in particular they would like it noted that they were very impressed with Leon Sharps knowledge of the area and the plants species within this area.
- 7.6 P Butcher raised concerns about the Vanishing Village Project, in particular the process of the project over the past 12 months. General discussion was had in regard to the project, the fact that funds had not been allocated within the 2014/2015 budget, priorities of staff time and reduction of staffing numbers within development services section. It was agreed by the Committee that G Marchant was to report back to the Committee of the number completed to date, number outstanding and estimated cost to complete the project. In addition to this the Committee agreed to have this as an item on the agenda until such time as the project has been completed.

G Marchant is to report back to the Committee on the number completed to date, number outstanding and estimated cost to complete the project.

ITEM 8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee is to commence at 5.00 pm on 3 December 2014 in the Council Committee Room.

ITEM 9 CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6.05 pm.

MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE FOYER MEETING ROOM ON THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM

Present: Guy Marchant (Manager Development Services), Cr Tony Lord, Kim Biggs (Museum Advisor), Peter & Barbara Luelf (Weethalle Museum)

APOLOGIES: Nicole Lewis (Ungarie), Joan Stanford (Bland District Historical Society Museum),

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

No meeting was held on 27 March 2014.

ITEM 1 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Nil

ITEM 2 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In

Nil

Correspondence Out

- Collection Documentation grant application was lodged on 13 August 2014. "Anything but Bland"- Documenting our Collections \$6,900.00
- EOI – Powerhouse Museum Regional Services Program.

ITEM 3 MUSEUM ADVISORY REPORT

Kim Biggs provided the committee with a verbal update of activities over the past six months.

ITEM 4 MUSEUM REPORTS

Ungarie Museum

- There were no Ungarie Museum representatives present at meeting, however Kim Biggs advised that the new roof work has been completed and the museum is working closely with Wyalong Museum in regard to obtaining some enclosed display cabinets. Ungarie Museum is grateful for the support from Wyalong Museum.

Weethalle Museum

- Peter Luelf provided a verbal update on the Billy Brown museum display. Whilst a few items are yet to go on display very good progress has been made over the past 6 months. Interpretive panels are being drafted & finalised for the items currently on display. Weethalle Museum would like some funding assistance or in kind support from Council in regard to the panel structures. Guy Marchant advised that possible funding maybe available through Council's Strengthening Community grant process.

Bland District Historical Society

No BDHS representatives were present at meeting, however Kim Biggs advised repairs to the building are nearing completion and Wyalong Museum have also utilised the Open ABC format to highlight three items.

<https://open.abc.net.au/search?q=wyalong&searchType=stories>

ITEM 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Guy Marchant advised the Committee of new meeting frequency as per Council's September Council meeting resolution.
- Discussion was had in regard to what the museums can do and are doing in regard to tourism within the Bland Shire. It was agreed that each Museum should write to Council's Visitor Economy and Tourism Committee of the Whole to invite them to inspect the museums so the Committee is aware of what the museums currently offer in regard to tourism within the Bland Shire.
- Kim Biggs advised that an on-site meeting is scheduled for 25 September with representatives from Mirrool community in regard to the establishment of a museum in Mirrool.

ITEM 6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 26 March 2015 commencing at 5.00pm.

ITEM 7 CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.55pm.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF RIVERINA REGIONAL TOURISM INC.

Held at National Parks and Wildlife Service

200 Yambil St, Griffith

On Wednesday, 11 June 2014 at 10.30am



PRESENT: Greg Lawrence (Chair)
John Harvie (Deputy Chair)
Neil Druce
Ross McDonnell
Kate O'Callaghan
Jeff Stien
Naomi Stuart

IN ATTENDANCE: Sonia Casanova (Project Officer)
Jacqui Herrmann (Marketing Project Officer)
Andrew Sargant (Destination NSW)
Ben Janeczko (Destination NSW)

APOLOGY: Ben Foley
Ruth McRae
Frank White

ITEM 1 – Opening and welcome

The Chair welcomed the Mayor of Griffith, Cr John Dal Broi, and General Manager of Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet to the meeting. The Chair also welcomed Director Stuart at her first RRT board meeting and acknowledged that Director Harvie was attending his first meeting in the role of Deputy Chair. The Chair also acknowledged the presence of Andrew Sargant and Ben Janeczko from Destination NSW and thanked them for travelling from Sydney to attend the meeting. Director McDonnell was thanked for hosting the meeting at the offices of the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The Mayor of Griffith welcomed RRT Directors and Destination NSW visitors to Griffith and commented on the importance of tourism to the local economy. Cr Dal Broi and Mr Stonestreet then left the meeting.

The apologies as outlined above were noted by the Board and no conflicts of interest were declared.

ITEM 2 – Minutes of Board Meeting held on 29 April 2014

The Chair noted that the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 29 April 2014 were distributed to Directors by email in early May and the Board resolved by circular resolution to accept the Minutes at that time.

The Actions Arising from the previous meeting were taken as read. The Project Officer drew the Directors' attention to the fact that the Voluntary Workers insurance policy has now been cancelled, as resolved at the last Board meeting, and a refund of \$175 was received. In addition, the cash flow document has been updated to reflect current circumstances and was circulated to Directors by email with the Board papers.

ITEM 3 – Presentation from Destination NSW

Ben Janeczko, Food and Wine Specialist with Destination NSW, presented to the Board on Tourism Australia's 'Restaurant Australia' campaign. Ben will provide a copy of the presentation so that it can be shared with members and stakeholders.

Tourism Australia encourages every business to get involved with the *Restaurant Australia* initiative, by defining and sharing their food experiences via the *Restaurant Australia* website.

Ben showed findings of research that showed that NSW falls behind Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania in terms of consumers' perceptions of food and wine offerings in the various states, and the *Restaurant Australia* campaign provides an opportunity for NSW to catch-up.

Consumers want "proof of discovery" experiences, such as meeting a winemaker or meeting a grower. Destinations also need to give visitors a reason to come and show them (via itineraries) what they can do on the way that complements their reason for visiting.

Accessibility to a product that visitors can take away with them is very important. Food has become the new souvenir – for example, olive oil or a bottle of wine.

Research showed that the number one experience wanted by visitors is to eat local produce while they are in a destination.

At the conclusion of Ben's presentation, further discussion ensued about whether or not RRT is on track. From Destination NSW's perspective, focusing on a single platform is essential for clarity and cut-through, and therefore RRT's focus on agri-tourism puts RRT on the right path. Good opportunities already exist and should be taken advantage of.

ITEM 4 – Update on Riverina Agritourism Development Program

ITEM 4.1 – Review of KPIs

The KPIs were again presented in traffic light format, as agreed by the Board at the last meeting. The KPI update was taken as read and the Project Officer outlined that a more detailed update on each KPI would be provided in agenda item 4.3.

ITEM 4.2 – Industry buy-in / sponsorship update

The Project Officer and Marketing Project Officer provided further updates on the progress of industry buy-in, which occurred after the board papers were circulated.

- The Rice Growers Association has confirmed that they will not buy in to the agri-tourism campaign.
- Fonterra is still very interested in both the agri-tourism campaign and sponsorship of Taste Riverina, but yet to commit formally. They want to promote milk and other products.
- ROBE Oils is still interested and sees benefits in educating the market about their products, as well as being a good neighbour. Spring would be a good time for them. We are yet to receive formal commitment.
- Walnuts Australia – had an excellent discussion and they seem to be very interested. They are at the beginning of their production cycle but are keen for long-term involvement. They are also looking at tours and visitor experiences. They are also yet to commit formally.

ITEM 4.3 – Marketing plan activities

Insiders Guide

Sauce Communications has been appointed to provide copywriting for four editions of the Insider's Guide. The Sauce Communications proposal was within budget and they have excellent experience and credentials.

The winter edition is on track for publication in late June / early July to coincide with the release of the Postcard.

The Project Officer confirmed that the first batch of photos had been received from the photographer and the results are very pleasing. Some of these photos will be used in this edition of the Insider's Guide, but as these were autumn photos, many of them won't be used until the autumn edition is released in February 2015.

Director Stuart raised an issue around logistics for the photographer and advised that better preparations are required for the photographer's next visits. There were some problems with the photographer running late and trying to cover too much distance in too little time. Director Stuart advised that, if more notice were provided in advance of the photographer's trip next time, they would be able to provide additional help with visiting attractions. Other Directors echoed these comments.

The Project Officer confirmed that better preparations would be made for the photographer's future trips, and the rushed nature of this first trip was due to the limited time between the photographer's appointment and the end of autumn. The Project Officer also asked Directors to remind members that the photographer has a commitment to visit each LGA area at least once over the course of the year, not once per visit. Also, members should also keep in mind that the photographer has a list of shots required for RRT's purposes and not ask the photographer to do additional shots not on the list and this added to delays during the first visit.

Director O'Callaghan enquired whether the photographs taken at Southern Cotton could be provided to Southern Cotton for their promotional use, and it was confirmed that this use was permitted as part of RRT's agreement with the photographer. There may also be additional photographs taken of Southern Cotton that were not selected by RRT and Southern Cotton may purchase these photos directly from the photographer. The Marketing Project Officer will follow-up with Director O'Callaghan.

Seasonal Postcard campaign

The Project Officer confirmed that the winter postcard has been approved by the Board and is currently in production. The print run is 70,000 and it will be distributed across all member Councils in the Riverina.

Director Stuart suggested that the postcards could be postage paid for tracking purposes, as the postage isn't charged unless the postcard is actually posted. While there is no funding in the current budget to pay for postage, it was agreed that this would be investigated for future editions of the postcard.

JPG copies of the postcard will be circulated for use on social media.

Riverina Localist program

The Project Officer confirmed that the name of the Local Host program had been changed to Riverina Localist to give participants more ownership of the program and to encourage pride in the region.

Draft branding for the Riverina Localist program was presented to the board that featured a retro inspired look and feel to create a sense of nostalgia. Director Druce disliked the blue colour used in the branding, explaining that it is the most unappetising colour and that warm colours like red, orange and yellow are more appealing. Red was discounted originally to avoid confusion with the Taste Riverina logo, as well as not to avoid mimicking the Tourism Southern Highlands branding.

It was agreed that sign-up buttons would be provided to all member Councils so that they could put links to the Riverina Localist program on Council websites.

The information about Riverina Localist will be available on the RRT website from early July to coincide with the release of the winter postcard. However, the official launch of Riverina Localist will occur in August, allowing time for local celebrities (both individuals and operators) to be signed-up to the program and used as ambassadors for the program.

Wotif campaign

An exact date for the Wotif campaign is yet to be agreed, as it is not scheduled until the spring. However, it was agreed that we should try to secure the exact dates soon, so that we can brief Tourism Managers and they can encourage operators to consider participating in the program and think about some new ideas for packaging.

Digital assets

The number of unique visitors visiting the RRT website is tracking well and it is likely that this KPI will be achieved. In addition, the KPI relating to Facebook likes has already been achieved for the RRT page and the Taste Riverina page is also tracking well.

Taste Riverina

The Taste Riverina Committee has met and progress is being made with the festival program. Event registration is now open.

New branding for the Taste Riverina festival was also presented to the Board, which provided a more professional look for the festival.

The Project Officer explained that Taste Riverina has its own budget with income and expenditure line items. The Board discussed the need for Taste Riverina to have a separate bank account, exclusively for Taste Riverina transactions, so that income and expenditure for Taste Riverina could be kept separate to RRT's main projects and to assist with transparency. RRT is now the sole lead agency for the festival, so the Taste Riverina account would be held in RRT's name.

IT WAS RESOLVED that RRT set-up a bank account to manage the finances of the Taste Riverina festival with the signatories to be the same as the RRT bank accounts.

Moved: Director Harvie Seconded: Director Stuart

ITEM 4.4 – Product Development project appointment

As previously advised to the Board, Linda Tillman from Tilma Group has been appointed to manage the product development project. The selection panel unanimously agreed to appoint Linda to work on this project as her experience was most suitable and she submitted the most comprehensive application.

A brainstorming session will be held next week with Linda plus Director Harvie, Director Foley and Director Druce, as well as the Project Officer, to commence work on the Product Development Strategy.

ITEM 5 – 2015 Funding

The Chair commenced discussion on this agenda item by reiterating that agri-tourism is a long-term project for RRT and consistency and commitment to this project is required over many years. Therefore, the Chair suggests that RRT's application for quarantined funds for 2015 will be based on this year's funding application with many similar activities included as part of the project with some new and updated activities.

Andrew Sargent agreed that a long-term commitment to agri-tourism was wise and that refinement of the existing application would be suitable provided that certain elements were met. One key element influencing the success of an application, if continuing on the same (or similar) path, is to demonstrate what results have been achieved to date. There is a real need to demonstrate tangible results, especially bookings from the Wotif campaign and bookings from Taste Riverina events. The stronger the results, the better the chance of success.

Mr Sargent confirmed that he was personally supportive of consistency in RRT's marketing activity because it would achieve a better result than changing frequently. The application must also reference the Destination Management Plan and show evidence of matched funding. It must include tangible and achievable results, and there is a delicate balance in ensuring the results are both ambitious and realistically deliverable.

There are four selection criteria for the funding, and each is weighted equally. A minimum score of 75% is required for each element to be successful.

Further explanation of the application process was outlined by Mr Sargant, which included submitting a draft to the RVEF team, allowing enough time for refinement if required before the deadline.

The Chair thanked Mr Sargant for his involvement, assistance and guidance during last year's application process and the role he played in assisting RRT to secure its quarantined funding for 2014.

There was some further discussion around results from the 2014 campaign and which results would be available in time to include in the 2015 funding application. This year the funding applications close in early October, whereas last year they closed in late November. The Project Officer flagged that it is unlikely that the results of the Wotif campaign and Taste Riverina will be available to include in the 2015 application.

Mr Sargant suggested checking with Wotif to see what figures they would be able to provide as a result of the campaign, based on RRT's level of investment. RRT needs to demonstrate increases in YOY results, and there needs to be a positive link between expenditure and visitation.

The Board discussed 2014/15 fees for members. The Project Officer confirmed that there had been no increase in fees last year. The Board discussed a potential CPI increase but agreed that it was too late to pass on this increase to members, as budgets are already determined.

IT WAS RESOLVED that 2014/15 fees would remain the same as 2013/14.

Moved: Director Stein Seconded: Director McDonnell

A letter will also be sent to members, accompanying the invoices, with a positive focus on tangible results achieved and an increase in KPIs. The letter will also flag that this is the second consecutive year that there have been no increases to RRT fees, and that an increase at least at the level of CPI can be expected next year.

It was also agreed that another communication would be distributed to members in December 2014 outlining the results achieved by RRT for the 2014 calendar year. These tangible results would include information used from the quarantine funding application.

ITEM 6 – Finance Report

The Board considered and discussed the cash flow document presented in the board papers.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Finance Report be accepted.

Moved: Director O'Callaghan Seconded: Director Stien

ITEM 7 – Updates from DMOs

ITEM 7.1 – Southern DMO

Director Harvie provided an update from the Southern DMO. While the group hasn't met for a couple of months, communication is continuing and they have had eight meetings in total. The Tuppal Food and Fibre Festival is expecting 30,000 attendees and the Marketing Project Officer confirmed that there has been good communication between RRT and the organisers. The festival is part of the Taste Riverina calendar.

In addition, at the last meeting in Jerilderie, a community group has launched the Four Creeks Festival, which focused on art and food.

ITEM 7.2 – Eastern DMO

Director Stien confirmed that the Eastern DMO met recently in Wagga Wagga, where the group was welcomed by the Mayor, and later enjoyed lunch at the Thirsty Crow Brewery. The Eastern DMO has now settled in to a pattern of monthly meetings. The focus of the group is to submit an application for the next round of contestable funding in late 2014 and a working party has been established with that goal in mind consisting of representatives from Wagga Wagga, Junee, Cootamundra and Lockhart. The working group will report back with some ideas at the DMO's next meeting in Lockhart.

Director Stuart also confirmed that there is some focus on local events for Taste Riverina and that the Fusion Festival in Wagga is their anchor event. Over 8,000 people attended last year and they expect a bigger crowd this year. It is a multicultural festival with a food aspect, and Wagga will cluster events around the Fusion Festival dates.

ITEM 7.3 – Western DMO

The Chair advised that the Western DMO had not met recently due to absences of key people. However, the group continues to have regular communication on a number of key projects including the potential for the Burley Griffin Way touring route.

ITEM 8 – Correspondence

ITEM 8.1 – RRT representative on INTA board

Correspondence has been received indicating that Tracey Valenzisi will be stepping down as one of RRT's representatives on the INTA board later this year. The current RRT reps are Tracey and Director Harvie. It was agreed that a replacement for Tracey would be put on the agenda and discussed at the August Board meeting.

ITEM 8.2 – Letter from Bland Shire Council

A copy of a letter from Bland Shire Council to the Eastern DMO was forwarded to RRT, which outline concerns Bland Shire holds about Tilma Group / Linda Tillman having conflicts of interest when attending Eastern DMO meetings.

The letter was received too late to include in the board papers so it was agreed that the Board would consider the letter out of session and an appropriate response would be formulated.

ITEM 9 – General Business

Intern position

The intern position was discussed, as outlined in the board papers, and it was agreed to proceed with appointing the intern.

IT WAS RESOLVED that RRT appoints Yannika Hendess as an intern with RRT from September 2014 for a period of at least three months.

Moved: Director Stuart

Seconded: Director Stien

Director Stuart also confirmed that third-year students studying Bachelor of Business at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga must complete an internship of at least 120 hours and that the internship could also be done as a block. This would be kept in mind for future intern positions.

Director Druce confirmed that another German student he knows will be seeking an intern position in January and this should also be kept in mind.

Update Destination Management Plan

Director Stien asked about updates to the DMP and the Project Officer confirmed that updates had been received from some but not all members. The DMP will be updated and circulated to all members.

Changes to Federal Government funding for tourism

Director Stuart raised the issue of changes in Federal Government funding, including the cessation of all domestic tourism marketing. Ben Janeczko from Destination NSW confirmed that the Federal Government will no longer fund domestic tourism marketing activity from 01 July 2014 and this will be left to the states and territories. The main domestic campaign undertaken by Tourism Australia in recent years was the “No Leave, No Life’ campaign and it had only a small percentage of Tourism Australia’s overall budget.

The Board agreed that, if questioned by media on the on topic, RRT’s response would focus on the positive message that Destination NSW has received an additional \$2 million dollars in funding through the RVEF program with a three-year commitment.

Further, the Board agreed that all media comments from RRT would come from the Chair. Other RRT Directors can comment to media under their own titles, not as RRT Directors.

Project Officer on leave

The Project Officer will be on leave from Tuesday 24 June 2014, returning to the office on Monday 28 July 2014. During this time, Jacqui will work additional hours as required and Sonia’s email will be re-directed to Jacqui.

ITEM 10 – Meeting close

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 August 2014 at the Council Chambers in Wagga Wagga.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.50pm.

Signed as a correct record.

Chair

Gregory Lawrence

Date

SECTION 2 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

9.1 Monthly Status Report

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the information contained in the October 2014 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 actions taken.

