



**Bland Shire Council**  
**Business Paper**  
**Ordinary Council Meeting**  
**18 August 2015**



# 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**

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

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

3<sup>rd</sup> - 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	<a href="mailto:council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au">council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au</a>	<a href="http://www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au">www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au</a>
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free: 1800 463 909	<a href="mailto:icac@icac.nsw.gov.au">icac@icac.nsw.gov.au</a>	<a href="http://www.icac.nsw.gov.au">www.icac.nsw.gov.au</a>
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	<a href="mailto:dlq@dlq.nsw.gov.au">dlq@dlq.nsw.gov.au</a>	<a href="http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au">www.dlg.nsw.gov.au</a>
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	<a href="mailto:nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au">nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au</a>	<a href="http://www.ombo.nsw.gov.au">www.ombo.nsw.gov.au</a>

## Common Acronyms Used in Bland Shire Council Reports and Documents

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AFZ	Alcohol Free Zone
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AMP	Asset Management Plan
BFMC	Bush Fire Management Committee
BFMP	Bush Fire Management Plan
BSC	Bland Shire Council
BWW	Business West Wyalong
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CBD	Central Business District
CDO	Community Development Officer
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CPP	Cowal Partnering Program
Cr	Councillor
CRO	Community Relations Officer
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
CSU	Childrens Services Unit
DA	Development Application
DAES	Director Asset & Engineering Services
DCCDS	Director Corporate, Community & Development Services
DCP	Development Control Plan
DEMO	District Emergency Management Officer
DEOCON	District Emergency Controller
DisPlan	Disaster Plan (Local DisPlan, District DisPlan, State DisPlan)
DP	Delivery Program
EA	Executive Assistant
ED	Economic Development
EDVETACW	Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
ERA	Eastern Riverina Arts
EWV	Events West Wyalong
FAG	Financial Assistance Grant
FDC	Family Day Care
FFTF	Fit for the Future
FYI	For your information
GM	General Manager
GWCC	Goldenfields Water County Council
HACC	Home and Community Care
HR	Human Resources
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
IPART	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
IPR or IP&R	Integrated Planning and Reporting
ITAV	It Takes A Village Program
JO	Joint Organisation
K&G	Kerb and gutter
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LALC	Local Aboriginal Lands Council
LCGMCAC	Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LEMO	Local Emergency Management Officer
LEOC	Local Emergency Operations Centre
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LG	Local Government
LGA	Local Government Act or Local Government Area
LGNSW	Local Government New South Wales
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
M	Million
Manex	Management Executive
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council
MML	Murrumbidgee Medicare Local
MP	Member of Parliament
MPR	Multi Purpose Room
MR	Main Road
MRU	Mobile Resource Unit

NSRF	National Stronger Regions Fund
NSWEC	New South Wales Electoral Commission
NSWPLA	New South Wales Public Libraries Association
NSWRFS	NSW Rural Fire Service
OLG	Office of Local Government
OP	Operational Plan
P&G	Parks & Gardens
PA	Per Annum
PC	Personal Computer
R2R	Roads to Recovery
Rd	Road
RDA	Regional Development Australia
REROC	Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils
RFS	Rural Fire Service
RMS	Roads & Maritime Services
RRL	Riverina Regional Library
RV	Recreational Vehicle
SEDTA	Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor
SH	State Highway
SRV	Special Rate Variation
St	Street
STW	Sewerage Treatment Works
USU	United Services Union
VC	Victoria Cross
VIC	Visitor Information Centre
WAPS	Workforce Assessment Plan & Strategy
WHS	Work Health & Safety
WWBC	West Wyalong Bowling Club



## **Council Meeting Agenda**

**18 August 2015**

**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 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**

Cr K Keatley

Cr L Hampton

### 3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

#### 3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 21 July 2015

- **Confirmation**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21 July 2015 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.

<b>Councillor/Officer</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>

### 5.0 PUBLIC FORUM

### 6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

### 7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

#### 7.1 Donation to Walking Wounded Foundation – Councillor Pokoney

**Recommendation:**

**That council endorse the actions of the Mayor in providing a donation, in the amount of \$500.00, to the Walking Wounded Foundation and that funds to this amount be allocated from the Strengthening Communities Grant program.**

**Note from Mayor**

This was a very well coordinated charity event both by council staff and the organisers of the Walking Wounded. The entire contingent of the Walking Wounded decided to stay in West Wyalong overnight rather than in Temora and this provided a direct economic benefit to our town.