This course of action creates greater transparency for the 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 18 FEBRUARY 2014

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
Main Street Toilet- Upgrade - 25022014	DAES	That Council proceed with the refurbishment of the Main Street toilets including two unisex toilets fitted the same and having baby change tables as shown and the additional funding of \$20,000 be sourced from the current under expenditure in the WHS-Risk area.	26/3: Commenced 6/5: to be progressed 10/6: works underway 19/8: progressing, facilities to now include seperate male and female toilets 3/10: Complete

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 18 MARCH 2014

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
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<p>Compulsory Acquisition Of Crown Land For The Sewage Treatment Works And Landfill At Barmedman 28032014</p>	<p>DAES</p>	<p>1. That pursuant to Section 186 of the Local Government Act 1993, Bland Shire Council make application to the Minister for Local Government and Her Excellency, The Governor, for the compulsory acquisition of Lots 117 & 228 DP750607 and Lot 7015 DP94598 for the purposes of a Sewage Treatment Works and Landfill. 2. That all mines and minerals be excluded from the compulsory acquisition. 3. That on acquisition, and pursuant to Section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council advertise the draft resolution: "It is intended to classify Lots 117 & 228 DP750607 and Lot 7015 DP94598 (land situated at Barmedman) as operational land." 4. That pursuant to Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council delegate authority to the General Manager to sign: a) Land and Property Information Resumption Application Form b) Land and Property Information Request Form.</p>	<p>26/3: works being progressed 6/5: in hand 19/8: notification from Govt that application will be processed, notices to be published 7/10: Ongoing, due process in hand</p>
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COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 15 JULY 2014

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
<p>Strategic Property Purchase - 1 - 23072014</p>	<p>GM</p>	<p>That a further report be submitted to the September Council meeting in respect to the development of a strategic plan of the future use of this site, including all known financial implications.</p>	<p>30/7: ongoing 25/9: A report will be submitted to the October Council meeting</p>

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 19 AUGUST 2014

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
NSW Country Mayors Association - 03082014	GM	That Council apply for membership of the NSW Country Mayors Association.	25/8: Letter sent to NSW CMA seeking membership 25/9: The next meeting of the CMA is scheduled for 14.11.14
Community Water Resources - 04082014	DAES	That Bland Shire Council investigate a program, within its current funding structure, to enhance its ability to supply water to its "green spaces", including parks and playing fields, in order to be able to best withstand an 8 year drought.	2/9: DAES to progress 25/9: This is an ongoing process within Council's normal operational functions
Ethical Decision Making and Conflicts of Interest - 09082014	GM	That the Council adopt the "Ethical Decision Making and Conflicts of Interest guiding checklist" as attached.	25/8: EA to incorporate into monthly business papers and distribute to all committees following review in September 2/9: included into Business Paper template, to be provided to Committees following review
Plans for Tourism - 11082014	GM	That Council develop short, medium and long term plans for tourism to align with the Community Strategic Plan.	21/8: AGM drafted information for feedback from SEDTA 25/9: GM to follow up 7/10: VETACW meeting to be held on 11th November
Community Interest in the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole (VETACW) - 12082014	GM	That members of the community be invited to express their interest in the Committee for the dissemination of information.	21/8: Discussions held with CRO to include in other upcoming community engagement activities 2/9: Engagement Strategy to be discussed at September Workshop 25/9: Engagement Strategy was discussed at September Workshop and is now being implemented 7/10: VETACW meeting to be held on 11th November

Planning For Impacts That May Occur If The Barrick Cowal Gold Mine Closed - 14082014	GM	1. That a select committee be created comprising of the Bland Shire Council's Mayor; Deputy Mayor; General Manager; Director Assets and Engineering; Director Corporate and Community Services and Barrick Cowal Gold's representative Shane Goodwin. 2. That a Memorandum of Understanding be signed between Bland Shire Council and Barrick Cowal Gold on the commitment of both parties to the committee and its terms of reference.	25/8: letter sent to Barrick 25/9: The advisory committee has been established and met on 18.9.14. A report will be submitted to an Extraordinary meeting of Council on 14.10.14 7/10: next meeting scheduled for 30th October
Bland Heritage Strategy 2014 - 2017 - 23082014	DCCDS	That Council advertise for public comment the Heritage Strategy 2014 - 2017, which provides the future direction for heritage initiatives in the Bland Shire and meets Council's obligation under the NSW Heritage Office funding requirements and provide a further report to the September Council meeting.	20/8 Public Exhibition underway 7/10: to be presented to October Council meeting
Drop Off And Pick Up Zone West Wyalong Primary School - 24082014	DAES	That a "No Parking 8.00am - 9.30am 2.30pm - 4.00pm School Drop Off Pick Up Zone, on school days" be installed in Dumersq Street adjacent to the West Wyalong Primary school in the 25m section just north of Park Street.	3/10: to be installed
New Proposed Rural Fire Service Shed - Deed of Agreement with Property Owners - 25082014	DAES	That Council authorise the General Manager to sign and seal the following Deeds made in relation to the erection of a Rural Fire Service Sheds on private lands: 1. Ungarie Station – Lot 55 DP	25/9: Deeds of agreement have been executed and no further action is required 3/10: complete
City of Sydney Amendment (Elections) Bill 2014 - 28082014	GM	That Council express: a) Significant concerns with the proposed City of Sydney Amendment (Elections) Bill 2014 and the implications on local government across NSW. b) Disappointment after participation in the review of local government that the matter was not raised in the Samson	25/9: Letter has been forwarded and no further action is required.
Sale Of Lot 6 Calleen Street In The Industrial Estate - 31082014	GM	That Council authorise the General Manager and Mayor to negotiate the offer for the sale of Lot 6 Calleen Street in the industrial estate.	21/8: SEDTA liaising with agent

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 16 SEPTEMBER 2014

Item Number	Action By	Council Resolution/Action Required	Outcome
Review of Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program - 02092014	GM	That councillors and senior staff undertake a review of the current Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program within the parameters of the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation.	25/9: The review is to coincide with the IP&R process
Voting Delegate - Local Government NSW Annual Conference - 11092014	GM	That the Mayor be appointed as Council's voting delegate to the 2014 Local Government NSW annual conference to be held in Coffs Harbour from 19-21 October.	17/9: LGNSW advised of Council's voting delegate 25/9: no further action is required
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 12092014	GM	That Council's Advisory Committee structure and membership be amended in accordance with the recommendations detailed below.	25/9: Noted and all necessary action has been completed
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 13092014	GM	1 That all community representative positions on Council's Advisory Committees be appointed for a two (2) year period. 2. That all community representative positions are declared vacant and expressions of interest sought for community representatives on the Health & Wellbeing, Cultural, Access and Heritage Advisory Committees for the period 2014 – 2016 to coincide with the Council elections.	25/9: The necessary letters and advertisements have been prepared 7/10: further report to the October Council meeting
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 14092014	GM	That the Internal Audit Committee membership consists of: * 1x Independent Member *2x Staff (observers) - General Manager and other staff as required * Corporate Support - Executive Assistant.	25/9: The General Manager is to follow up the appointment of an independent member 7/10: advertisement to be included in the Internal Audit Assoc newsletter
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 15092014	GM	That the Health & Wellbeing Advisory Committee meet on a bi-annual basis.	25/9: noted and no further action is required

Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 16092014	GM	That the Heritage Advisory Committee meet on a bi-monthly basis.	25/9: noted and no further action is required
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 17092015	GM	That the Museums Advisory Committee meet on a bi-annual basis.	25/9: noted and no further action is required
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 18092016	GM	1. That an open forum to gain community input be conducted on a bi-monthly basis at the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole meetings. 2. That the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole further consider the structure, format and establishment of community reference group/s.	25/9: the next meeting is scheduled for 11 November
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 19092017	GM	That the Economic Development Advisory Committee of the Whole meets on a bi-monthly basis following the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole meeting.	25/9: noted and no further action is required
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 20092017	GM	That the Plant Committee meet on a bi-annual basis.	25/9: noted and no further action is required
Review Of Council's Advisory Committees - 21092017	GM	That the structure and membership for all other Advisory Committees remain the same.	25/9: noted and no further action is required
Refurbishment of the Perseverance Street Sports Complex Stadium - 22092014	GM	1. That the minutes of the Stadium Steering Committee of 9 September 2014 be received and noted for information purposes; 2. That the list of prioritised works also be received and noted for information purposes at this stage; 3. That the general manager now calls for expressions of interest for the 'design and construct' phase of this project based on, but not limited to, the essential works identified by the steering committee; and 4. That a further report be submitted to council once the expressions of interest have been received and assessed.	19/9: Committee members notified, draft EOI documents to be discussed at the next steering committee meeting on 14/10. 25/9: progress report to be submitted to the October Council meeting 7/10: discussions ongoing, expression of interest for consultant to be progressed, Steering Committee meeting scheduled for 14th October

Mexico in the West Festival - 2014 23092014	GM	1. That council advises Events West Wyalong that it will not be possible to lift the Alcohol Free Zone ban in the main street for this year's Festival 2 That the general manager be delegated authority to arrange the temporary use of the Elders building by Events West Wyalong for this year's Festival.	19/9: CRO liaising with Events West Wyalong. Settlement for the purchase proposed for 3/10. 25/9: no further action required
Future of NSW Local Government - Minister's Announcement - 24092014	GM	That the information concerning the NSW's government response to the Independent Review Panel's Report on the future of NSW Local Government be received and noted and that the general manager provide a comprehensive report to the October meeting of council on the possible implications for Bland Shire Council.	25/9: A further report to be submitted to the October Council meeting 7/10: Rescission motion received, report prepared for consideration at extra ordinary council meeting on 14th October
Future of NSW Local Government - Minister's Announcement - 25092015	GM	That Bland Shire Council provide a letter of support for the submission of an Expression of Interest by REROC to become a pilot 'Joint Organisation' under the NSW State Government's Fit for the Future Program for NSW local government providing it excludes Wagga City Council.	25/9: Notice of Rescission received to be dealt with at an Extraordinary meeting of Council on 14.10.14
Financial Hardship Policy - 27092014	DCCDS	1. That the Council place the Financial Hardship Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. 2. That if no submissions are received, the Council give delegated authority to the General Manager to adopt the Policy.	Policy placed on exhibition

NSW Public Library Funding Report update - 28092014	DCCDS	That the Council: A) Continue to provide support to the campaign mounted by the NSW Public Library Associations for increased state funding to local government for public libraries. B) Write to the Hon. Troy Grant, Minister for the Arts, noting the allocation of \$15m over 4 years for a public library infrastructure grants program, and calling upon the Government to implement the Reforming Public Library Funding submission of the Library Council of NSW in 2012 for the reform of the funding system for NSW public libraries. C) Continue to take a lead role in the campaign locally.	Letter sent. Complete
Children Services Policy Adoptions - 29092014	DCCDS	That the Council adopts the following Children Services Unit policies as required by the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011. *Assessment and FDC Educators, Educator Assistants and Persons residing at FDC residences policy *Delivery and collection of children policy *Determining the responsible person present at the service policy *Fee policy *Keeping a register of FDC educators and assistants policy *Provision of information, assistance and training to FDC educators policy	Staff advised. Policy folder updated. Complete
Financial Statements 2013/14 - 31092014	DCCDS	1. That the Financial Statements or 2013/14 be referred to Audit. 2. That the Council authorise the Mayor, a Councillor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer to sign the statement by Councillors and Management.	Auditors engaged for 2013/14 audit. Complete
Tender 2014/02 - Purchase Of Land - 91 Queen Street Barmedman - 33092014	GM	That Council accepts the tender from MC Christman for the purchase of Lot 14, Section 4, DP 758055, 91 Queen Street Barmedman.	19/9: Successful tenderer advised and Solicitors instructed to prepare contract 7/10: arrangements in hand
Strategic Property Purchase - 2 - 34092014	DCCDS	That Council not accept the offer for the purchase of the subject property.	Staff advised. Complete

9.2 Progress Report On The Delivery Program 2013-2016

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council receive and note the report on progress for implementation, up to 30 June 2014, of the Delivery Program 2013 – 2016.

Introduction

The attached schedule is the second progress report for implementation of the Delivery Program 2013 – 2016. It covers the period commencing 1st January 2014 and ending 30th June 2014.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework for NSW local government was implemented at Bland Shire Council from 1st July 2012.

The Delivery Program is a statement of commitment to the community from each newly elected council. In preparing the program, Council is accounting for its stewardship of the community's long-term goals, outlining what it intends to do towards achieving these goals during its term of office and what its priorities will be. It is designed as the single point of reference for all principal activities undertaken by Council during its term of office. All plans, projects, activities and funding allocations must be directly linked to this Program.

Supporting the Delivery Program is an annual Operational Plan. It spells out the details of the Program – the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken each year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.

The General Manager must ensure that progress reports are provided to the council, with respect to the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program, at least every 6 months.

Conclusion

The Delivery Program 2013 – 2016 came into effect from 1st July 2013 and the attached report details the actions, projects, improvements and initiatives that have been undertaken for the six month period to 30th June 2014.

Overall it has been a most successful period but there are still many challenges facing council in its endeavours to provide adequate and cost effective services and facilities.




Council's performance against the Actions in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and the key achievements, programs and projects are internally monitored on a quarterly basis.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Overall performance against the 2013/14 Operational Plan Actions are presented in the table below. These Action Icons are further presented in the five Community Strategic Plan themes within the Delivery Program Progress Report.

These achievements reflect a strong teamwork approach, between the elected representatives, council staff and the community. Whilst some performance measures can be clearly quantified, it does not necessarily mean the community is aware of, or fully appreciates, or is fully satisfied with, the extent of progress made.

2013/14 Operational Plan Actions		
Total number of Actions:	389	
	<i>Progress as at 31st December 2013</i>	<i>Progress as at 30th June 2014</i>
 Completed	43	345
 In progress	314	41
 Not progressed	32	3

9.3 Council's Capital Expenditure Projects 2014/15

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the information detailing the progress of Council's 2014/2015 capital expenditure projects, as at 13 October 2014 be received and noted.

Introduction

Included as an attachment to this report is a list of the capital expenditure items agreed to by Council in conjunction with the adoption of the 2014/2015 annual budget.

The list has been updated to 13 October 2014.

Carry over works from the 2013/14 year will be determined by Council at this meeting and included in the schedule for ongoing monitoring and reporting.

Financial Implications

Any expenditure related to the projects detailed in the list has been included in the current 2014/2015 budget and where it is a project of significance it is the subject of a separate report to council.

CAPITAL PROJECTS 2014-2015

PROJECT	BUDGET	TARGET DATE & PROGRESS
GENERAL FUND		
Childrens Services Landscaping	\$ 18,000	9/10: Preparation for works and design underway, expected completion April 2015
Disabled / Pram Ramps – Ungarie	\$ 5,000	
Replace Ground Lights with Domed at Aerodrome	\$ 120,000	5/8: Discussion with CASA 9/10: obtaining further information for Council
New Beams at Lawn Cemetery (10 year plan)	\$ 30,000	
Mirrool Sunshine Park Fence	\$ 12,000	9/10: fence panels have arrived and delivery to Mirrool committee arranged
Weethalle Shed Concrete Floor	\$ 8,000	
Dump Point – Cooina Park	\$ 15,000	
Rotary Park Watering System	\$ 5,000	
Awning at Park Street Recreation Ground	\$ 25,000	
Screen for West Wyalong Landfill	\$ 33,000	
Shed for Traxcavator	\$ 10,000	16/9: in progress
WHS at Landfill Replacement of Electrical Box & associated	\$ 35,000	

Aeration Channel West Wyalong	\$ 30,000	
Reticulation Tanks Perseverance Street	\$ 65,000	
Increase Capacity of Airport Dam – reticulation	\$ 30,000	
Flood Proof Ungarie Pump	\$ 350,000	
Indoor Sporting Facilities	\$ 2,000,000	19/8: Legal advice received, Steering Committee meeting scheduled for September 9 9/10: second Steering Committee meeting scheduled for October 14
ANZAC Fund (Soldiers Hall at Wyalong)	\$ 10,000	9/10: Awaiting outcome of grant application prior to finalising works
Main Street Heritage Plaques	\$ 10,000	9/10: 2 panels finalised, working on further panels
Refurbish Topy Hall / Soldiers	\$ 50,000	9/10: meeting arranged with Hall Committee regarding priority of works
CARRY OVER WORKS		
..... to be determined by Council at its meeting on 28 October 2014		

9.4 Local Government General Elections 2016

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

14. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That Bland Shire Council resolves:

- 1. Pursuant to S. 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.**
- 2. Pursuant to S.296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by S.18, that a council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.**
- 3. Pursuant to S.296(2) and (3) of the Act as applied and modified by S.18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council.**

Introduction

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the Office of Local Government regarding the conduct of the next general local government elections scheduled for September 2016.

Section 296 of the local Government Act, relating to local government elections, has been amended to enhance the flexibility of councils to make decisions on the conduct of their elections. Among other things, the changes now allow councils to decide up to 18 months prior to an ordinary election to enter into a contract with the NSWEC to conduct all of their elections, referendums and polls.

In order to facilitate this process the OLG has prepared a model resolution and has advised that any council wishing to engage the NSWEC must pass such a resolution at least 18 months before the next ordinary election of councillors. This would mean dealing with the matter no later than February 2015.

Council is also in receipt of correspondence from the Australian Electoral Company which is a private organisation that administered the 2012 ordinary elections for a handful of NSW councils.

The Company is bringing to the attention of councils the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters specifically relating to the 2012 ordinary elections for councils.

The Company's main area of concern is reference to electronic voting in the future and stating that the voting technology applied by the company is an industry standard secure site.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

The NSWEC is also contemplating the use of electronic voting in the future and I am confident that the technology to be used by the Commission would also be of an industry standard that protects the privacy of the individual voter as well as the privacy of the actual vote.

Conclusion

It is my professional view that council would be best served by continuing to have the NSWEC conduct all general local government elections, polls and referendums for Bland Shire Council.

The NSWEC has access to all of the necessary resources such as election material, IT software, staffing, insurances and overall expertise in the administration of local government elections. It is for these reasons that I have recommended that the NSWEC conduct our 2016 elections.

It is quite possible that there could be significant changes in the structure of NSW local government prior to the 2016 general elections, however, on the advice of the OLG, it is still necessary for council to determine this matter at this point in time.

Financial Implications

Determining an accurate cost for the 2016 general elections is difficult given that there could be changes in the structure of council. However, based on the 2012 election costs I would estimate in the vicinity of \$50,000.00.

9.5 Complaint Statistics – NSW Councils

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the information contained in this report regarding the Office of Local Government complaint statistics for NSW councils for the period July 2013 to June 2014 be received and noted.

Introduction

The Office of Local Government annually produce statistics in relation to complaints against all NSW local councils. Local councils are independent bodies, elected by and accountable to their communities and are encouraged to resolve most complaints at the local level.

The Office of Local Government have three statutory complaint handling roles. First, they examine complaints for breaches of the pecuniary interest provisions within the Act. Second, they examine public interest disclosures made to the Chief Executive under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994. Third, they examine complaints alleging councillor misconduct.

The types of matters routinely investigated are:

- pecuniary interests / failure to disclose
- councillor misconduct
- systemic and serious deficiencies in council functions and operations
- serious non compliance with the Act and regulations

Investigative priorities are to focus on councils where there is evidence of systemic breakdowns in council operations. The Office of Local Government assess all complaints based on their individual merits and a number of criteria including whether:

- the complaint falls within their jurisdiction to investigate
- there is sufficient prima facie evidence to substantiate the complaint
- the complaint raises an issue that, on their further assessment, may warrant further action
- the matter is frivolous, vexatious or is not made in good faith
- there are alternative means of resolving the issue
- the issues raised need to be investigated by another appropriate body
- it is in the public interest to investigate such an issue
- the matter occurred some time ago and it is unlikely that their intervention would provide a resolution

To avoid the duplication of resources, the Office of Local Government and the NSW Ombudsman have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding relating to the referral of complaint matters and the sharing of information.

I am pleased to advise that Bland Shire Council was not the subject of any complaints during this reporting period.

The complete 2013/14 complaints data for all NSW councils is available at: [Council complaints | Office of Local Government](#)

Conclusion

This is a pleasing result for Bland Shire Council. The community, councillors and staff can be satisfied with the outcome.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

9.6 Meeting Arrangements and Council Closure – Christmas/New Year 2014/2015

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

14. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council determine the following meeting arrangements for the 2014/15 Christmas and New Year holiday period:

- 1. The December meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 16 December 2014.**
- 2. The December Council Workshop be held on Tuesday, 2 December 2014.**
- 3. The Australia Day Committee meeting be held on Tuesday, 9 December 2014 commencing at 7.00pm following the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole meeting commencing at 6.00pm.**
- 4. There be no meeting held in January 2015.**
- 5. The Mayor and General Manager be delegated authority, jointly, to deal with matters of an urgent nature between the December 2014 and February 2015 Council meetings and that any matters dealt with under this authority be reported to the first meeting in 2015.**

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council endorse the closure of Council's operations, with the exception of essential services, as follows:

- Outdoor Staff Closure: From Friday 19 December 2014 (From 12 noon) through to Friday 9 January 2015 (Resuming on Monday 12 January 2015)**
- Indoor Staff Closure: from Friday 19 December 2014 (From COB) through to Friday 2 January 2015 (Resuming on Monday 5 January 2015)**

Introduction

This report deals firstly with the meeting arrangements over the upcoming Christmas and New Year period and then with the proposed shutdown of operations from 19 December 2014 to 2 January 2015 for indoor staff and 9 January 2015 for outdoor staff.

There will be sufficient time to activate council decisions from the December meeting prior to staff leave and the office closure this year. Therefore the December meeting of Council should remain on the third Tuesday.

Also in recent years Council has dispensed with the January meeting which is allowed under the Local Government Act.

Council will need to determine the appropriate meeting arrangements during this holiday period and the following is proposed:

- Confirm that the December Council Meeting will be held on 16 December 2014
- Confirm that the December Council Workshop be held on Tuesday, 2 December 2014
- Confirm that the Australia Day Committee meeting be held on Tuesday, 9 December 2014 commencing at 7.00pm following the Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole meeting commencing at 6.00pm.
- There be no Council Workshop or Meeting in January 2015
- The normal meeting cycle resume in February 2015

It is also common practice to delegate joint authority to the Mayor and General Manager to deal with any urgent matters that may arise during the period in which there are no formal council meetings. This authority is conferred jointly which means that neither the Mayor nor the General Manager can act in isolation. Any such matters dealt with under this authority need to be reported to council.

It is also recommended that the Council's operations, with the exception of essential services, will close as follows:

- Outdoor Staff Closure: From Friday 19 December 2014 (From 12 noon) through to Friday 9 January 2015 (Resuming on Monday 12 January 2015)
- Indoor Staff Closure: from Friday 19 December 2014 (From COB) through to Friday 2 January 2015 (Resuming on Monday 5 January 2015)

During this period there will be 3 public holidays and 1 annual picnic day for all employees. For the outdoor staff, there will be a total of nine (9) days annual leave and for the indoor staff a total of four (4) days annual leave. The taking of annual leave can be complemented by any RDO's occurring during the above closure periods. These annual leave days will reduce council's leave entitlement burden which will have a positive financial impact.

Conclusion

The proposed schedule of dates for meeting arrangements and operation shutdown for the upcoming Christmas and New Year period have been determined to ensure that appropriate timeframes and measures are implemented during the holiday period and that all staff are treated in a consistent manner.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report other than to have a positive impact on the reduction of staff leave entitlements.

2014/15 Christmas/New Year Shutdown

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
December 1	2 COUNCIL WORKSHOP	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 VETACW MEETING AUST DAY CTTEE MEETING	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 COUNCIL MEETING	17	18	19 APPRECIATION BREAKFAST BREAKUP PARTY	20 FROM 12 NOON OPERATIONS SHUTDOWN FROM 5PM ON 19/12 OFFICE SHUTDOWN	21
22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27	28
OPERATIONS SHUTDOWN						
OFFICE SHUTDOWN						
29 STAFF PICNIC DAY	30	31	January 1 NEW YEARS DAY	2	3	4
OPERATIONS SHUTDOWN						
OFFICE SHUTDOWN						
5 COUNCIL OFFICE RE-OPENS	6	7	8	9	10	11
OPERATIONS SHUTDOWN						
12 COUNCIL OPERATIONS RESUME	13	14	15	16	17	18

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

9.7 Strategic Property Purchase – 184 Main Street

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the information on the future use of 184 Main Street, West Wyalong and that the building remains empty until at least February 2015 unless an opportunity for a very short term use arises and that the general manager be delegated authority to make this decision.

Officer's Recommendation:

That a further report be submitted to the February 2015 Council meeting regarding the future use of this site taking into account the results of the community survey in respect to the establishment of a Visitor Information Centre and that such report also include a detailed analysis of the cost of maintaining the site.

Introduction

I am pleased to report that Council is now the legal owner of this particular property with settlement having taken place on 3 October 2014.

This particular site has been identified as a potential location for a Visitor Information Centre; however, at this stage no accurate financial analysis has been undertaken in respect to the ongoing operational costs associated with such a venture.

The property has also been identified as being a good investment opportunity for Council given its high profile location in the main street and its purchase could also be viewed by the community as an economic development initiative by council.

The building is currently occupied by Events West Wyalong who are utilising the space as their shop front for the upcoming Mexico in the West Festival. There has been no charge placed on the group as any associated costs will be absorbed as part of council's in-kind support for the Festival.

The purpose of this report is to identify a future use for the site and as referred to above one such use is as a Visitor Information Centre. However, confirmation of this may be premature at this stage until the results of the community survey have been received which will not be until early 2015.

Council has also been approached, on an informal basis, for rental of the site for a new business to West Wyalong. The proponent is in the process of preparing a business plan for presentation to council which I expect will also be in early 2015.

A further approach has been made to purchase the site and to offer a long term lease back to council. I do not believe that this option would benefit council.

Time has not permitted a full financial analysis on the cost of maintaining this site but as the cost of utilities and other likely charges become known a more detailed report can be presented to council.

Conclusion

If this site is determined to be suitable for a VIC then obviously any long term rental cannot be entertained and as this outcome will not be known until at least February 2015 the building should remain empty unless there is an opportunity for a very short term use that arises.

Financial Implications

The estimated rental potential of the site ranges from \$200.00 - \$300.00 per week but again, until a more permanent use is identified, it is difficult to calculate a return on council's investment.

SECTION 3 – CORPORATE, COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

9.8 Financial Statements – September 2014

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author Director Corporate, Community & Development Services

Officer's Recommendation

1. That Council receive and note the statement of Bank Balances, Rates Collections and Investments for the month of September, 2014.
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 September 2014 to 30 September 2014, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$2,686,389.34

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2014.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER, 2014

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 665.73
BCard	\$ 15,990.00
	\$16,655.73
Invested Funds	
Fixed Deposits	\$11,000,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$ 2,145,377.34
	\$13,145,377.34
Net Balance	\$13,162,033.07
Percentage of investment to Net Balance	99.88%

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30.09.14
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OCTOBER, 2014

Balance as at 01.09.14 \$ 844,312.18

Add Receipts

For month of September 2014 \$ 1,842,743.39
Includes

Receipt Date.	Receipt No.	Receipt Name	Received Total
18/09/14	TFRCALL	Transfer from Cash at Call	\$700,000.00

Less Payments

For month of September 2014 \$2,686,389.84
Includes

Payment Date.	EFT No.	Payee Name	Payment Total
18/09/14	2235	ING Bank	\$1,000,000.00
30/09/14	2293	Willis & Bowring Trust Account	\$209,773.73

Cash Balance \$665.73

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$350,000.00

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period September 01, 2014 to September 30, 2014.

I CERTIFY,

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

Fund	Voucher No.s	Total
Cheques	24221 – 24267	\$ 72,196.51
Auto-pay Creditors	E002040 – E002340	\$ 2,053,509.14
Auto-pay Payroll	01/09 – 28/09	\$ 547,587.63
September Bank Charges & Commission etc		\$1,866.31
Direct Debits	Repayments & Vehicle Lease	\$11,230.25
		\$ 2,686,389.84

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, Community & Development Services

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 28 October 2014, 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

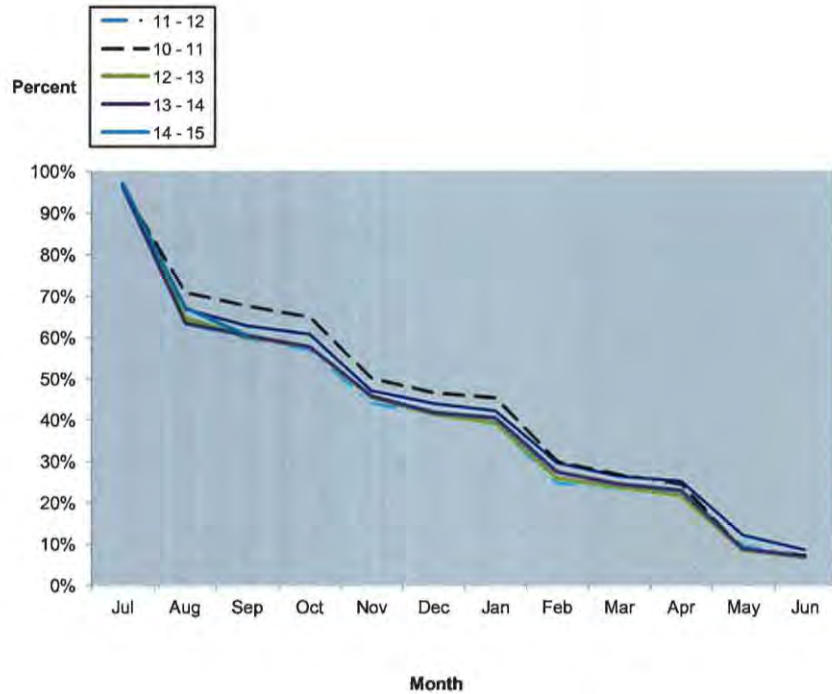
I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling \$ 2,686,389.84 was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 28 October 2014 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

STATEMENT OF RATES AS AT 30 September 2014

RATE	Levy	Arrears	Adjustments	Interest	Total	Pension Rebate	Collections	Balance	2014-15	2013-14
General	\$6,004,291.81	\$353,068.17	\$2,582.81	\$6,165.20	\$6,366,107.99	-\$76,398.80	-\$2,596,263.83	\$3,693,445.36	58.72%	59.16%
Sewerage	\$1,245,540.00	\$145,938.73	\$888.49	\$2,442.11	\$1,394,809.33	-\$36,647.97	-\$457,960.89	\$900,200.47	66.28%	65.77%
Garbage/Services/Legal	\$846,662.00	\$157,784.54	\$6,656.15	\$2,604.45	\$1,013,707.14	-\$46,710.47	-\$348,685.70	\$618,310.97	63.94%	63.32%
Overpayments	\$0.00	\$0.00					-\$11,385.02	-\$11,385.02		
TOTALS:	\$8,096,493.81	\$656,791.44	\$10,127.45	\$11,211.76	\$8,774,624.46	-\$159,757.24	-\$3,414,295.44	\$5,200,571.78	60.37%	60.34%

% of Rates



Debt Analysis	Properties	Balance
Sale of Land	0	\$0.00
Future Sale of Land	46	\$78,615.46
Arrangements	69	\$104,201.21
Debt Collection	80	\$379,746.01
Centrepay	42	\$61,568.00
Total	237	\$624,130.68

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 30th September 2014. 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
05-August-2014	Bank of QLD (Floating Rate Note)	1,000,000.00	731 days	0.95% + BBSW	05-August-2016
01-September-2014	ING Bank (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 days	3.54%	03-March-2015
18-September-2014	ING Bank (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	180 Days	3.51%	17-March-2015
04-June-2014	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 Days	3.65%	04-December-2014
02-May-2014	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.67%	02-November-2014
05-May-2014	IMB (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	150 days	3.50%	02-October-2014
22-July-2014	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.65%	22-January-2015
20-August-2014	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,500,000.00	90 days	3.55%	18-November-2014
01-August-2014	Westpac (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.65%	01-February-2015
13-June-2014	ME Bank (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	123 days	3.55%	14-October-2014
30-September-2014	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 days	3.45%	31-March-2015
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,685.45	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	2,094,691.89	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	<u>13,145,377.34</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 192,000.00 Managed Funds

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

Director Corporate Community & Development Services

9.9 End of Year Budget Review 2014

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of the Council through effective and prudent financial management

Author: Manager Financial Services

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That the Officers Report be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Council endorses the Statement acknowledging the financial position is considered satisfactory.**

Officer's Recommendation:

That the requested carry forwards in the amount of \$1,466,013.00 be carried forward to the 2014 – 2015 financial period.

Introduction

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires the Council to prepare and consider a Budget Review Statement each quarter, which shows:

- Estimates of income and expenditure
- Appropriate revision of those estimates

The Statement must also include a report indicating changes in estimates for income and expenditure. This is done in consultation with the responsible director or manager of the relevant department. The Statement must comply with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and be considered by the Council.

The attached End of Year Budget Summary provides an overview of Council's final budget position at 30 June 2014. The financials have not yet been audited and a full report of the audited statements will be presented by the Auditors as in previous years.

The End of Year Budget Summary has been prepared on an accrual basis as required.

Overall Position

In general terms, the Council has achieved 108% of projected revenue to the '*Adjusted Budget 2013/14*' and 97% of projected expenditure to *Adjusted Budget 2013/14*' by the end of June 2014.

The '*Adjusted Budget 2013/14*' is the final budget figures after Council approved changes and is shown in the yellow column of the attached End of Year Summary document.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Capital Expenditure at the end of June 2014 was \$4,182,953 representing 94% of the revised budget.

The Budget Result at the end of the year, (excluding depreciation of \$6.25M) stands at \$1.9M surplus (prior to audit). The following points should be considered when looking at this result;

- There are carry forward requests of \$1.466M to be taken out of the surplus
- \$200k of Matching Grant Funding was not expended in the year.

The balance of Council's cash and investments held is around \$11M.

Operational Budget and Variations

The following are the results in the Departmental cost centres together with some commentary.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

The OGM has produced a result at the end of the 2013-14 year that is within the budget for the directorate. Overall, all areas appear to have performed to budget expectations and provided for a favourable result.

CORPORATE COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Corporate Community and Development Services have produced a result at the end of the 2013-14 year that is within the budget for the directorate. Most areas appear to be performing within budget expectations and provided for a favourable result.

ASSETS AND ENGINEERING

Assets and Engineering have produced a result at the end of the 2013-14 year that is within the budget for the directorate. There were some areas that exceeded their budget, but these were offset by savings in other areas within the directorate. Overall the directorate results have provided for a favourable result.

Conclusion

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005.

As Council's Responsible Accounting officer, it is my opinion that the Budget Review Statement for Bland Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2014 indicates that Council's financial position at 30 June 2014 is considered satisfactory, having regard to actual income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.

Signed _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Responsible Accounting Officer, Bland Shire Council

**END OF YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY
(Pre Audit)**

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY	BUDGET 2013/14	C/FWD PROJECTS 2012/13	Approved Adjustments	ADJUSTED BUDGET 2013/14	Requested Adjustments	Projected Year End Result	4th Quarter Actuals	Balance Remaining
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER								
Governance	681,531	0	0	681,531	0	681,531	418,335	263,195
Democracy	185,449	0	24,609	210,058	0	210,058	199,082	10,976
Land Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	165	-165
Economic Development	287,445	0	-45,000	242,445	0	242,445	124,374	118,072
Tourism	150,319	0	45,000	195,319	0	195,319	138,296	57,023
Human Resources	81,879	0	58,447	138,826	0	138,826	58,190	80,636
Executive Total Outcome	1,386,623	0	83,056	1,468,179	0	1,468,179	938,442	529,737
CORPORATE, COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES								
General Revenue	-4,811,504	0	0	-4,811,504	0	-4,811,504	-4,821,437	9,933
Financial Assistance & investments	-3,512,926	-300,000	0	-3,812,926	0	-3,812,926	-4,290,114	477,188
Corporate Support	1,243,567	62,039	-105,900	1,199,706	0	1,199,706	1,139,111	60,595
Insurances	313,650	0	0	313,650	0	313,650	247,966	65,685
OH&S	-17,690	0	0	-17,690	0	-17,690	-61,875	44,186
Risk Management System	12,791	0	-20,000	-7,209	0	-7,209	-46,580	39,371
		0	45,000					
Aged Care	17,619	0	0	17,619	0	17,619	73,865	-56,246
Library & Children's Services	381,437	14,051	10,000	405,488	0	405,488	460,032	-29,544
Community Services	579,935	102,727	0	682,662	0	682,662	415,548	267,114
Regulatory Services	93,167	0	0	93,167	0	93,167	87,915	5,252
Community Relations	150,230	25,088	30,000	205,318	0	205,318	177,833	27,485
Support	567,026	40,596	0	607,622	0	607,622	565,380	42,242
Development Control	-70,810	47,913	0	-22,897	0	-22,897	-90,744	67,847
Environmental Planning	121,098	0	50,000	171,098	0	171,098	67,135	103,963
Health & Environment	-3,297	0	0	-3,297	0	-3,297	-4,053	756
Council Property Maintenance	458,587	0	78,000	536,587	0	536,587	372,341	164,245
Corporate, Community and Development Services Total	-4,477,121	-7,586	87,100	-4,442,607	0	-4,442,607	-5,707,678	1,290,072
ASSETS AND ENGINEERING								
Engineering Administration	155,898	6,300	0	162,198	0	162,198	-172,949	309,425
Plant Running	1,217,318	20,000	65,453	1,302,771	0	1,302,771	698,432	604,338
Roads, Works & Transport	4,595,661	24,000	-40,000	4,563,989	0	4,563,989	4,974,402	-430,413
Public Services	2,743,152	563,203	56,198	3,362,553	0	3,362,553	3,256,561	74,240
Pools	388,195	0	0	388,195	0	388,195	359,921	28,274
Waste management	0	36,929	0	36,929	0	36,929	2	36,927
Sewerage Disposal Services	0	34,799	0	34,799	0	34,799	-0	37,992
Assets and Engineering Total	9,100,224	685,231	81,651	9,851,434	0	9,851,434	9,116,368	660,784
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	6,009,726	677,645	251,807	6,877,006	0	6,877,006	4,347,132	2,480,592
Less Depreciation Charged	6,333,984			6,333,984		6,333,984	6,247,510	86,474
RESULT/Surplus(-) Deficit (+)	-324,258	677,645	251,807	543,022	0	543,022	-1,900,378	2,394,118

	Carry Forward Summary		
	Description	Requested Carry Forwards	Comment
EXECUTIVE			
	Investigation Indoor Recreation Facility	42,000.00	<i>To be utilised for refurbishment on the existing Recreation facility which is budgeted in 2014-15</i>
	Land Development Costs	709,000.00	<i>Carry over to 2014-15 as Land development not commenced but still needed as only 1 block of industrial land is currently available for sale</i>
	TOTAL	751,000.00	
CORPORATE SUPPORT			
	Legal	49,200	<i>Request that Legal expenses amount for ongoing litigation by Piper Alderman regarding Lehman Bros to be carried over to 2014-15</i>
	TOTAL	49,200.00	
COMMUNITY SERVICES			
Childrens Services Unit			
	CSU Shade Sail	7,500.00	<i>Work not commenced in 2013-14. Request to carry forward to 2014-15</i>
Library			
	Library Revitalising Project	10,891.00	<i>Grant of \$16,000 received in February 2013. Balance to be expended in 2014-15</i>
Community Development			
	Heartmoves Funding	5,000.00	<i>Grant received in 2013-14 but not yet expended. Carry forward to 2014-15</i>
	Transport NSW Funding	5,754.00	<i>Funding in 2013-14 received but not yet expended. Carry over to 2014-15</i>
	TOTAL	29,145.00	
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			
Development Control			

Carry Forward Summary			
		Requested	Comment
	Description	Carry Forwards	
	Council Building Maintenance Project	20,298.00	<i>These projects are ongoing with essential works on Council buildings to be completed in 2014-15</i>
	Council Buildings Project	45,667.00	
	RCD Complicance	15,000.00	
Environmental Planning			
	Heritage Plaques	7,162.00	<i>Not fully expended in 2013-14. Still ongoing in 2014-15. Request to carry forward.</i>
	TOTAL	88,127.00	
ROAD WORKS & TRANSPORT			
Plant Workshop			
	Plant & Equipment Purchases - Cap	70,000.00	<i>Self Propelled Roller to have been purchased in 2013-14. This has yet to be done. Budget result for Plant in 13-14 sufficient to carryover this amount</i>
Council Projects			
	Main St Illumination	40,000.00	<i>Request to carry forward to 2014-15 as projects were not commenced by end of 2013-14</i>
	TOTAL	110,000.00	
PUBLIC SERVICES			
	Ungarie Museum Internal Alteration	1,972.00	<i>Ungarie Roof completed. Internal alterations to be completed in 14/15.</i>
Aerodrome			
	Refurbish Airport Building roof, internal & some external	28,123.00	<i>Recladding has been completed. The rest of the project is to be completed in 2014-15</i>
Public Conveniences			
	Toilets - Aberlines Toilets	11,625.00	<i>Budgeted in 2012-13, works commenced 2013-14 but yet to be completed. Request budget balance be carried forward to 2014-15</i>
Cemeteries			
	Sump Solar Pump & Ag Pipe	5,000.00	<i>Works commenced in 2013-14 and still progressing in 2014-15. Balance of budget requested to be carried over.</i>

Carry Forward Summary			
Description	Requested Carry Forwards	Comment	
Repair Old Unattended Grave Sites	20,000.00	<i>Request to carry forward to 2014-15 as projects were not commenced by end of 2013-14</i>	
Cemetery extension, landscaping	6,100.00	<i>Works commenced in 2013-14 and still progressing in 2014-15. Balance of budget requested to be carried over.</i>	
Parks & Gardens			
Service Person Park (Reg Rattey) AC	80,000.00	<i>Consultation was done in 2013-14 but works not yet commenced. Carry forward to 2014-15.</i>	
Sporting Ovals			
Perseverance St Rec Ground Development	150,000.00	<i>Project is nearing completion and amount requested to carry forward to 2014-15 is still within original budget and will be utilised as Council's contribution towards NSW Club Grants Application if successful.</i>	
TOTAL	302,820.00		
SEWERAGE SERVICES			
Barnedman Infrastructure	41,392.00	<i>Request to carry forward to 2014-15 as projects were not commenced by end of 2013-14</i>	
Saleyard Reticulation Works	94,329.00	<i>Works commenced in 2013-14 and still progressing in 2014-15. Original Budget was \$138k. Balance of budget requested to be carried over.</i>	
	135,721.00		
NET RESULT	1,466,013.00		

9.10 Loan Borrowing Policy

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP18 Develop and maintain a framework of plans and policies that ensures open and transparent Council communication

Author: Director Corporate, Community and Development Services

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That the Council place the *Loan Borrowing Policy* on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.**
- 2. That if no submissions are received, the Council give delegated authority to the General Manager to adopt the Policy.**

Introduction

The Office of Local Government Better Practice review identified that Council did not have a Loan Borrowing Policy.