### **Note from General Manager**

Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993, requires financial assistance to be part of a specific program, and that the program's details are included in the council's draft operational plan for the year in which the financial assistance is proposed to be given. To assist with meeting these requirements and to ensure consistency, staff encourages organisations to apply for funding under Council's grants program.

If Council wish to make a decision without the benefit of an application, it will need to determine where the funds are to be sourced from. Currently there is a balance of \$50,000.00 in the Strengthening Communities Grant program for the remainder of the financial year.

## **7.2 Recognition of Community Service – Fr Noel Staniforth – Cr McGlynn**

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council formally acknowledge the recent retirement and services of Father Noel Staniforth to the Bland Shire community.**

### **Note from General Manager**

Fr Staniforth has recently retired following 12 years of Ministry services, including 8 years to the Bland Shire community.

## **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)*

9.1	Better Practice Review – Action Plan Progress Report – August 2015 .....	71
9.2	Disclosure Of Interest Returns .....	77
9.3	Investigation Into Locations For A Visitor Information Centre (Revised) .....	78
9.4	Proposed Lease Of Council Car Park Adjacent To Bernardi's IGA Supermarket ....	82

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

9.5	Financial Statements – July 2015 .....	84
9.6	Alcohol Free Zone .....	90
9.7	Reg Rattey VC Memorial .....	94
9.8	Community Groups Assistance Grant – West Wyalong .....	97
9.9	Strengthening Communities Grant – Barmedman Show Society Inc .....	98
9.10	Access Incentive Grant – House of Fashion .....	99

### **Section 4 – Reports for Information**

9.11	Asset & Engineering Services Report .....	101
9.12	Community Services Report .....	104
9.13	Children Services Monthly Update .....	109
9.14	Bland Shire Library Monthly Update .....	111
9.15	Development Services Activities/Statistics for July 2015 .....	113
9.16	Economic Development & Tourism Report – August .....	119

## 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**
  
- 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
<b>Access Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Cr Grellman)</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	
<b>Australia Day Awards Committee of the Whole</b> <i>(Whole of Council)</i>	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	
<b>Australian Rural Roads Group Inc</b> <i>(Cr Grellman)</i>	16th June 2015	
<b>Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee</b> <i>(Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>	29 <sup>th</sup> July 2015	
<b>Bland – Temora RFS Zone Bushfire Management Committee</b> <i>( Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>		
<b>Country Mayors Association of NSW</b> <i>(Mayor &amp; General Manager)</i>	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	✓
<b>Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring &amp; Consultative Committee (CEMCC)</b> <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Cr McGlynn - alternate/observer, Cr Hampton - observer)</i>	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	
<b>Cultural Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Keatley)</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	
<b>Economic Development, Visitor Economy &amp; Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole</b> <i>(Whole of Council)</i>	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	

<b>Goldenfields Water County Council Board</b> <i>(Cr Templeton)</i>	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	✓
<b>Heritage Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman)</i>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2015 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	✓
<b>Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Hampton, GM)</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	
<b>Internal Audit Committee</b> <i>(Cr Templeton, Cr Monaghan)</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	
<b>Local Traffic Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>	4 <sup>th</sup> August 2015 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	
<b>Murrumbidgee Medicare Local Board</b> <i>(Cr Monaghan)</i>	20 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	
<b>Museums Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Keatley)</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	
<b>Newell Highway Taskforce</b> <i>(Cr Lord)</i>	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	✓
<b>NSW Association of Mining Related Councils</b> <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Hampton)</i>	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 13 <sup>th</sup> August 2015	✓
<b>Plant Committee</b> <i>(Cr Grellman, Cr Templeton, Cr Lord)</i>		
<b>Public Libraries NSW South-West Zone</b>		
<b>Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)</b> <i>(Mayor Pokoney)</i>	28 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2015	
<b>Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee</b> <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Monaghan - alternate)</i>	October 2015	
<b>Riverina Regional Tourism</b> <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		



# Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall  
PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650  
02 69269111  
ABN 92 803 490 533

## MINUTES

### GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST 2015, COUNTRY EMBASSY, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.15 a.m.