As such, this policy was developed to assist staff and Councillors to ensure all borrowing:

- is in accordance with legislative requirements and the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines
- is sustainable in the terms of council's ability to meet repayments within budgetary obligations
- is a sound decision in the management of Council's current and future debt

The policy acknowledges that borrowing is an important funding source for the Council and assists with spreading the capital outlay for infrastructure to future ratepayers who will also benefit from the project.

Conclusion

The policy has been developed in line with Office of Local Government Guidelines and the Legislative requirements and seeks to ensure sound debt management by Bland Shire Council.

Financial Implications

All borrowings will be subject to Council approval. Council must identify the source of funds to cover the loan before approving any loan borrowings and acknowledge the necessary adjustments to Council's budget. Council's decision to borrow funds for capital projects will be based on the ability to repay the future debt and will be reflected in the Long Term Financial Plan.



POLICY STATEMENT

LOAN BORROWING POLICY

POLICY ADOPTED: < Date policy adopted by Council...>

Policy Objective:

The objective of this policy is to ensure the sound management of Council's existing and future debt by:

- Ensuring that all borrowings (both internal and external) are in accordance with legislative requirements.
- Minimising the cost of borrowings.
- Ensuring the total amount of loan borrowings is sustainable in terms of ability to meet future repayments and budgetary obligations.

Policy Statement:

Council recognises that loan borrowing for capital works is an important funding source for Local government and that the full cost of infrastructure should not be borne entirely by present day ratepayers, but be contributed to by future ratepayers who will also benefit.

Council will restrict all borrowing to expenditure on identified capital projects that are considered by Council to be of the highest priority, and which are unable to be funded from existing revenue sources. Under no circumstances should Council borrow funds for recurrent expenditure.

Council will comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act in relation to internal loans.

Definitions:

Council – being Bland Shire Council

EOI – Expression of Interest

OLG – Office of Local Government

Responsibilities:

Mayor

To lead Councillors in their understanding of and compliance with this policy and guidelines.

General Manager

To lead staff (either directly or through delegated authority) in their understanding of and compliance with this policy and guidelines.

To approve resources to develop, implement and review this policy and guidelines.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Director Corporate, Community & Development Services

To ensure (directly or through delegation) the distribution and communication of the policy and guidelines to specified persons.

To ensure (directly or through delegation) the approved policy and guidelines are available in hard copy and electronically on Council's website.

Directors

To communicate, implement and comply with this policy and guidelines.

Manger Financial Services

Outline responsibilities of person(s) whose role it will be to carry out most of the functions under the policy.

All Council Officials

To comply with this policy, guidelines and related procedures.

Recommended Practices:

Principles

Council's Loan Borrowing Policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- Council will not borrow money to fund operating expenditure. This type of expenditure should be funded through operating revenue streams.
- Council will not borrow money to fund the acquisition, replacement or renewal of assets that is expected to occur on an annual (or similar) basis at approximately the same level each year (i.e. recurrent capital works such as road resurfacing, plant replacement, etc). This type of expenditure shall be funded through operating revenue streams.
- Where a capital project for a service that is funded by user charges (e.g. waste) is determined to be funded by way of loans, the user charge should reflect the cost of providing the service (including any loan repayments).
- Other specific capital projects, not funded by user charges, should only be considered for loan funding where the project has been identified through the Integrated Planning and Reporting process and is considered by Council to be beneficial to the majority of ratepayers.
- The term of any loan should not exceed the expected economic life of the asset being funded.
- Prior to undertaking any borrowing, Council shall assess its capacity to repay the loan, to ensure that the community is not burdened with unnecessary risk and rate/charge increases.
- The nature of any borrowings (short or long term) and the interest rate (fixed or variable), if applicable, will take into account the purpose of the borrowings and seek to minimise interest rate exposure.
- All borrowings will be considered in line with Council's Long Term Financial Plan.
- Council's goal is to achieve a financial indicator of less than 10% for the Consolidated Debt Service Ratio, which is a key performance indicator of the Office of Local Government.

Responsiveness and Accountability

All borrowings will be subject to Council approval. Council must identify the source of funds to cover the loan before approving any loan borrowings and acknowledge the necessary adjustments to Council's budget.

Determination of Appropriate Lending Institution – External Loans

Once a borrowing has been approved by Council, and 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) process will be conducted whereby appropriate lending institutions (Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions) will be invited to submit written quotations on Council's borrowing requirements.

Written quotations must include the:

- Interest rate
- Term of the loan
- Repayment intervals (monthly, quarterly etc)
- Repayment instalment amount and
- Any applicable fees

Council may also request an observable market benchmark, such as a percentage above the current bill rate, to assist in analysing the quotations provided.

Council will seek a minimum of three written quotations for its approved loan borrowing from Authorised Deposit taking Institutions.

Appropriate and acceptable documentation must be provided to Council by any prospective lender during the EOI process.

The calculation process for any loan break costs must be clearly set out in the loan documentation.

The General Manager has authority to accept loan offers, subject to the borrowing amount being previously approved by Council and the requirements of the 'Loan Borrowing Policy' being adhered to.

Restrictions

Current borrowing restrictions are prescribed in the Local Government Borrowing Order which states:

A council shall not borrow from any source outside the Commonwealth of Australia nor in any other currency than Australian currency.

Access

Public access to information about Loan Borrowing will be through Council's website and Council's annual Operational Plan.

References:

Local Government Act 1993
Local government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW)
Ministers Borrowing Order
Bland Shire Council Operational Plan
Bland Shire Council Long Term Financial Plan

Appendices:

NIL

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director Corporate, Community & Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID	< .. Contact Records..>		
Superceded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Review Date

Related Council Policy / Procedure

9.11 Appointment of Community Representatives to Committees

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP16. Develop strong community partnerships

Author: Director Corporate, Community and Development Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council make the appointments of Ron Black, Wendy Bowles and Fran Mitchell to the Access Advisory Committee for the period 2014-2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council determine the successful community representation to the Cultural Advisory Committee.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council make the appointments of the community representatives to the Cultural Advisory Committee for the period 2014-2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council make the appointments of Martin Lane and Pam Butcher to the Heritage Advisory Committee for the period 2014-2016.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council determine the future of the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council and Advisory Committee members actively seek additional Community representation and further nominations be presented to Council for appointment.

Introduction

Council has a range of advisory committees with community representatives appointed. At its September 2014 meeting Council resolved *that all community representative positions on Councils Advisory Committees be appointed for a two year period that all community representative positions are declared vacant and expressions of interest sought for community representative on the Health & Wellbeing, Cultural, Access and Heritage Advisory Committees for the period of 2014-2016 to coincide with the Council elections.*

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

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS RECEIVED	COUNCIL DECISION
Access Advisory (6 x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ronald Black• Wendy Bowles• Fran Mitchell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••••
Cultural Advisory (6 x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Janice Wyse• Sandra Austin• Barry Cooper• Terence Butcher• Paul McNeill• Kerrie Johnston• Anthony Hurry• Julia Sutcliffe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••••
Health & Wellbeing Advisory (3 x Community representatives)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
Heritage Advisory (3 x Community representatives)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Martin Lane• Pam Butcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••

As shown above, eight nominations have been received for the Cultural Advisory Committee. Five nominations were received on time, with three being received after the closing date. The committee has six community representation places available. Council will need to determine whether to accept all nominations or settle on a way in which to reduce the number.

To assist Council with the decision process, the current committee consists of 12 members including:

- 6 x Community representatives
- 2 x Councillors
- 3 x Staff (1 as required)
- Eastern Riverina Arts Development Officer

Unfortunately there are still vacant positions on the Access, Health & Wellbeing and Heritage Advisory Committees. It is the officer's recommendation that the relevant Advisory Committee actively seek nominations along with Council conducting further advertising for nominations to vacant positions.

With no nominations being received for the Health and Wellbeing Committee, and with the committee previously only meeting on an "as required" basis, it is suggested that the Council determine the future of the committee.

Conclusion

The officer recommends that the nominations be received and accepted by Council and that further advertising occur to seek additional nominations..

Financial Implications

NIL

9.12 West Wyalong Show Day 2015

Our places

Where our sense of community shines

Vision: Providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy

DP7.4 Assist community groups to provide activities to the wider community

Author: Community Relations Officer

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council make application for a local part day public holiday between the hours of 12noon and 6.00pm for the purpose of the West Wyalong Show on Wednesday, September 2 2015 covering the West Wyalong/Wyalong and Tallimba Town Improvement Districts within the Bland Shire area.

Introduction

The West Wyalong Show Society Inc has requested Council to apply for a part day public holiday between the hours of 12 noon and 6pm on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 for the purposes of the West Wyalong Show.

The NSW Industrial Relations Office have advised that all local holidays in NSW for a forthcoming calendar year are appointed by the Minister in one notice however consideration of late applications is permissible and will be subject to a one-off Notice . The Office requests that, following resolution by Council, they be informed in writing prior to November 4 of the desired 2015 local public holidays and local event days applicable to the local government area, together with detailed information in support of the application.

Summary

For the third year in succession, Council was required to undertake a widespread community consultation process in order to support any application for a local public holiday or local event day.

An online survey through Council's website was established on September 1, 2014. Background information and survey forms were also available from Council's stand at the 2014 West Wyalong Show, Council's administrative office and the Library/Visitor Centre.

Advertisements appeared in the West Wyalong Advocate. Notices were displayed on the Community Noticeboard located in Church Street, West Wyalong and posted on Council's Facebook page.

Individual letters outlining the application process and seeking feedback were sent in September 2014 to local banks, schools, Business West Wyalong and local businesses. At the time of writing this report, no submissions were received from either of these parties.

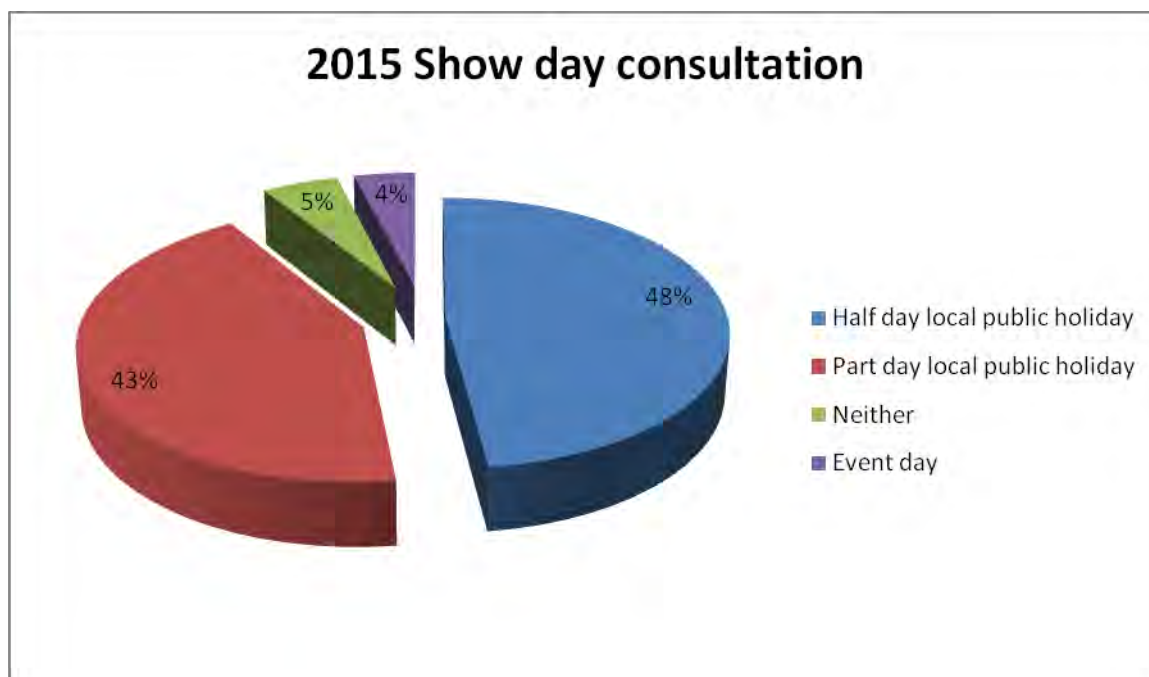
Community Survey

This survey was available online and in hard copy format. The number of responses exceeded each of the last two years.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

A total of 71 online surveys and six print versions were received .A summary of the responses follows.



From the responses received there is overwhelming support for either a local half day public holiday (48 per cent) or part day public holiday between 12 noon and 6pm (43 per cent).

Defined Area

Council is required to clearly specify the defined area that the application relates to. Council traditionally applies for the area “covering the West Wyalong/Wyalong and Tallimba Town Improvement Districts within the Bland Shire area”.

Conclusion

There is obvious strong community support for the continuation of at least a part day public holiday for the purpose of the annual West Wyalong Show.

Last year Council resolved for the first time to apply for a part day public holiday between the hours of noon and 6pm after correspondence from the Australian Hotels Association (AHA) on behalf of its local members. The AHA expressed concern at the impact of a local half day public holiday and the payment of penalty rates for employees.

The Show Society advise that last year’s event attracted good support from the community and local businesses, some of which had not exhibited previously, and have asked Council to consider applying for a part day public holiday (noon-6pm) again for 2015.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

West Wyalong Show 2015 - Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day

Online Community Survey Results

Serial	Half Day Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day	Comments
1	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The half day public holiday noon to 6pm benefits the community more as the majority of the shire can attend.
2	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	No comment.
6	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	A half day public holiday allows members of the community, including school children to attend the Show.
9	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	.
10	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Good for farmers and kids.
12	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The best combined result for the Show Society, local business and the wider community. Appeared to work to great effect last year.
16	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I'm happy for it to be a half day public holiday or a half day local event day. Either way the town still shuts down at 12!
18	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I feel the part day local public holiday is the fairest option for local businesses, whilst still giving people the opportunity to attend the show.
25	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I think to keep the show going we need to have some form of holiday for the day.
26	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	So there will be time to go to the show and it wont be over.
28	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The hospitality industry should not be penalised for operating on Show Day Night after 6pm (pay penalty rates) yet everyone should have an opportunity to attend the show .
33	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Everyone should have the opportunity to go to the show.

39	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Show day is important to the community and I believe everyone should have an opportunity to enjoy the day with their kids.
41	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The show is a fantastic family experience.... It's one of the things country kids remember growing up. It would be ashamed for my kids not to have that experience because mum and dad have to work.
45	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	If we do not have a half day holiday, many employees would not be able to attend the show, myself included. We need to keep the tradition of the show.
48	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The West Wyalong Show is a community event . Interest in the show is supported by the West Wyalong Public School children entering items in the show.
49	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Lovely idea for a time when families can attend their local show as a 'family unit' and not be pressured by restricted work hours.
52	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The part day local public holiday will enable participation in the show and lessons the impact on those businesses that operate outside 6pm.

55	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The West Wyalong Show is strongly supported by the students at West Wyalong Public School- they compete in the handwriting/art/craft/cooking/pet, horse riding and school display sections and it is a major community event for the families of our school. By having a part day Public Holiday it allows families to enjoy the show without "pulling their children out of school" or taking a day off work- it is a recognised day which allows for all sections of our community to come together and celebrate our uniqueness. It is important that we support the Show Committee to keep this important event to continue. Without the public holiday to allow the children and parents to attend, sadly this special day in our small country town would disappear!
56	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I am a school teacher in the local community and our school puts a lot of effort into the show, by both entering in artworks, handwriting samples and creating a display that show cases our school. Without the half day public holiday the students and myself wouldn't be able to attend the show, the students enjoy the show and feel proud seeing their work being displayed in front of the local community.
57	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Without our local show day being at least a part day public holiday, the majority of working individuals & families would not be able to attend the show due to work. Attending the show after work (if a public holiday is not granted) would be a detriment to the local show, as many of the sideshows begin packing up and 'moving on' the next show in the early evening of our show day. A public holiday is required for the West Wyalong local Show to continue to be a viable event. Without a public holiday, our local Show would cease to exist.
58	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Great way to bond a community.
60	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I have just voted I don't feel like I need to comment.
62	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	The show is the oldest event for the community to enjoy as a family in West Wyalong. Unfortunately a full day holiday allows some to spend their money out of town. An event day, even a half day would not let the people out of work to attend the show and we do not have lights to allow the show to go into the night. In time it may be possible to install lights for the show to go into the night.
63	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	I want West Wyalong to have a successful show.
64	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	West Wyalong needs this to hold a successful show.

67	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	<p>I think it is important for the show to have at least a half day holiday, it is a wonderful local event and the show committee do an outstanding job in trying to provide a traditional show and keep up with the diverse interests of the many who live in the shire. I am a teacher at Wyalong Public School and I know first hand how excited the students get about going to the show and the coming to school the next day eagerly chatting about their experiences. It promotes a lot of good language experiences which can be harnessed by the teachers in teaching the English syllabus. The students are keen to show off their entries in the pavilion and schools support the show with entries and displays in the Industrial Hall which are time consuming to erect but a great draw card for the general public. I can remember when we had a full day off which was marvellous for those of us who work as it allowed us to compete in ring events and help at the the show. I know it is probably off the agenda to revert to this again, mind you we only got a third of our students attend school in the morning of the show.All our classes were collapsed and students found it hard to concentrate on much because of their excitement.However there are more than school students to think of and if the commercial establishments think it is worthwhile to open for half a day so be it.</p> <p>I have voted for the first option as it supports the show committee and the hotels, a comprise on both for</p>
68	Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)	Traders in town will not have to pay extra for evening meals/entertainment etc.
3	Half day local public holiday	Being able to leave work and celebrate the rural lifestyle with your neighbours is an important part of living in the country.
4	Half day local public holiday	:)
5	Half day local public holiday	I find it strange the show is mid week when kids are at school and people are at work. A half day public holiday will give people time to go have a look.
7	Half day local public holiday.	Lets support our local show.
11	Half day local public holiday	Holiday as previous years.
13	Half day local public holiday	I believe we should have a half day holiday to support West Wyalong Show.
15	Half day local public holiday	Fairer choice for workers.
17	Half day local public holiday	I would prefer a half day holiday.

19	Half day local public holiday	I support half day local public holiday.
20	Half day local public holiday	In order to keep the show from disappearing, a half day holiday is better. That way everyone has a chance to attend if they wish. Having it until midnight also means those that don't attend the Show through the day will have a chance in the evening. And, shift workers will hopefully get that opportunity too.
21	Half day local public holiday	A full day holiday would be preferred.
22	Half day local public holiday	I think the town should get behind the show committee and support the day. We have always had it as a public holiday, why change it now?
23	Half day local holiday	Always been half a day holiday.
27	Half day local public holiday	Full day would be better I think.
30	Half day local public holiday	I think it should be a holiday still as if it were a local event day, my chances of attending with my children would be slim as I think we would be required stay open.
31	Half day local public holiday	The whole town closes down for people to attend the show, and those unlucky few who have to work should receive public holiday pay.
32	Half day local public holiday	I think all residents of the Shire should be encouraged to attend such an important and historic community event and I believe from 12 noon it should be a day off for everyone to enjoy.
35	Half day local public holiday	Community representation - keep tradition alive.
36	Half day local public holiday	Show day is such a long standing holiday, and locally important get together, I feel the community needs to feel the pride in our area both town wise and agriculture.
37	Half day local public holiday	Half day gives many locals the chance to attend the show while still allowing those that are required to work compensation by higher penalty rates. If part holiday is taken away the show will eventually no longer be viable to hold as the attendance rate will drop, less side shows will be attracted to the West Wyalong show and will move to other areas.
38	Half day local public holiday	Half day local public holiday.
40	Half day local public holiday	I think we need the public holiday as otherwise people wont be able to go to the show.
43	Half day local public holiday	I support the half day local public holiday to encourage everyone to get behind this fun community event.
44	Half day local public holiday	Kids look forward to it every year!

Bland Shire Council



46	Half day local public holiday	The Half day Public Holiday seems to work. I don't think it needs to be changed. The show is a fantastic community event which families enjoy spending the day at. If parents cannot go due to work, Who takes the children? Definitely Half Day Pubic Holiday.
47	Half day local public holiday	I fully support a half day local public holiday for the West Wyalong Show.
50	Half day local public holiday	I support half day local public holiday for this event. I feel it is important that all members of the community have an opportunity to attend and support the local show.
51	Half day local event day	I support half day local public holiday for this event. I feel it is important that all members of the community have an opportunity to attend and support the local show.
54	Half day local event day	I believe the show is a great tradition that should be kept. If the public holiday is not granted we would be losing a great historical event.
59	Half day public holiday	This is an important day for the town and district of West Wyalong and a half day holiday is necessary for the success of the show.
61	Half day public holiday	I actually would have preferred a full day holiday, but as it is not an option, this is the closest I can get. I feel the show would be very poorly supported if there was no holiday. For many years I have "worked" for half a day. It has generally been a waste of my time. There are very few customers. But I was paid to sit here so I did. I wonder how many customers the businesses that remain open really get?
69	Half day public holiday	I think that if the half day holiday is removed less people will attend the show & it will eventually be not viable to run.
70	Half day public holiday	As someone who works nights, this allows me to take my kids to the show for more than an hour or two before hurrying off to work. If the holiday is only until six o'clock the restaurants still open at six.
14	Neither	Have never understood why the show is midweek, interrupts school and running of business etc
24	Neither	I think a part day public holiday would be better given at a local christmas parade or sweeden in the west etc, where the money spent stays in the town instead of the carnies pocket!!!!

42	Neither	Having a public holiday or local event means closing all the stores in town. So instead of people spending their money in town, and keeping the money in town, you are actively encouraging people to spend their money elsewhere. How many people end up not even going to the show, and instead spending their money in Wagga or Griffith?
53	Neither	OR Have a whole day public holiday for all of Bland Shire. Half day for West Wyalong (schools) confuses parents whose children catch 'Ungarie' school buses. People will or will not go to the West Wyalong show what ever decision is made.
29	Half day local event day	Hi why cant it be a full public holiday, not half ,not part,but the whole day as a public holiday
34	Half day lcoal event day	I as a bus driver that meets connecting buses that don't have a holiday it is a night mare working with parents that have to meet me. It would be much easier to have a full day holiday.
66	Half day local event day	Half day local event day best option but otherwise part day local public holiday should also be considered

Hard Copy Community Survey Sheets

- 71 Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)
- 72 Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)
- 77 Part day local public holiday (noon-6pm)
- 73 Half day local public holiday
- 74 Half day local public holiday
- 76 Half day local public holiday

Anything to keep the show going.

9.13 Children's Services Policy Adoption – Complaints Policy

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP4.5 Provide quality and affordable Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Preschool Services.

Author: Manager Library and Children Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council adopts the Children Services Unit Complaints Policy as required by the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011.

Introduction

There are many requirements under the NSW Department of Education and Communities and the Accreditation board to meet all aspects of the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011. As a result the Childrens Services policies are required to be regularly updated or developed and adopted by Council as the auspicing body.

The attached policy has been reviewed or developed, but is not marked in red as the changes are staff titles only and not within the document itself. All policies are developed in accordance with best practice and based on model policies.

Conclusion

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

Financial Implications

Nil



POLICY STATEMENT Children's Services Unit

COMPLAINTS POLICY

ORIGINAL ADOPTION DATE: 16 April 2013

Policy Objective:

We will:

- Provide opportunities for consultation, evaluation and review of the service operation and delivery of the education and care program;
- Develop a process for making and managing complaints;
- Communicate the option and process of making a complaint;
- Handle complaints diligently and confidentially.

Policy Statement:

Our service values the **feedback** of educators, staff, families and the wider community in helping to create a service that meets regulation and the needs of enrolled children and their families. We encourage open communication through opportunities to respond and feedback on the program.

A component of this feedback is the ability to put forward a **complaint** and have this managed appropriately with due consideration for accountability and quality improvement.

Relevant Legislation:

- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 168, 173, 176
- National Quality Standard: 7.3

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:

Communications will aim at all times to be open, honest and confidential.

Our service will offer a variety of ways to communicate and provide feedback including:

- Day books
- Daily program - will have a section dedicated to comments or feedback on the program and activities
- Interactions
- Formal feedback and comments
- Surveys
- Family meetings
- Newsletters
- Councils website

With permission, educators may write comments on behalf of families to help with evaluations of the program and encourage further family input.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Families are provided the service's email address and phone details at orientation. Families will be encouraged to converse with educators at pick up and drop off times, and may email or call throughout the day.

Feedback from families is encouraged and educators and staff will take this feedback into account in ongoing planning and quality improvement.

Families will be informed as to how their feedback has contributed to improvements in the service through information noticeboard displays, emails, and/or newsletters.

Complaints

The Nominated Supervisor will:

1. Develop a process for managing complaints. This process includes:
 - a. Receiving complaints;
 - b. Addressing and investigating complaints;
 - c. Documenting complaints.
2. Communicate information on the process to families through enrolment and orientation processes and information.
3. Provide contact details for putting forward a complaint.
4. Ensure every complaint is managed and is an opportunity for quality improvement.
5. Discuss the process for managing complaints with the educator and staff team.
6. Provide or arrange training on complaints management.

Sample Process (Information for Families)

1. Families make a formal complaint about aspects of our service and no person will be disadvantaged in any way as a result of that complaint.
2. Complaints should be forwarded to:
 - Name of Service
 - Name of Approved Provider
 - Name of Nominated Supervisor
 - Address and Phone
3. Your complaint will be dealt with in the strictest confidentiality. Any educator or staff member involved in handling complaints will ensure that information is restricted only to those who genuinely need to be notified in order to deal with the complaint. If information specific to the complaint needs to be disclosed to others during its resolution, the complainant will be informed.
4. Your complaint will be documented by an educator or staff member, and placed on the relevant complaints register. The complaint will then be forwarded on to the most appropriate person to investigate the complaint. This will include the Nominated Supervisor and the approved provider.
5. Actions to address the complaint will be determined. Once the outcomes or resolutions are agreed on, all persons involved in the original complaint will be notified and informed of any actions for improvement that will take place as a result of the complaint.
6. The Department of Education and Communities will be notified of any complaint made to the service alleging a breach of regulation within 24 hours of the complaint being made.

Sample Process (Information for Educators and Staff)

Please note - this is not a grievance procedure. Matters of staff grievance should be dealt with under a grievance policy relating to staff.

1. Clients, educators and staff may make a formal complaint about aspects of our service and no person will be disadvantaged in any way as a result of that complaint.

2. Complaints should be forwarded to:
 - Name of Service
 - Name of Approved Provider
 - Name of Nominated Supervisor
 - Address and Phone
3. Your complaint will be dealt with in the strictest confidentiality. Any educator or staff member involved in handling complaints will ensure that information is restricted only to those who genuinely need to be notified in order to deal with the complaint. If information specific to the complaint needs to be disclosed to others during its resolution, the complainant will be informed.
4. Your complaint will be documented, and placed on the complaints register. The complaint will then be forwarded on to the most appropriate person to investigate the complaint. This will include the Nominated Supervisor and the approved provider.
5. Actions to address the complaint will be determined. Once the outcomes or resolutions are agreed on, all persons involved in the original complaint will be notified and informed of any actions for improvement that will take place as a result of the complaint.
6. The Department of Education and Communities will be notified of any complaint made to the service alleging a breach of regulation which alleges that the safety health or wellbeing of a child was or is affected, or that the service has broken the Education and Care Services National Law within 24 hours of the complaint being made.

Evaluation

Continuous improvement of our service occurs where there is reflection and constructive feedback given from the service community which results in positive change and improvement.

Complaints are managed well, lead to quality improvement and are conducted in a safe manner in a secure environment.

References:

- NSW Ombudsman (2009) "Complaint Handling Kit". NSW Ombudsman
- Community Child Care Cooperative – sample policy (Complaint and Feedback) - www.cccc.org.au accessed 4.6.2012

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director of Corporate, Community and Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID	385532		
Superceded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Review Date
16 April 2013	0	15042013	September 2014

Related Council Policy/Procedure

BSC Procedure: Customer Requests/Complaints

9.14 Food for Fines Campaign

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP4.4 Provide and monitor quality library services to the aged, people with disability, young people and families.

Author: Manager Library and Children Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the library partners with the Salvation Army and St Vincent De Paul to provide hampers for the community using the successful "food for fines" campaign.

Introduction

For the last 11 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 for the disadvantaged. The contributions made by library clients have been highly valued and greatly appreciated. The library has also received positive media attention from the community as well from other libraries across the state. This program has also been adopted by other libraries.

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 and are happy to pay it in addition to contributing non perishable goods to the campaign.

Conclusion

In this very simple way, Council is able to offer assistance to the disadvantaged in the community.

Financial Implications

The project has the potential to decrease the fines income, however as the program has been running for over ten years and allowance for this has been included in the estimated income for the 2014/15 budget.

9.15 Bland Heritage Strategy 2014 - 2017

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP19.1 Work with business and property owners to rejuvenate their businesses and shop fronts and encourage the maintenance of buildings with character

Author Manager Development Services on behalf of Heritage Advisory Committee

Officer's Recommendation

That Council endorse the recommendation of the Bland Heritage Advisory Committee and adopt the Heritage Strategy 2014 – 2017, which provides the future direction for heritage initiatives in the Bland Shire over the next three years.

Background

In accordance with Council's resolution No. 23082014 the Heritage Strategy 2014 – 2017 was placed on public notification for a period of 28 days. Council did not receive any enquires nor comments in regard to the heritage strategy.

In consideration of the above, it is recommended that Council endorse the recommendation of the Bland Heritage Advisory Committee and adopt the Heritage Strategy 2014 – 2017, which provides the future direction for heritage initiatives in the Bland Shire over the next three years.

Conclusion

That Council supports the Heritage Committee motion for Council to adopt the Heritage Strategy 2014 – 2017.

Financial Implications

Allocation of funds from the 2014/15 budget

2014

BLAND HERITAGE STRATEGY
2014-2017



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
west wyalong

Introduction

This document has been prepared to set the future direction for heritage initiatives in the Bland Shire. It is also prepared to meet the requirements of the NSW Heritage Office in association with the Three Year funding agreement to support local government heritage management in NSW.

Bland Shire Council includes the villages of Wyalong, Tallimba, Ungarie, Weethalle, Mirrool, Barmedman as well as a substantial rural area focussed on those villages and West Wyalong.

The purpose of this document is to provide a summary of the strategies Bland Shire Council will employ to guide heritage management for the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17. The NSW Heritage Office publications *Recommendations for Local Government Heritage Management and Eight suggestions on how local councils can promote heritage conservation* have been reviewed and utilised in the preparation of this summary heritage strategy.

1.0 The Bland Shire Council Heritage Committee

Aim:

To promote the conservation and maintenance of Bland's heritage.

Actions:

- The Heritage Committee to provide advice to full Council, with the Committee including members of the local community as well as Councillors and Council staff
- The Heritage Committee to recommend the listing of places with heritage significance on the LEP
- The Heritage Committee to initiate and assist with the Annual Heritage Festival
- The heritage Committee to direct and assist in delivering heritage projects

2.0 List Heritage items in the LEP

Aim:

To identify and protect all buildings and places within the Bland local government area that are considered to be of heritage significance.

Actions:

- Progressively update the Heritage Inventory with assessment of further site nominations from the general community
- Provide assistance to the NSW Department of Planning, Heritage Branch in the identification and listing of state significant buildings/places on the State Heritage Register.

- Provide ongoing support to and liaison with community based heritage groups.
- Develop a strategy to deal with lower priority local listings that furthers their protection in a cooperative positive process involving the owners.
- Conserve the character and integrity of the Conservation Area.

3.0 The Heritage Advisory Service

Aim:

To provide policies and plans appropriate to the assessment of applications within the Main Street Conservation Area and listed heritage places and other places with potential heritage significance.

Actions:

- Continue to seek the input of Council's Heritage Adviser in the assessment of applications likely to impact on the heritage significance of buildings/places.
- Promote the external advertising and sign policy for the Conservation Area.
- Provide advice within the Main Street for the implementation of the Main Street study

4.0 Manage local Heritage in a positive manner

Aim:

To be proactive in managing heritage and urban design matters

Actions:

- Flag all items of heritage consideration on the Council property data base, so that heritage issues are noted when development applications are first lodged, or during pre-lodgement meetings
- Investigate the most appropriate manner of protecting heritage streetscapes within Bland Shire and the Main Street Conservation area
- Encourage Council and community participation with the Central West Heritage Network.
- Provide ongoing support to and liaison with community based heritage groups. In particular the Aboriginal Elders in identifying and protecting heritage places.

5.0 Run a local Heritage Fund

Aim:

Increase community participation in the management and conservation of heritage places and Conservation Areas

Actions:

- Continue to offer small Incentive Heritage Grants to encourage owners to undertake conservation and maintenance works.
- Support Council in assisting heritage projects with the funds for heritage interpretation plaques, panels and history publications.

6.0 Run a Main Street Programme

Aim:

To review and implement the recommendations of the Main Street study for the Conservation Area

Actions:

- Encourage property owners and tenants to seek local and associated funds for projects which are consistent with Main Street study recommendations.
- Encourage and support the verandah reinstatement programme for major projects in the Conservation Area

7.0 Present educational and promotional programmes

Aim:

To increase awareness of heritage issues by Council, community and owners, in liaison with the relevant Bland Shire Council department

Actions:

- Participate in the annual Heritage Week celebrations
- Continue to promote and identify new opportunities for cultural heritage tourism through the ongoing promotion and identification of sites and tours.
- Develop Heritage Trail Brochures for key locations in particular the Main Street and Conservation Area
- Maintain heritage walking trails and identify opportunities to expand these trails.
- Develop a Shire wide Cemetery Brochure.

- Develop a Cemetery Identification Program, which includes consistent signage, clear row identification, maps and useful interpretation.
- Maintain network links with the area's schools through improved liaison.
- Utilise the services of a Museum Advisor and other specialist Advisors as required
- Liaise with and involve community groups, such as the Business community, National Trust, Bland Museum, Family History Group and Aboriginal Elder Groups in issues affecting heritage conservation in Bland.
- Promote the Heritage inventory throughout the community
- Facilitate related heritage training courses and seminars for relevant Bland Council staff and community representatives.
- Assist in developing strategies through community consultation for the conservation and protection of specialist places such as Lake Cowal.
- Support the production of heritage publications and web based heritage information including the Conservation Area walking trails in Wyalong and West Wyalong and where relevant across the Shire.
- Continue to provide support to community and tourism groups in the development of cultural heritage tourism projects and programs, in particular the Vanishing Villages Project with the Bland District Historical Society.
- Assist local village groups in recording and publishing their history.

8.0 Management of Council's Assets

Aim:

To ensure that Council's Asset Register identifies all heritage issues and that there are appropriate plans to conserve those properties into the future.

Actions:

- Prepare an inventory and mapping of historic structures and items within the Local Government Area, including minor elements such as street trees, parks, street furniture and bridges.
- Identify sites where interpretive signage should be prepared to convey the historic significance of the Council owned site or place.

9.0 Promote sustainable development

Aim:

To promote heritage and sustainable development opportunities.

Actions:

- Promote energy efficiency and water saving measures within Conservation areas and heritage places;
- Encourage the adaptive re-use of existing redundant heritage sites and buildings and places within Conservation Areas;
- Promote appropriate endemic and other landscape planting within heritage places and the Conservation area;
- Encourage regeneration of places within Conservation Areas and to discourage development which may detract from the viability of Conservation areas and listed heritage places.

SECTION 4 – ASSETS & ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.16 Grain Harvest Scheme 2015 – 2016

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author Director Asset and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation

- 1. That Bland Shire Council be part of the Grain Harvest Scheme for the 2014 – 2015 and 2015 – 2016 harvest seasons.**
- 2. That the Grain Harvest Scheme is only to apply for the period between 1 November and 1 March.**
- 3. That all trucks supplying grain to the grain handlers within the Grain Harvest Scheme obey all current conditions of road usage which are applied to B-Doubles using the Bland Shire roads.**

Background

On the 3 April 2014, the former Deputy Mayor and I attended a forum in Wagga Wagga by consultants hired by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) to analyse the operation of the 2013 -2014 Grain Harvest Scheme. At the forum there were Council representatives; carters and their representatives; and representatives of the major grain handlers in the region. The opening statement by the consultants was that the forum was to get the views of the major players, put together draft recommendations that would be circulated to all participants in July so that if there were consensus for change these could be implemented as part of the 2014 - 2015 Grain Harvest Scheme. You may recall that when I briefed Council after this meeting, I stated that from the brief statements made by the TfNSW representative at the back of the room I felt that they had their own agenda; were committed to what they considered their plan of action; and were not whole heartedly supporting the forum: and that we would have to be careful how Council deals with them.

In what is now becoming true form for TfNSW, they received and commented on the consultant's report, made decisions, and gave it to the RMS to implement, but **NO** further consultation was held with the stakeholders

Subsequently a letter was received by Council dated 18 September 2014 stating that the Grain Harvest scheme starts on 1 October 2014, and will Bland Shire Council let them know as soon as possible if they are again supporting the scheme (or not) and attached to this letter was a copy of the consultant's report with TfNSW comments (copy attached to this report).

Subsequently, after Councils began to complain, an email was sent out by RMS stating, in part, "RMS acknowledges the short time frame involved and understands the council processes you need to follow before you can provide Council's formal response. While we would appreciate Council's formal response as soon as possible, and this week if at all possible, you can respond after 1 October."

In the consultants forum Bland Shire Council raised three broad issues that were seen as needing to be resolved to solve the number of problems that occurred during the operation of the 2013 - 2014 Grain Harvest Scheme. When raised these had broad support from all at the forum and therefore there was general consensus.

The three issues were:

- 1) All grain handlers are to be a member of the scheme – all in; not one in like in 2013 - 2014 (GrainCorp) and the others not participating. So GrainCorp had an official 5% tolerance on the roads while the others were giving a 5% tolerance at the stand but no official 5% tolerance on the road. It was hard to book carters because, of course, they all said they were going to GrainCorp irrespective of their final destination.
- 2) All truck types be received at the grain handling centre. Were the scheme was implemented certain truck types were being turned away because they were not acceptable. The point of accepting these trucks was supported by the consultant's statements that "to bring in the harvest every possible truck is needed". The argument to reject these trucks was that their axle loading would deform roads. It was stated that the road condition is determine by the number of trucks and their loadings – a few non- complaint trucks would have no effect on the roads but large volumes of heavy complaint trucks would wreck the road.
- 3) No grain was to leave the site. The Grain Harvest Scheme should support the taking of all grain even over the 5%. This excess grain should be stockpiled and sold for charity, or Council, etc.

To give the consultants their due items 2 and 3 were part of the consultant's recommendations.

Item 1 – This was not mentioned in the report. The basis seems to be that if grain handlers want to join they can as long as they sign up to the agreement. However, there is no compulsion for a grain handler to join, and I don't think TfNSW sees an reason to make it compulsory.

Item 2 – The consultant's recommendation 6 was that "all trucks be included in the 2014/13 Grain Harvest Management Scheme". The response from TfNSW was "Not supported"

Item 3 - The consultant's part recommendation 17 was that "acceptance of all loads at receiver sites". The response from TfNSW was "Partially supported – there is a need to establish a compliance policy for the Grain Harvest Management Scheme consistent with the national Heavy Vehicle Law"

It should be also noted that the consultant's recommendation¹⁹ asks for better communication, and TfNSW response was that they support this, but are not doing it this time because they have run out of time. I will again remind Council that the meeting we attended in early April was one of the last meetings to be held and then there lapsed 5 months before we got a response in September, but still they say they ran out of time. The upshot of all this is that TfNSW instructed that the Grain Harvest Scheme trial will be extended another two years under the same conditions as the 2013/2014 harvest. In other words, little change. They then handed over the running of the scheme to the RMS in September who gave Council three weeks to join.

Conclusion

The manner which this matter has been handled, in the author's opinion, has been high handed and unsatisfactory. There was ample time to streamline the scheme to suit the wishes of the majority of the parties involved and consider other items as time went on. It is believed that TfNSW have their own agenda and seeing that the results did not match their agenda they did the same as in 2013 - 2014, bought their decision in late, giving Council's a "take it or leave" ultimatum through the RMS who have not been involved in any of the previous discussions.

However, even though it is believed that the Scheme was rather a ramshackle affair in 2013 – 2014 and in all likelihood this will continue for the next two years, it is also believed it is better to be part of the Grain Harvest Management Scheme than not.

The advantage for not being part is that all grain receivers will be on the same basis, however, the Scheme does afford a good system once streamlined properly to handle the carters problems around the 5% margins.

It is believed it would be best for Council to be part of the scheme and keep actively commenting on the scheme to make it more appropriate to the users and local bodies.