#### 1. ATTENDANCE:

Albury City Council, Cr Kevin Mack, Mayor  
Albury City Council, Mr Frank Zaknich, General Manager  
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Cr Laurie Bishop, Mayor  
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Mr Glen Wilcox, General Manager  
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Gary Rush, Mayor  
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr David Sherley, General Manager  
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Michael Britten, Mayor  
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Mark Troy, Mayor  
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Bernard Curtin, Mayor  
Bland Shire Council, Mr Ray Smith, General Manager  
Boorowa Council, Cr Wendy Tuckerman, Mayor  
Boorowa Council, Ms Anthony McMahon, General Manager  
Carrathool Shire Council, Cr Peter Laird, Mayor  
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Alan Karanouh, Mayor  
Deniliquin Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Renwick, Mayor  
Dubbo City Council, Cr Mathew Dickenson, Mayor  
Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager  
Eurobodalla Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor  
Gloucester Shire Council, Cr John Rosenbaum, Mayor  
Gloucester Shire Council, Mr Danny Green, General Manager  
Griffith City Council, Cr Doug Curran, Deputy mayor  
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager  
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Gae Swain, Deputy Mayor  
Harden Shire Council, Cr John Horton, Mayor  
Harden Shire Council, Mr Trevor Drowley, Acting General Manager  
Jerilderie Shire Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager  
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor  
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Peter Yates, Mayor

Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Rod Shaw, General Manager  
Mid Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor  
Mid Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager  
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor  
Murray Shire Council, Cr Tom Weyrich, Mayor  
Murray Shire Council, Ms Margot Stork, General Manager  
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Conrad Bolton, Mayor  
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor  
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Alan Ward, Deputy Mayor  
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Allan Baptist, Deputy Mayor  
Shoalhaven City Council, Russell Pigg, General Manager  
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor  
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Shaw, Mayor  
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor  
Urana Shire Council, Cr Patrick Burke, Mayor  
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor  
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Phil Pinyon, General Manager  
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Neil Gorey, Mayor  
Wakool Shire Council, Mr Bruce Graham, General Manager  
Walcha Council, Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor  
Walcha Council, Mr Jack O'Hara, General Manager  
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor  
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager  
Yass Valley Council, Cr Rowena Abbey, Mayor  
Local Government NSW, Cr Keith Rhoades, President

**APOLOGIES:**

As submitted

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**

Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government

Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning

Hon Duncan Gay MLC, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 12 June 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Eurobodalla shire Council / Tamworth Regional Council).

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The positive growth in membership was noted

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Outward

(a) Mr Jim Betts, CEO Infrastructure NSW , thanking him for his presentation to the 12 June 2015 meeting

- (b) Ms Marcia Doheny, CEO, Office of Local Government, thanking her for her presentation to 12 June meeting
- (c) Cr Keith Rhoades, President LGNSW, advising of this Associations support of the Roads Congress Communique
- (d) Eurobodalla Shire Council, advising of the Associations support for funding to be allocated to manage the Grey Headed Flying Fox
- (e) Cr Keith Rhoades, President LGNSW, asking for advice as to how to advocate for Changes to the Local Government Act and the Code of Conduct particularly councilor conduct following Murray Shire Councils case
- (f) Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts and Minister for Racing, regarding police not attending minor crashes and the subsequent loss of data
- (g) Hon Mike Baird MP, Premier, advising of the Associations support of the Roads Congress Communique
- (h) Hon Tony Abbott MP, Prime Minister, advising of the Associations support of the Roads Congress Communique