However, it is believed that Bland Shire Council should only implement the Scheme during harvest, in other words between 1 November and 1 March and the trucks should obey all current conditions of road usage which are applied to B-Doubles using the Bland Shire roads. These conditions are located on the RMS website and the RMS plans.

Financial Implications

Nil.



Review of the 2013/14 NSW Grain Harvest Management Scheme

Background

One of the biggest threats to a successful grain harvest is the farmer's ability to get grain quickly from the field to safe storage.

The accurate loading of trucks in the paddock is affected by factors such as variable field conditions (moisture, soil type and topography); variable crop types, grain densities and grain weights; on-the-go unloading; and simultaneous loading by two or more in-field sources.

Vehicle mass regulations and enforcement on the road network are designed to protect the safety of all road users and the condition of the road infrastructure. To ensure compliance with these regulatory standards whilst balancing the difficulties associated with vehicle loading

the industry response is to err on the side of caution in loading. This practice slows the harvest clearance, exposes the farmer to greater environmental risk and results in more vehicle trips on road infrastructure than is necessary.

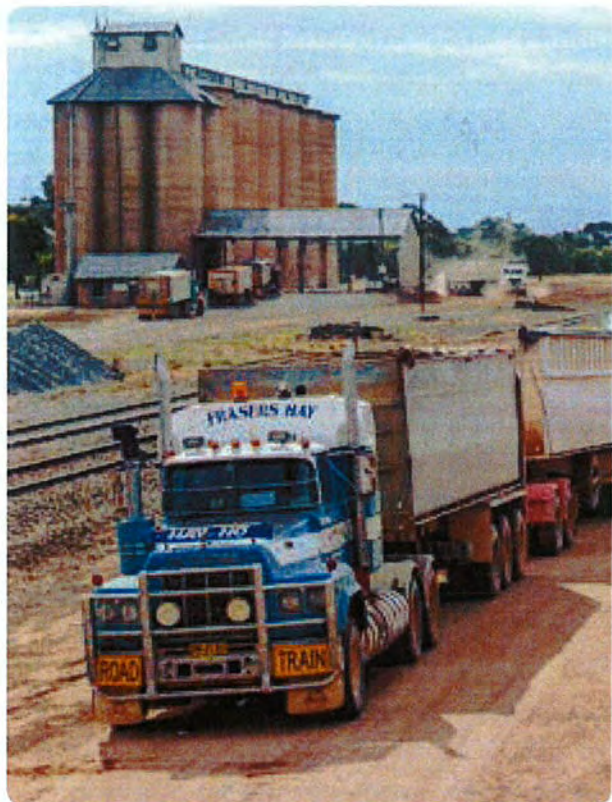
The NSW Grain Harvest Management Scheme was developed in response to industry needs for improved productivity and efficiency in the grain transport task. It is designed to decrease harvest risk, protect roads and to increase productivity and efficiency by facilitating the grain industry to move the average vehicle load towards 100% of the allowable mass.

The scheme is an initiative under the NSW Freight and Ports Strategy.



Transport for NSW (TfNSW) implemented a Grain Harvest Management Scheme (GHMS) for the 2013/14 harvest. Under this Scheme eligible vehicles were able to exceed regulated total mass limits by up to five per cent when delivering wheat, barley, rice, oats, canola and legumes from farms to participating grain receivers.

The 2013/14 GHMS was developed as a 'proof of concept' to guide development of long-term solutions.



Scope of the review

Primary Objectives of the GHMS

1. Promote the safe movement of grain.
2. Facilitate the movement of grain off farms to grain receivers during the peak harvest season.
3. Maximize the productivity of the existing fleet of vehicles to complement increase in on-farm productivity.
4. Minimize the number of vehicle trips between farm gate and receival point.
5. Protect road and bridge infrastructure.
6. Manage excess loads on-site, rather than return those loads to the road network.
7. Support the competitiveness of the NSW grain industry on national and international markets.
8. Maintain existing statutory obligations, including Chain of Responsibility laws.

Methodology

TfNSW engaged CleanStar Australia (CSA) to review the performance of the 2013/14 GHMS against its objectives.

CSA undertook analysis of harvest outcomes, key grain receiver records, and TfNSW and NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) records. The observations and recommendations of the review were derived through gathering and analysing relevant data (both quantitative and qualitative) from a range of sources.

Stakeholder consultation was undertaken using engagement methods and feedback channels including one-on-one interviews, meetings with larger organisational constituents and industry associations representing a collective of stakeholders, participation in the Livestock and Bulk Carriers Association (LBCA) conference (particularly the GHMS segment), three regional conferences, on-site meetings with receivers and packers, and survey submissions.

Key stakeholders included:

- Grain growers (farmers)
- Grain carriers (professional drivers)
- Grain carriers (owner-driver which can include farmers)
- Transport companies
- Grain receivers - including AgriGrain, Akazien Hof Grain and Fertilizer, Australian Mining Group, AWB Grain Flow/Cargill, BFB Pty Ltd, Emerald Grain, GrainCorp, Louis Dreyfus, Manildra Grain, Mountain Industries, Robinson Grain, SunRice and Viterra
- Industry associations - NSW Farmers Association, Livestock and Bulk Carriers Association, the Australian Trucking Association
- Feedlots
- Local councils
- Government agencies.

GrainCorp was the principal provider of receiver records, with the review relying largely on extrapolation for non-GrainCorp data, validated by comparisons with available Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data.



2013/14 grain task

The NSW 2013/14 winter crop is estimated to have produced 9,344,000 tonnes.

Tonnages produced in the grain harvest under review were smaller than the four year average but in line with the 10 year average. There was not a uniform yield across the State. In northern NSW the yield was well down on the 10 year average because of poor rainfall and other climatic impacts. In other regions the yield was closer to 10 year averages.

Although volatile, the pattern of production for NSW grain is trending towards increasing volumes as crop acreages expand and farming systems improve. Over five seasons, 2007/08 to 2011/12, NSW average grain production was 11 million tonnes, with a standard deviation of 4.5 million tonnes. A bumper NSW crop could result in total production in the order of 20 million tonnes.

In terms of the value of grain production, the six main statistical divisions (Central West, Murray, Murrumbidgee, North Western, Northern and South Eastern) generated \$9.5 Billion of agricultural commodity value in the 2010/11 season. This was 81% of NSW's total agricultural production. Within the six statistical divisions, broad acre grain crops generated \$4.2B of agricultural value.

This is effectively the State's entire grain crop and 36% of the State's agricultural value.

Within the statistical divisions cereal grain production is the largest local agricultural activity, both by value and tonnage. It contributed \$3.5B or 37% of total agricultural value.

Deregulation of the grain markets, increases in on-farm storage and the fact that much NSW grain goes to the domestic market means that constraining delivery to the traditional closest bulk receival site would be inefficient and impractical. In addition, limiting the GHMS to grains loaded in the paddock does not comprehend the increasing trend to on-farm storage, and would be very difficult to monitor and enforce.

Of the grains eligible for the 2013/14 GHMS, the crop profile can broadly be described as:

- A 13% increase in area planted to wheat but a 7% reduction in production;
- A 9% increase in area planted to barley but an 11% decline in production;
- A 41% decrease in area planted to canola (in response to low soil moisture reserves at planting) with a commensurate 48% decline in production; and

Wheat, barley and canola contributed 91% of the total production, with wheat totalling 71%.

Key findings

The clear view of the majority of those engaged by the review team was that this GHMS 'proof of concept' had been successful. The Scheme demonstrated modified industry practices and provided no noted increases in adverse impact on the State's pavements.

Pending a number of improvements and clarifications, most stakeholders supported its continuation in the next grain harvest season. However, a small number of councils reserved their agreement to participate in a future Scheme until they see the detailed implementation proposal.

Performance against objectives

The GHMS had eight primary objectives. The review assessed the performance of the Scheme in meeting those objectives in three categories as follows:

1. Objective fully achieved with no requirement for other than routine adjustments to policy or process.

- Objective 3 — Facilitate the movement of grain off farms to grain receivers during the peak harvest season.
- Objective 4 — Minimise the number of vehicle trips between farm gate and receival point.
- Objective 8 — Maintain existing statutory obligations, including Chain of Responsibility laws.

2. Objective partially achieved with encouraging prospects. Adjustments to policy or procedures should be achieved if possible prior to rolling out a 2014/15 GHMS.

- Objective 1 — Promote the safe movement of grain.
- Objective 3 — Maximise the productivity of the existing fleet of vehicles to complement increases in on-farm productivity.
- Objective 5 — Protect road and bridge infrastructure.
- Objective 7 — Support the competitiveness of the NSW grain industry on national and international markets.

3. Objective not sufficiently achieved and requires urgent attention with short term policy development needed.

- Objective 6 — Manage excess loads on-site, rather than return those loads to the road network.

Stakeholder responses to the assessment of meeting the scheme objectives included:

- Safe movement of grain - 64% of respondents agreed that overall this was achieved
- Movement of grain from farms to receivers during peak season - 90% of respondents agreed that the scheme provided the confidence to load more efficiently
- Minimise the number of vehicle trips - most growers were positive in their responses
- Road and bridge infrastructure - over a third of councils thought the range of eligible vehicles and combinations was optimal for pavement wear and bridge stress.

Issues to be addressed

Issues identified with the rollout of the GHMS or aspects essential for a future scheme included:

- Clearer implementation and communication plans.
- Engagement with large receivers to ensure consistent application of the scheme across the State.
- Industry support for the provision of the scheme in providing a capped allowance to facilities loading to the GML limit.
- Not all vehicles used in the collection of grain at the peak of harvest were eligible for the Scheme, which had an adverse impact on Scheme take up. However, the take up rate was good overall and this does not significantly impact on productivity improvements while helping to protect road condition.
- The uneven application of the scheme at receiver sites created potential safety implications by returning overloaded vehicles to public roads.
- Administration needed to be improved to enable stakeholders to obtain clarification of policy and improve day-to-day enforcement of regulations.
- The efficacy of the Green Line Pavement Vertical Loading Standard expressed in terms of Equivalent Standard Axles (ESA) was, despite its limitations, generally accepted by most as a reasonable unifying basis for understanding pavement life and Vehicle Code impacts on pavement.
- There was a view that there was a need for a formal memorandum of understanding between regulators and supply chain stakeholders. Key receiver companies saw the need for an industry code of practice.
- The standardised agreements for the storage and/or warehousing and/or on-farm storage of grains are currently used in transactions between growers and receivers might be the vehicle through which loads should be accepted and penalties is devised for overloads.
- There needs to be clear, unambiguous and enforceable regulations that are strongly and rapidly enforced.
- Many councils had concerns about the impact of heavier vehicles on local infrastructure.
- The scheme excluded some grains. The view was expressed by some stakeholders that any future scheme needed to include all grains. Other producers are likely to want similar considerations to be applied to their crops.
- Any future scheme should aim for alignment between the different state schemes.

Review process

The recommendations of the review were derived by analysis of the following factors:

1. Scheme mass limits

The Ministerial Order specified new allowed mass limits which increased the legal mass limits for eligible vehicles. This capped allowance was designed to facilitate loading to the GML limit.

For the period 15 October 2013 to 31 May 2014 vehicles participating in the GHMS were exempt from accreditation under the mass management module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS) or equipped with type-approved on-board mass (OBM) units.

The implications of this exemption not being extended beyond 31 May 2014 is that a range of owner-drivers will be required to enrol in the NHVAS almost immediately and incur additional costs.

A number of owner-drivers indicated that they do not perceive any real advantage from being enrolled during the grain harvest period, their period of maximum truck use.

There are insufficient resources to move the harvest without involving both professional drivers and owner-operator vehicles at its peak.

Participation in the NHVAS is not considered to be of sufficient relevance at this stage, however, in the context of uniformity across the entire network there is value in seeking to encourage a level playing field.

2. Weight limit type performance

A key element addressed in the review of the scheme was consideration of any implications for industry productivity. The review analysed the gross weight delivery performance of each of the key truck codes against the gross weight limit for each of the weight limit types.

There was an increase in average gross mass for trucks that participated in the scheme compared to those that did not participate.

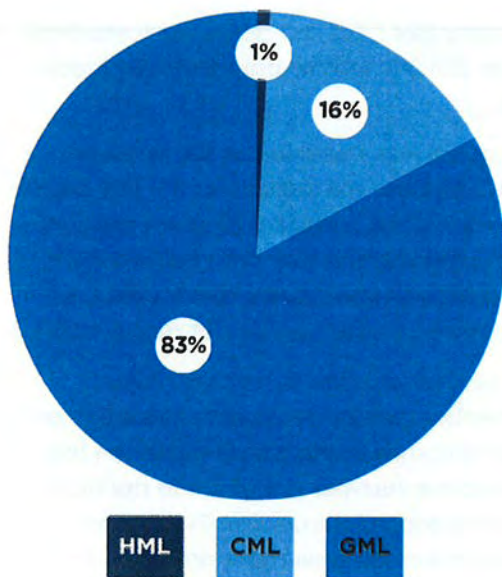
When compared to the 2012/13 harvest, results indicate that the NSW grains industry clearly embraced the scheme.

Interpretation of the impact of the new allowed mass limits generally varied depending on stakeholder status. For those stakeholders in a position to directly benefit from the introduction of the scheme (ie farmers/growers), the GHMS conditions were interpreted as intended, enabling them to load more efficiently.

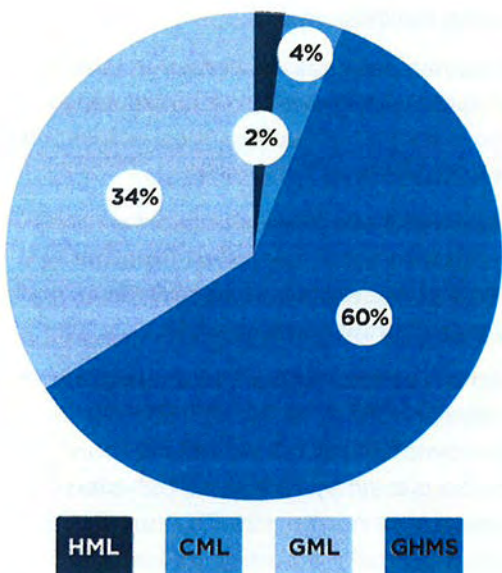
Councils have responsibility for local and regional road infrastructure maintenance, with this figuring prominently in their interpretation of the allowance to mass limits. The key concern of councils was in relation to damage to infrastructure.

Based on stakeholder feedback and analysis, the review team was of the opinion that the road network did not suffer increased identifiable damage as a result of the GHMS.

Pre-GHMS percentage of total deliveries falling under each of the applicable weight limit classifications in 2012/13



GHMS percentage of total deliveries falling under each of the applicable weight limit classifications in 2013/14



3. Eligible vehicles and combinations

A total of 95% of the 2013/14 harvest was delivered by the 15 eligible vehicle and combination types approved for eligibility in the Ministerial Order.

In 2013/14, as in the previous year, 83% of the crop was delivered by the top five truck types:

- Code 12 – Prime Mover and Semi Trailer (6 axle)
- Code 28 – Road Train and Prime Mover (11 axle)
- Code 68 – B Double (9 axle)
- Code 16 – Rigid Truck & DOG (6 axle)
- Code 09 – Rigid (3 axles).

All these vehicles were eligible to participate in the 2013/14 Grain Harvest Management Scheme.

Relative to the south, a greater proportion of the northern NSW crop is delivered by higher productivity truck combinations.

A total of 17 ineligible types made in excess of 7,500 deliveries (467,200 tonnes) into GrainCorp facilities.

The view was expressed by farmers that the scheme should be open to all truck types, subject to appropriate CML caps.

4. Truck impact and pavement wear

The efficacy of the Green Line Pavement Vertical Loading Standard expressed in terms of Equivalent Standard Axles (ESA) was accepted as a reasonable unifying basis for understanding pavement life and vehicle code impacts. A vehicle which is above the Green Line causes more damage to the pavement thereby decreasing pavement life and significantly increased road maintenance costs compared with vehicles that are below the line.

Analysis indicated that 45,000 deliveries were made by vehicles which were above the Green Line.

Councils expressed concern about the future of vehicles determined to be road damaging as a result of their classification in relation to the Green Line. They were also concerned about the issue of vehicle speed and its detrimental impact on pavement damage, particularly when road verges and sub-grades were saturated.

With respect to safety and asset protection, encouraging the migration of the NSW fleet towards higher productivity combinations with lower ESA ratings is an important goal.

5. Delivery patterns

The Ministerial Order applied during the period 15 October 2013 to 31 May 2014.

Approximately 324,000 deliveries were required to move the 2013/14 winter crop from paddock to storage.

The first receipt was taken in the last week of August 2013 and the last delivery in the first week of February 2014, resulting in a 22-week delivery period. Including the summer crop harvest (rice, sorghum, corn, mungbeans, sunflowers etc) would further widen the harvest delivery window.

The NSW harvest window effectively runs from September (barley and early wheat in the north west) through to May/June when the late summer crop harvest (sorghum in the north and rice in the south) occurs. Furthermore, the industry trend towards more on-farm grain storage capacity and marketing and transportation throughout the year is giving rise to a more annual pattern of grain movement. A July to June period would harmonise the NSW GHMS with the Queensland scheme, as well as marketing and business cycles.

A distinct harvest peak was observed in late November 2013, with one-third of all deliveries being made within a two week period across the third and fourth week of November.

Without involving both professional driver and owner-operator vehicles, operating together, there are insufficient resources to maintain productivity during the harvest peak.

The pattern of distribution of gross weights did alter between 2012/13 and 2013/14. In 2013/14 the distribution curve was more akin to the classic symmetrical bell-shaped curve representing normal distribution. This indicates that industry adjusted its behaviour

in response to the GHMS, resulting in improved loading to the regulatory limit.

In 2013/14, there were obvious performance differences between those trucks that participated in the GHMS and those that didn't. Broadly, the key differences can be described as:

- Approximately 60% of deliveries below GML (below the 95% range) were trucks that weren't participating in the GHMS;
- At GML (99% to 100% and 100% to 101%) the split between non-participating and participating trucks was effectively 50:50;
- Above GML but below 104% to 105% approximately 90% of the deliveries made were by trucks participating in the scheme; and
- Of the grossly overloaded vehicles (greater than 105%) trucks participating in the scheme are over represented at almost 90% of deliveries. For deliveries made at greater than 110% of GML equivalent, the split reverts to 50:50 of those participating in the scheme versus those that didn't.

This pattern of delivery behaviour is to be expected given the relative immaturity of the scheme and some issues with stakeholder understanding.

6. Flow on effects on changes in delivery volumes at receipt sites on the rail network

The GHMS is an important first step in tackling the supply chain cost challenge. That is, it facilitates the efficient movement of grain from the header into the commercial storage network where scale, infrastructure and logistics can ensure a least cost supply chain.

Notwithstanding this, real supply chain costs reversion and productivity gain can only be achieved through investment in the rail network (wagon weights, travel speed, train lengths and passing loops) and the introduction of Ultra High Capacity Road Transport linking the site of grain production (the paddock/farm) to the rail network.

Each of these steps is critical in tackling the pressures evident in the NSW grain freight task.

Analysis by GrainCorp indicates that rail use for domestic end users is limited to the big flourmills so most of the harvest goes by road.

A recent report by the Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre (AEGIC) found that the average cost for transporting wheat in Australia over a 200 kilometre journey was between \$60 to \$75 per tonne. This cost is stripped off the wheat price farmers attract from global and domestic markets and represents about one-third of the current price.

Grain exports from NSW must manage the export task using railways that can handle axle loads of between 16 tonnes to 19 tonnes, compared to 23 tonnes or more in Canada and the US.

Australia's grain trains cart between 2000 tonnes and 3000 tonnes per journey. In contrast, the AEGIC notes, Fortescue Metals Group's private Pilbara railway can handle 40 tonne axle loads and carries trains hauling 29,000 tonnes of iron ore per train.

Even modest reductions in supply chain costs have a major impact on productivity and the NSW farming economy.

7. Data

Delivery data from the GHMS was received from a number of independent sources. However, the review's analysis relied heavily upon GrainCorp data as the completeness and accuracy of the other data sets was limited.

For the integrity of the scheme, improvement in communications with and preparation by receivers will be necessary, not only to capture data more accurately but also for the wider success of the scheme.

8. Governance

Stakeholders expressed the view that improved clarity on governance issues, such as purpose and administration, will result in more efficient operation of the scheme and significantly improved communications and stakeholder management.

9. Overloads

In 2013/14 mass in excess of the scheme allowance was to be rejected by the receiver. The excess mass was skimmed to avoid dumping, with overloads reported for the purpose of recording a non-compliance "strike".

Vehicles with mass overloads exceeding 5% above the GHMS concession mass limits were to be immediately removed from the scheme and faced breach action. There were delays in the distribution of strike notices with some not received until after the harvest was completed.

The review found that the approach to overloads and rejection required improvement with a penalty regime that acts as a sufficient deterrent to overloading.

Clear procedures for handling overloaded vehicles at receival sites need to be established that comply with NSW Chain of Responsibility (COR) legislation and acknowledge the difficulty of accurate loading of grain in-field or on-farm.

10. Compliance

NSW Police and RMS continued to have responsibility to enforce compliance with the relevant legislation and notices. Operators of vehicles enrolled in the scheme were to carry at all times documentation demonstrating they are permitted to operate at GHMS masses. As a condition of participation, all grain receivers were required to formally report receival records to RMS.

Stakeholders see the NSW COR legislation as the authority that identifies the compliance and regulatory regimes administered by RMS. However a GHMS specific document may have been appropriate for the reporting, compliance and enforcement of the scheme.

11. Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

There was a need to increase stakeholder awareness and communicate the benefits of the scheme. Due to the short implementation timeframe, there was a lack of understanding of the scheme across all stakeholder groups, with a large volume of telephone and email enquiries to TfNSW as a result.

These issues can be addressed through the development and earlier implementation of a Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

Review recommendations and TfNSW response

No	Recommendation of review	TfNSW response
1	It is recommended that the 2013/14 GHMS be continued in 2014/15 with clearer and earlier communication to stakeholders regarding conditions and weight limits.	Supported Improved stakeholder communications on GHMS conditions will be implemented for 2014/15, however an earlier rollout of the communications strategy won't be achieved due to the time required to finalise the 2013/14 review and administrative arrangements for 2014/15.
2	It is recommended that the 2014/15 GHMS remain the same as the 2013/14 scheme in providing a capped allowance to facilitate loading to the GML limit.	Supported
3	It is recommended that the exemption from NHVAS enrolment and from the requirement to be fitted with certified on-board mass (OBM) scales, due to expire on 31 May 2014, be extended indefinitely.	Partially supported It is recommended that the exemption from NHVAS enrolment and from the requirement to be fitted with certified on-board mass (OBM) scales, due to expire on 31 May 2014, be extended until the end of the season 31 May 2016.
4	It is recommended that TfNSW note that NHVAS enrolment for owner-drivers remains a highly contentious issue that requires industry and National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) engagement and policy resolution.	Comment is noted
5	It is recommended that the ESA Green Line approaches to pavement wear be used as a key consideration in determining eligibility of vehicle types as the scheme is further developed.	Supported
6	It is recommended that all truck types be included in the 2014/15 GHMS.	Not supported It is recommended that the list of eligible truck types remain unchanged for the 2014/15 GHMS.

Review of Road Transport and TfNSW Responses

No	Recommendation of review	TfNSW response
7	It is recommended that receivers as part of the development of a code of practice, adopt a universal truck code for use by the industry, to be supported by RMS.	Supported
8	It is recommended that TfNSW encourage councils and RMS to impose strict conditions under the Roads Act to protect roads that are placed under significant threat by water.	Comment is noted
9	It is recommended that TfNSW encourage migration of the NSW fleet towards higher productivity combinations with lower ESA pressures than currently observed in delivering the NSW grain harvest.	Comment is noted
10	It is recommended that, despite considerable support for a higher capped allowance limit of 7.5%, scheme consensus would be best served by the 2014/15 GHMS being consistent with the 2013/14 scheme.	Supported
11	It is recommended that road managers collectively identify and promulgate within receival site catchment areas preferred wheat routes that seek to enable better access to and from HML routes.	Noted
12	It is recommended that improving access for higher productivity vehicles at higher mass limits be supported by reviewing IAP route restrictions to final destinations to assist in more efficient delivery of grain to receival sites.	Supported

No	Recommendation of review	TfNSW response
13	It is recommended that all broad acre grains, including cereals, oilseeds and pulses be included in the 2014/15 GHMS.	<p>Supported subject to council concurrence</p> <p>The scheme will be open to the following grains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cereals (wheat, barley, rice, oats, triticale, sorghum, maize, millets) · • Oilseeds (canola, sunflowers, monola, safflower) • Pulses (chickpeas, faba beans, lupins, mung beans, field peas, soybeans, vetch, lentils).
14	It is recommended that the 2014/15 GHMS operate from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.	Supported
15	It is recommended that the 2014/15 GHMS apply only from paddock to practicable receival sites participating in the scheme.	Supported

No	Recommendation of review	TfNSW response
16	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A GHMS Board be established to oversee future governance arrangements; b. Future governance arrangements must be established to include clearly delineated responsibilities for TfNSW as the policy maker, RMS as the regulator and an administrator; c. Governance arrangements be based on formal agreements between TfNSW, RMS, the appointed administrator, growers and receivers as necessary; and d. Given the short response time prior to introduction of the 2014/15 GHMS, the indicated lack of resources in TfNSW, and the lack of an agreed industry administrator, consideration be given to a commercial tender for the administration of the Scheme for the next two years. 	<p>Partially supported — TfNSW will establish a consultative committee and RMS will administer the 2014/15 scheme</p>
17	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <p>The overload policy be developed to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acceptance of all loads at all receiver sites, • a three strike system of penalties above GHMS limits, • disqualification for gross overloads, and • proceeds of overloads transferred to Councils; and <p>A system of warnings be developed to be issued by receivers for carriers whose loads are consistently between 101-105%.</p>	<p>Partially supported — there is a need to establish a compliance policy for the GHMS consistent with the National Heavy Vehicle Law</p>

No	Recommendation of review	TfNSW response
18	<p>It is recommended that the following schedule of warnings should apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GML – business as usual • > GML but < GML + 5% – warning notice • > GML +5% but < GML + 10% – fine and strike notice (1 of 3). Removal from scheme if three strikes are reached • > GML + 10% – fine and immediate removal from scheme <p>(Note that allowance is vehicle specific)</p>	<p>Partially supported – there is a need to establish a suitable compliance policy for the GHMS consistent with the National Heavy Vehicle Law</p>
19	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A communications and stakeholder engagement plan be completed prior to launching the 2014/15 scheme; and • Clearer and earlier communication to stakeholders regarding conditions and weight limits be issued. 	<p>Supported</p> <p>Improved stakeholder communications on GHMS conditions will be implemented for 2014/15, however an earlier rollout of the communications strategy won't be achieved due to the time required to finalise the 2013/14 review and administrative arrangements for 2014/15.</p>
20	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Charges for registration in the scheme are introduced; b. An application for each vehicle to be enrolled in the Scheme should be submitted to the Administrator and an enrolment fee paid; c. The TfNSW staff rate of effort for the 2013/14 scheme be noted; d. Staffing levels for administration of the scheme include appropriate managerial and clerical staff; and e. Costs for registration in the scheme be hypothecated for the scheme until it is cash flow positive. 	<p>Partially supported</p> <p>Further investigation is required into some of these items for implementation in the medium to long term.</p>

GHMS: going forward

The independent review concluded that the 2013/14 Grain Harvest Management Scheme was well received and should be continued.

The recommendations of the review were broad reaching. Many of these recommendations require further consideration and policy development, which could not be achieved in time for the 2014/15 harvest.

TfNSW and RMS will consult with affected stakeholders to progress of potential medium and long term policy changes.

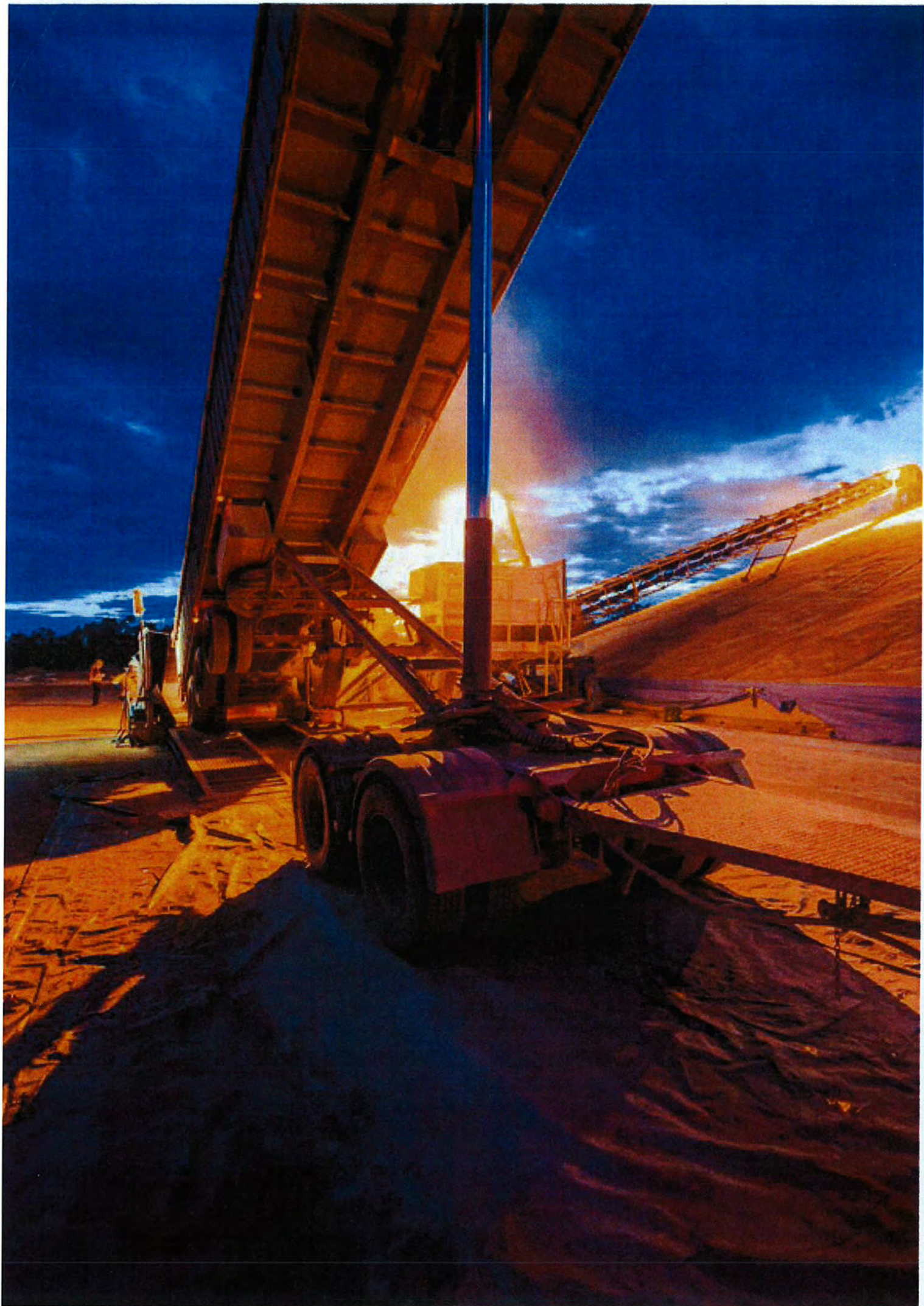
The parameters for the 2014/15 scheme will be consistent with the current scheme, with the following exceptions.

- The list of eligible grains has been expanded and now includes:

- Cereals (wheat, barley, rice, oats, triticale, sorghum, maize, millets)
- Oilseeds (canola, sunflowers, monola, safflower)
- Pulses (chickpeas, faba beans, lupins, mung beans, field peas, soybeans, vetch, lentils).
- The current exemption applying to the need to be accredited under the mass management module of the NHVAS or be equipped with type-approved on-board mass units has been extended until the expiration of the current order, ie 31 May 2016.

The exemption has been extended to allow for TfNSW and RMS to undertake policy work and consultation on this issue.





September 2014

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SECTION 5 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Officer's Recommendation:

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

- 9.17 Assets & Engineering Services Report**
- 9.18 Community Services Report**
- 9.19 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update**
- 9.20 Children Services Monthly Update**
- 9.21 Development Services Activities/Statistics for September 2014**
- 9.22 Economic Development & Tourism Report - October**

9.17 Assets & Engineering Services Report

Our infrastructure

Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets

Vision: 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. Regional Roads Maintenance

Bitumen patching and guide posting carried out on MR 57 North and MR 371.

2. Shire Roads Maintenance

Bitumen patching carried out on the following;

- Quandialla Road
- Burcher Road
- Kolkilbertoo Road
- Wargin Road
- ByGoo Road
- Tallimba Road

Gravel Resheeting FAG

- Bena Road 3 km
- Alleena Road 2.1 km
- Kildary Road 2.4 km
- South Yalgogrin Road 2 km
- Beckom Road 1.5 km

Wet Grading

- Fishers Lane 4 km

Guide posting 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 have been carried out on Lake Cowal Road.

3. Village Maintenance

- All parks mown and tidied
- Village main streets swept and rubbish removed
- Trees trimmed and fallen branches picked up
- Village entrances and streets mown and trimmed
- All village park play grounds inspected for safety
- Irrigation checks carried out at Barmedman, Tallimba, Ungarie and Mirrool

4. Park Maintenance

- McCann park, Barnado park and small parks and areas mown, trimmed and maintained

- Barnado, McCann and Holland parks cored and fertilised
- McCann park dam pump filters cleaned
- Irrigation maintenance carried out at air port and shire chambers
- Council chambers and H.A.C.C Maintenance carried out
- Water leak repaired in Boundry dam

5. Ovals Maintenance

- Maintenance to sporting ovals and surrounds
- Maintenance to lawn and monument cemetery
- Maintenance to Herridge park, Coinda park, Rotary park and Wyalong court house
- Perseverance oval root barrier installed to stop tree roots
- Water leak repair carried out at Rotary park
- Ron Crowe oval prepared for league finals
- Park street recreation and Ron Crowe ovals sprayed for lawn beetles

6. Town maintenance

- Main street gardens tidied, watered
- Town areas mown and trimmed
- Town trees trimmed and watered when needed
- Small pot holes repaired in roads
- Clean out town drains
- West Wyalong and Wyalong spraying on nature strips carried out

7. Saleyards

Sheep Sale held on 17.9.14:-
Yard Dues - \$7035.00

8. Sewerage Treatment Works

Month: September 2014.

No:	Date	Time		Address	Reason
		Start	Finish		
1	2/9/2014	10.00 am	1.00 pm	2 Orange St Ungarie	Blockage Boundary to Main
2	8/9/2014	10.00 am	11.00 am	9 Wootten St WW	Blockage Boundary to Main
3	8/9/2014	12.00 pm	1.30 pm	21 Gladstone St WW	Blockage Boundary to Main
4	11/9/2014	1.30 pm	4.00 pm	35 Wollongough St Ungarie	Blockage Boundary to Main
5	15/9/2014	11.30 am	12.30 pm	Mayfair Motel	Sewer Choke in Main
6	15/9/2014	3.30 pm	5.00 pm	4 Condamine St Ungarie	Blockage Boundary to Main
7	17/9/2014	8.00 am	9.00 am	22 Cassin St WW	Blockage Boundary to Main
8	18/9/2014	2.00 pm	3.00 pm	119 Operator St WW	Blockage Boundary to Main
9	19/9/2014	11.00 am	1.00 pm	29 Queen St Barmedman	Blockage Boundary to Main

9. Noxious Weeds/Environmental

Noxious Weed displays were carried at the local Shows of Barmedman, West Wyalong and Ungarie. Seven private property and two TSR inspections were carried out for the presence of noxious weeds. Inspections were also carried out on Council Roads and Rail corridors. Tree plantings were carried out at Ungarie and Lindners.

The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:

- **Prickly Pear** – Goldfields Way, West Wyalong, Bygoo Road, Condobolin Road, Crown Camp Road, Wilga Plains Road, Lees Lane, Bygoo Road.
- **African Boxthorn** – Crown land in, Koops Lane, Ditchfields Lane, Collins Lane, Wells Lane, Cunningtons Lane, Sullivans Lane, Reillys lane, West Wyalong-Condobolin Road, Crown Camp Road, Calleen-Merrengreen Road, Quandialla Road, Ungarie town area, Wilga Plains road, Ungarie Showground, Russell's Lane, Abernathys Lane, Fullers Lane, Nobbys Lane, Yiddah Road, Cottingleys Lane, Fosters lane, Quandialla Road, Quandong Lane, Belarwi Road, Wargin Road, Boltes Lane, Minogues Lane.
- **Crown Land** – West Wyalong (African boxthorn).
- **General Weed control** – Lanes and drains in Barmedman, Ungarie, West Wyalong.
- **Shoulder vegetation control (mowing/spraying)** – Wamboyne Road, Blow Clear Road, Bonehams Lane, Clear Ridge Road, Mandamah Forest Road, Tallimba Road, Belarwi Road, Slee Street, Goldfields Way, Clear Ridge road, Brolga Road, Dundas Road.
- **Roadside sapling control** – Clear Ridge Road.
- **Hazard reduction mowing** – West Wyalong town area, Barmedman.

9.18 Community Services Report

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Community Relations Officer

Mental Health Awareness Day

A community mental health awareness day was scheduled for Friday, October 24 featuring live entertainment from 2014 The Voice contestant Lij Gilmour. The day's activities were targeted mainly at High School age students, as well as the general community, and were to be attended by all students in year's 7 to 11 at West Wyalong High School and Ungarie Central School. Primary age students from several local schools were also expected to join in, particularly for the live performance from Lij Gilmour. The day was also to feature short and interactive workshops from Headspace, John Harper from Mate Helping Mate, the Red Cross Save a Mate program and the Temora Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol (MHDA) team as well as a chalk mural activity. Shortly following the live performance, students and community members were to participate in a one hour interactive presentation from the Black Dog Institute. During the evening, Black Dog was scheduled to deliver a special community presentation at the Bland Shire Council Chambers titled "Navigating Teenage Depression". The session targeted parents and carers and examined issues such as "what is depression and bipolar disorder", "how to spot early warning signs in young people" and "how to support a young person you care about". The Mental Health Awareness event was supported by a number of organisations, led by Council and Barrick Gold, (which gave a generous donation), and also including the Mental Health Association of NSW, Temora MHDA, Headspace, Riverina Blue Bell, Partners in Recovery and the Black Dog Institute.

Volunteering Central West

Council has held positive discussions with Volunteering Central West about future programs and initiatives to benefit and support local volunteers and community groups. Two representatives from Volunteering Central West will visit West Wyalong for a full day on November 25 to meet individually with representatives of volunteer groups to discuss their individual wants, needs and challenges. Council staff will work with Volunteering Central West to identify and facilitate each of the individual sessions. A plan will be adopted to support local volunteers and volunteer groups in 2015 and beyond based on the outcomes of the individual meetings.

Faulty Towers

The Faulty Towers Dining Experience, an initiative of the Bland Shire Cultural Committee, will be held at the West Wyalong Bowling Club on Friday night, November 14. The show has been performed in over 20 countries so far in 2014 and recently played to sold out audiences at London's West End and the Sydney Opera House. After the cultural committee identified the desire for a dinner theatre/comedy style event in West Wyalong, Council was able to facilitate negotiations to bring the show to West Wyalong with the Interactive Theatre Company. The initial response from the community has been outstanding with 50 tickets sold within the first three business days of becoming available. The show is expected to quickly sell out.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Elite Athlete grants

Council's Elite Athlete grants program continues to grow in popularity. The most recent recipient is state rugby union representative Damian Johnston. Damian will tour South Africa with the New South Wales CHS rugby union team from April 4-18 next year. His unique story, which involved running up and down silos and shearing sheep, captured widespread media attention.

Media

Council issued 11 media releases during September and the first two weeks of October covering a range of topics and issues. Newspaper, television and radio interviews were also facilitated to discuss major topics of interest. The next edition of the Bland Bulletin community newsletter will be sent out via direct mail in mid November just prior to the closure of the visitor information and cultural community survey and the Australia Day award nominations.

Mexico in the West

Bland Shire Council provided significant support to Events West Wyalong for the Mexico in the West Festival. During the event, staff were involved in implementing road closures on the Friday night and Saturday morning/afternoon, helping set out and remove tables and chairs for the street carnival and placing banners and decorations throughout the Main Street. Staff were also heavily involved in assisting organisers with the planning and co-ordination of the event.

9.19 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

*DP 3.4 Monitor and provide up to date and relevant resources and programs within the library
DP 4.4 Provide and monitor quality library services to the aged, people with disability, young people and families*

Author: Manager Library and Children Services

Barrick Information Stand

The library now has an information stand which houses over 10 information sheets on the Lake Cowal Mine and mining functions. The information is free to take.

Capturing World War 1

In partnership with the Wyalong District Family History group an information session was conducted on World War 1 project that they are undertaking. Pam Butcher, the researcher gave an update on the project which she hopes to have completed by April 2015.

Brooke Daniels

As part of Mexico in the West, the library again partnered to present a speaker. This years speaker was Brooke Daniels, the ABC Central regional content manager and radio presenter. Brooke gave an informative presentation about her life and the future of radio. The talk was followed by morning tea.

Author in residence

Marc MacBride the 2014 author in residence will be visiting the Bland Shire from the 27 - 31 October. Marc will be providing workshops to visiting school groups during the week. It is anticipated that he will speak to over 500 students during this 5 day visit.

Baby Bounce and Storytime

The programmes have resumed for term 4 and the term attendance is very strong.

Centre Link Service

The Centre link service is no longer operating out of the library. It is now permanently located at the South West Slopes Credit Union.

Conclusion

The Library team continue to provide quality services meeting both the requirements under the NSW Library Act, Council's policies and procedures and Integrated Planning and Reporting outcomes.

Financial Implications

Nil

9.20 Children Services Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 4.5 - Provide quality and affordable Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Preschool services

Author: Manager Library and Children Services

Mobile Resource Unit (MRU- Vacation Care)

Vacation Care was held on the first week of the school holidays with a theme for every day. The week commenced with 'Wild in the West!' Though not within the theme of the day, some children swapped their cowboy hats for construction hats and had spontaneous fun with tug-o-war! Tuesday was outdoor fun at the Ron Crowe Oval with a big thank you to Tim Delguzzo & Michael Henderson for teaching us their footy skills – everyone become competitive during the games and all received an awesome footy bag with everything they need to get started. Wednesday was a very popular day with Ready, Set, Cook! All the children tried everything they made and we sent the recipes home so that the children could impress their families with their new found culinary skills. Our visit to the Local Aboriginal Land Council was fascinating. The children enjoyed looking around at the artefacts and painting their own boomerangs. Fluoro Friday was 'blinding' and saw everyone get creative making hats from foam for a hat competition. The unexpected highlight of the week was the addition of some new Lego and also the new super popular Hot Wheels cars and track.

The staff developed and submitted the Service Quality Improvement Plan for Mobile to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) to meet the new requirements of mobile services now being 'in scope'.

Ungarie Preschool

The Ungarie Preschool session finished up term three with enrolment numbers at 21 children. During the holiday break staff purchased new vegetable garden beds to be installed in the garden and planted by the children. We look forward to a bumper crop. Enrolments for 2015 are being taken during the month of October.

Family Day Care (FDC)

Two new educators commenced this month and an interview has been held with another potential educator for West Wyalong. As there has been renewed interest in West Wyalong the Coordination Unit is currently working on promoting the service with particular focus on offering care for children.

The Family Day Care service currently receives funding through the Community Support Programme (CSP). It has recently been announced that due to significant increases in the demand from new family day care services accessing this funding, as of July 2015 all Family Day Care services will be required to apply annually in order to continue to access this funding.

To be eligible for the funding, the location of the Family Day Care service's coordination unit and the location of the majority of its educators is used. It has been determined that Bland/Temora FDC are eligible to apply for the CSP funding but will need to demonstrate that there is unmet demand for child care in the area they propose to operate. To this end, parent questionnaires, surveys and/or emails are to be sent out to families that currently utilise the service. These changes will not affect families CCB or CCR payments and regardless of the outcome, the service will still be able to administer Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate on behalf of families, but this may have an impact on the service levies that are charged. Therefore, the Family Day Care service may be required to increase the service levies accordingly depending on the outcome of the funding application.

Preschool

The children and educators have returned from holidays and ready for a busy Term 4. This term we are continuing to concentrate on those important school readiness skills, like self help, independence, listening and getting along with others. We are also focusing on the emergency services and the importance of knowing how to keep safe. Then there is also Christmas craft and experiences, culminating in our Christmas concerts in the last 2 weeks of term, where all families and friends are invited.

The Bland Preschool Parent Committee organised a Fete for Friday 10th October. The afternoon was very successful with 8 local stall holders, CSU stall, preschool stalls, face painting, hair and nails, jumping castle, BBQ, and performances from West Wyalong and Topy school students.

Bland Preschool held two enrolment information sessions on the 7th October, (an afternoon and an evening session). These sessions were well attended and enrolment spaces for 2015 are almost full.

Conclusion

The Children Services team continue to provide quality services meeting both the requirements under the NSW Regulation and Council's policies, procedures and Integrated Planning and Reporting outcomes.

Financial Implications

Nil

9.21 Development Services Activities/Statistics for September 2014

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP17. Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective, efficient and customer focused practices

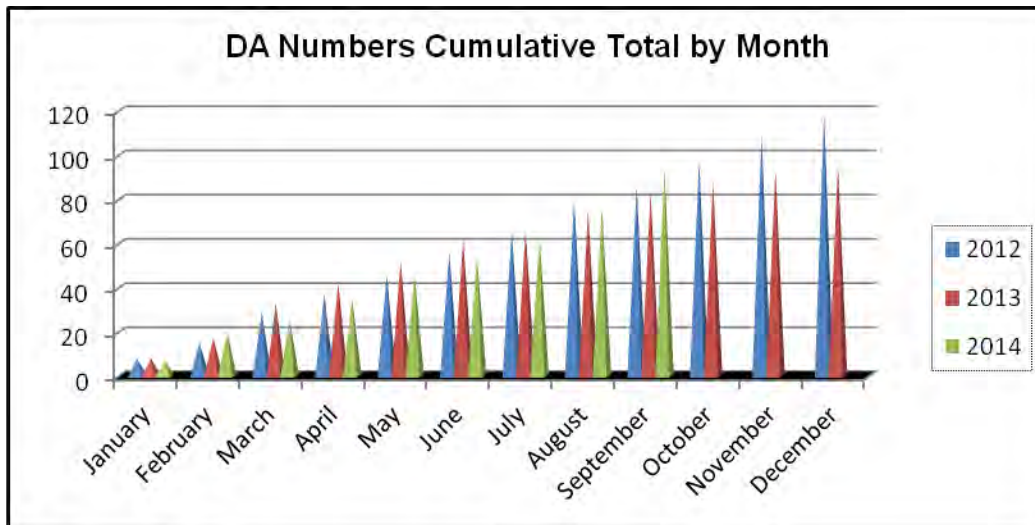
Author: Manager Development Services

Development Applications

The value of development applications received by Council during September is detailed in the following table.

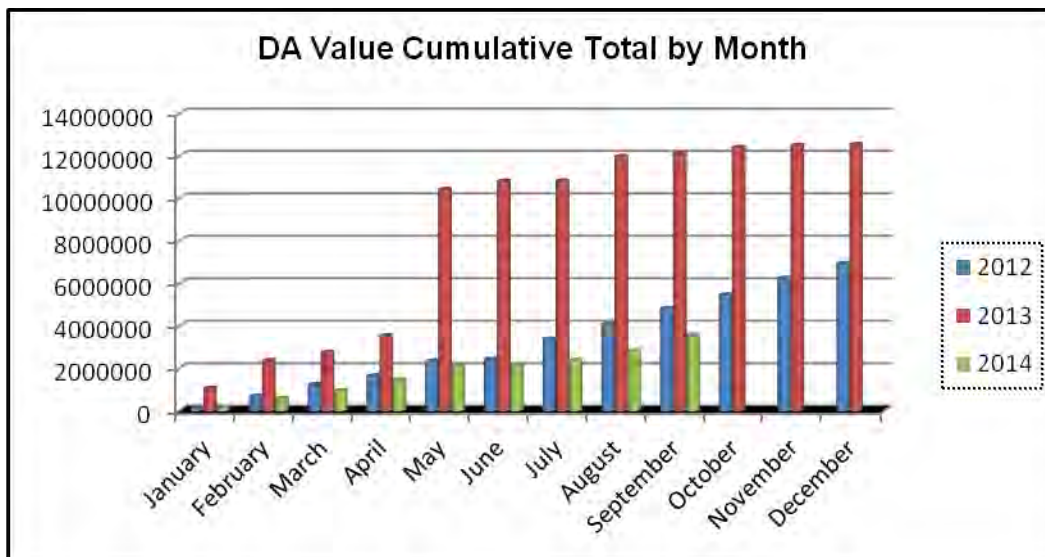
Development Type	Current Year			
	September		Year to Date 1.01.14 – 30.09.14	
	Number	Value \$	Number	Value \$
Residential	10	481,828	33	1,756,002
Industrial	1	Nil	3	39,750
Commercial	2	65,000	17	752,880
Rural Residential	1	175,287	7	660,232
Subdivisions	1	Nil	5	Nil
Other	3	2,500	29	370130
TOTAL	18	724615	94	3,578,994

Number of Development Applications



This graph details the cumulative number of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2014.

Value of Development Applications



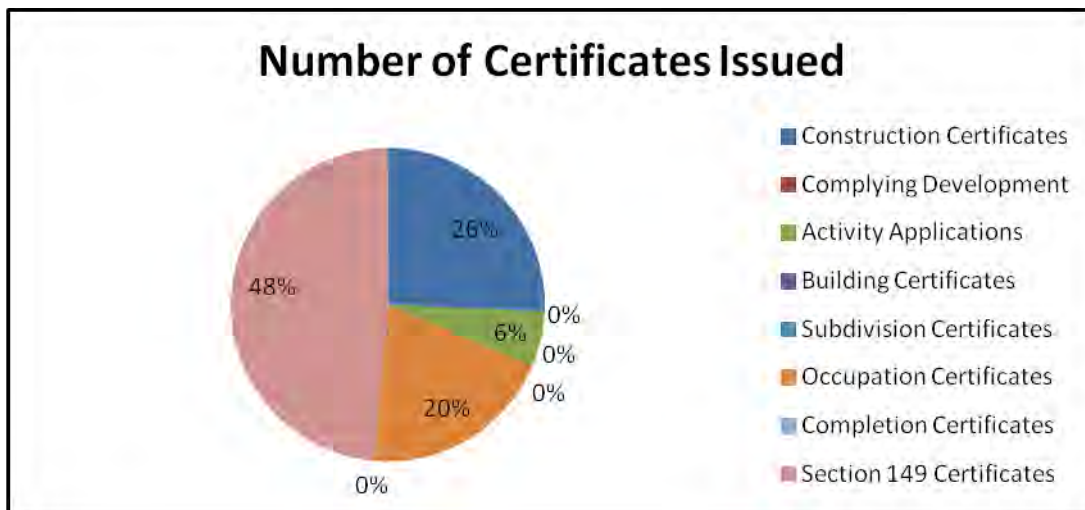
This graph details the cumulative value of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2014.

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

App No.	Property	Development
DA/2014/072	388 Tallimba Road, West Wyalong	Use of a Dwelling
DA/2015/015	56 Grenfell Street, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) Tree
DA/2015/016	5-7 England Street, West Wyalong	Dwelling (Alterations & Additions)
DA/2015/018	86 Hateleys Lane, West Wyalong	Commercial Premises (Alterations & Additions) – Sample Stand, Bunker 9, relocation of Amenities Building and OSSM
DA/2015/019	Ariah Street, Mirrool	Storage Shed
DA/2015/020	Racecourse Road, West Wyalong	Storage Shed
DA/2015/021	768 Fullers Lane, Ungarie	Weighbridge
DA/2015/022	19 Monash Street, West Wyalong	Dwelling (Alterations & Additions)
DA/2015/023	47 Robertson Street, Barmedman	Garage
DA/2015/024	6 Bellarwi Road, West Wyalong	Storage Shed
DA/2015/025	768 Fullers Lane, Ungarie	The use of Grain Storage Facilities
DA/2015/026	75 Monash Street, West Wyalong	Covered Barbeque Area

Certificates issued during September:

Certificate Type	Number Issued
Construction Certificates	9
Complying Development Certificates	0
Activity Applications	2
Building Certificates	0
Subdivision Certificates	0
Occupation Certificates	7
Completion Certificates	0
Section 149 Certificates	17



Commercial Development Applications under consideration – September

DA/2015/018 – AWB Grainflow Pty Ltd

Description New Sample Stand, Bunker 9 and relocation of Amenities Building

Value \$345,000

Received 22 August 2014

11 September 2014 - Approved

DA/2014/083 – P & A Robertson

Description Additions to Smoking Area and proposed Beer Garden

Value \$38,760

Received Lodged 18 June 2014

Currently in negotiations in regard to existing and potential noise impacts.

Public Health Activities Update

Food Shop Inspections Undertaken in September – 12

- Number Compliant – 10
- Number Non-compliant – 2

No. of "I'm Alert Online Interactive Food Safety Program Users for September - 0 Total - 491

Swimming Pool Inspections Undertaken in September – 10

- Number Compliant – 1
- Number Non-compliant – 9

In accordance with Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Policy these inspections have been carried out on rural properties – Quandialla / Naradhan. Most of the pools inspected were not listed in Council's records prior to the introduction of the NSW Swimming Pool Register in 2013.

Heritage Grant Information – 1/01/2014 – 30/9/2014

Grant No.	Address	Description	Grant Value	Date Completed
HER/2014/006	93-95 Main Street West Wyalong	Repair and alter awning and restore leadlighting	\$10,582.00	
HER/2014/007	93-95 Main Street West Wyalong	Painting of building facade above the awning and verandah	\$7,397.00	
HER/2014/008	169 Main Street West Wyalong	Painting of building facade above the awning and the verandah	\$6,418.50	17/06/2014
HER/2015/001	23 Church Street West Wyalong	Painting of front facade of building and signage	\$2,204.00	
HER/2015/002	176 Main Street West Wyalong	Painting of front facade of building	\$1625.00	

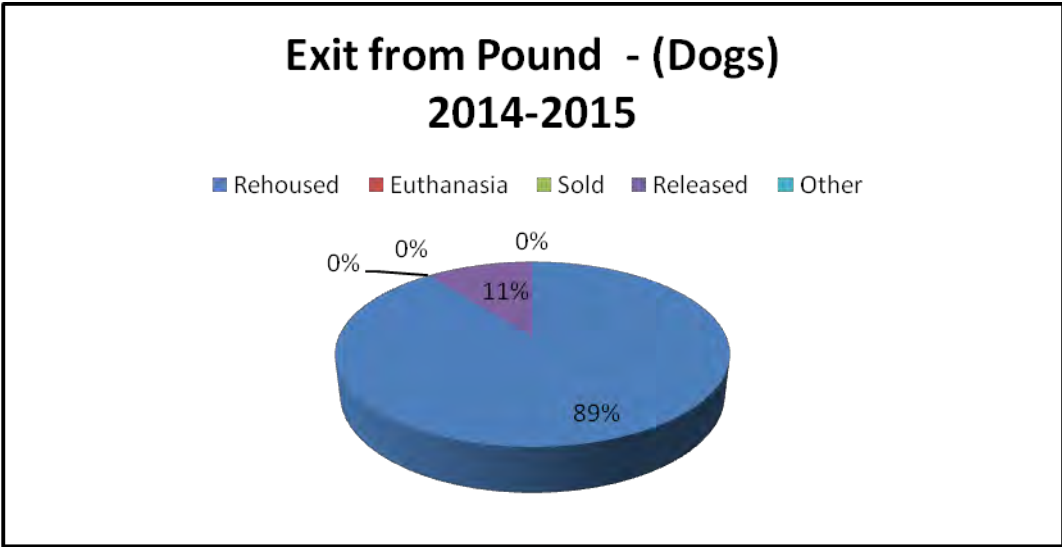
Companion Animal Activities

The following table summarises the management of companion animals during September 2014:

	Dogs	Cats
Seizure Activities:		
Seized	3	0
Returned to Owner	0	0
Transferred to Pound from Seizure Activities	3	0
Animals in Pound at start of Month	3	0
Dumped	6	2
Surrendered	1	0
Total Animals in Pound	13	2
Released to Owner	2	0
Euthanased	0	1
Sold	0	0
Stolen from Pound	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Rehoused	6	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	8	1
Animals in Pound at end of Month	5	1

Animals into Pound - Monthly Cumulative Totals

Month	Dogs	Cats
July	9	0
August	17	6
September	27	8
October		
November		
December		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		



This chart summarises the methods in which companion animals (dogs) exited the pound for the period 1/7/2014 to 30/09/2014.



This chart summarises the annual rehousing statistics from 2010/11 to 30 September 2014:

Break In Figures at Pound

- September - 0

No. of "I'm Alert Online Responsible Dog Ownership Users for September – 0 Total - 60

Conclusion

For information

Financial Implications

Nil

9.22 Economic Development & Tourism Report - October

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP15.0 The proportion of residents satisfied with the level of economic development support Council provides to the business community

DP 16.0 Community satisfaction with the quantity and quality of tourist information and resources provided by Council

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

DP19.1 Work with business and property owners to rejuvenate their businesses and shop fronts and encourage the maintenance of buildings with character

DP19.2 Work with the tourism industry to identify and develop products and services that appeal to visitors of the Shire

DP19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date

DP20.0 Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment

DP20.1 Encourage and actively seek out business and industry to relocate within the shire

DP20.2 Have ongoing engagement and communication with the shire's existing and prospective industry and business including diversification into alternate industries/businesses

DP20.3 Actively promote the Business Development Assistance to new and existing businesses

Author: Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor

The Long Ride

A group of 150 motorcycle riders on The Long Ride enjoyed their stopover in West Wyalong on Monday 29 September and breakfast on 1 October. The Australian Army Band Kapooka provided the entertainment for the breakfast. The Long Ride have indicated that they would like to return to West Wyalong in 2016.



Brett Cooper, Chris & Gail Dunne and James Tobin The Army Band Kapooka performing at breakfast



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

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MAYOR



National Free Flight Centre

The NSW Free Flight Society (NSWFFS) www.nswffs.com.au/ visited West Wyalong on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 September for the official opening of the site and competitions. The NSWFFS also visited West Wyalong on the October long weekend for a working bee and competitions and are willing for their site to be used for other events.

The NSWFFS has scheduled the following competition events in West Wyalong in 2015:

- December 30 – Jan 2 – New Years Eve fun fly, competition and BBQ
- April 23 – 24 – Southern Cross Cup
- June 20 – 21 – NSW State Championship
- October 2 – 5 – Competitions with SAMS, State Championship, Vintage Power, Rubber and Gliders
- October 31 – November 1 – Victorian State Championships

The NSWFFS are planning to hold the Asia Oceania Championships in West Wyalong in 2016. Countries that should be attending include:

- Australia
- Mongolia
- China
- Japan
- New Zealand
- South and North Korea
- Indonesia

Photos from the official opening:



Aussie Muscle Car Run

The Aussie Muscle Car Run is raising money and awareness for the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia. Approximately 50 muscle Cars – (1963 to 1977 inclusive), 5 support vehicles and 2 semi-trailers will be stopping in West Wyalong on Saturday 1 November at Lions Park.

The Bathurst Soaring Club

The Bathurst Soaring Club have confirmed that they will be returning to West Wyalong from 31 January to 14 February 2015.

SpeedWeek

The dates for this years gliding SpeedWeek have been confirmed for November 9 to 15 inclusive.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

.....
MAYOR

Tourism Signs

The Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and Destination NSW (DNSW) approved the Tourism Signs for the Exclusive Hot Glass Gallery that have recently been installed in the Bland Shire.



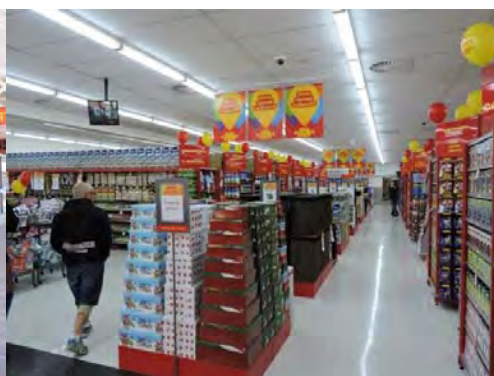
The Chrysler Restorers Club of Australia

The Chrysler Restorers Club of Australia had a great visit to West Wyalong from Sunday 21 to Tuesday afternoon 23 September.



The Reject Shop

The Reject Shop, Australia's largest discount variety retailer, opened their 108th New South Wales store in West Wyalong on Thursday 16 October. The store was officially opened by Store Manager Katrina Johnston, and Area Manager David Yeates. The new store is located at 102-106 Main Street, West Wyalong. The West Wyalong store is The Reject Shop's 332nd store nationally, and it has created an additional 20 jobs in the area.



Visitor Statistics

The Library have recorded at total of 123 visitor enquiries for the month of September.

Mexico in the West Photos



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

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MAYOR



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF BLAND HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WEST WYALONG ON TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 2014

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