Inward  
NIL

NOTED

## 5. PRESENTATIONS

### 5.1 Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government

The Fit for the Future reforms started 4 years ago and are designed to provide a real partnership with Councils. No change is not an option, Councils need to look at operations and become more efficient. IPART has received 141 submissions and recommendations are scheduled to be made to government in October. The reforms are not about mergers alone but about Joint Organisations sharing resources and skills. Once the 5 trial Joint Organisations prove effective the model will be rolled out to other areas. Financial funding is part of the package and Treasury is involved. Councils can apply for low interest loans for infrastructure projects and reassessment of the Financial Assistance Grants is being undertaken so that Councils in need are the beneficiary of the grants. Guidelines for the Rural Council Innovation Fund of \$4 million are out now and funds will be available after Fit for the Future is assessed. The Local government Act is being reviewed and feedback on changes will be sought from councils early next year. The Auditor General will audit councils from 2017. If a councilor is suspended for misconduct on 3 occasions then that councilor will be excluded from holding office for 5 years. Non compliance with a Performance Improvement Order by councilors will see those councilors targeted and not the whole Council which is the present case.

### 5.2

#### Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning

Planning in NSW is either Metropolitan, Resource Assessment or Regional. The Resource Assessment sector of land use is under increasing focus and clean up. Exploration licenses created expectations that planning consents will follow and this misconception will take a few years to sort through. Integrated Mining Policy

makes clear to communities, councils and other stake holders what the governments policy is on issues relating to water, annual reporting, auditing and voluntary planning agreements. Social, economic and environmental issues are equally valid and stakeholders need to take that into consideration.

Strategies are being adopted for Regional Plans for all areas of the State integrating infrastructure planning to regional planning initiatives. In respect of Complying Development councils are being asked whether they support the the 2 week notification period. If they don't the requirement will be taken away.

### **5.3**

#### **Hon Duncan Gay MLC, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight**

The State Government has a \$68billion infrastructure program in place. \$19.5billion has been spent on regional roads since 2011 and since that year 60% of the states road budget has been spent outside Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong. 1,700km of new bitumen will be laid in the State this year. This government has provided \$1.8billion in grants to councils and \$326million will be provided this year. The government is recycling capital assets by leasing assets and expending the returns on new infrastructure. The Fixing Country Roads program is partnering with councils and other stakeholders eg rail and the wheat industry to create stronger communities and stronger councils. The Fixing Country Roads next round of funding starts in September this year. Applications are assessed by a panel of independent experts who concentrate on applications that build or upgrade infrastructure that provides a return on investment. A standard design for bridges has been developed by the RMS and Intermodal Facility Hubs are being approved where there is guaranteed freight

## **6. FINANCIAL REPORT**

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Albury City Council / Coonamble Shire Council)

## **7. General Business**

### **(a) Disaster Mitigation**

RESOLVED That Country Mayor's make representation to the State and Federal Government to review the balance between natural disaster recovery and mitigation and increase the financial assistance made available at the Local Government level for disaster mitigation, resilience and recovery (seek more money for mitigation) and advise that the Association does not support cutbacks in federal funding for restoration of flood damaged assets after natural disasters as recommended by the Productivity Commission Inquiry (Wagga Wagga City Council / Bellingen Shire Council)

### **(b) Mobile Blackspot Programme**



RESOLVED That the County Mayors' Association of NSW:

1. Expresses its concern that a key objective of the Australian Government Mobile Blackspot Programme, as enunciated in section 1.1.2 of the document, "The Mobile Blackspot programme is the Australian Governments initiative to extend mobile phone coverage and competition in regional Australia", is at risk of not being achieved.

2. Write to ACCC, Paul Fletcher (Minister Turnbulls Office), Emergency Services, the CEO of Telstra, Mr Andrew Penn and the CEO of Vodafone, Mr Inaki Berroeta, the last two organisations being the recipients of the funding allocated in the programme, calling on Telstra and Vodaphone to support rural and regional Australia by confirming that they will include new and upgraded base stations/towers funded under all rounds of the Australian Government Mobile Blackspot Programme in the Wholesale Products they offer to all mobile service providers (Eurobodalla shire Council / Coonamble Shire Council)

(c) Inland Rail

RESOLVED That the Country Mayors Association write to the Prime Minister supporting the Inland Rail and encourage Councils to lobby their local members (Parkes Shire Council / Tamworth regional Council)

(d) Country Embassy

The Association has been advised that the Country Embassy, Trade and Investment Centre will be closing at the end of the year. A new venue will need to be arranged for 2016 and beyond. The Secretariat has contacted Infrastructure Australia who have meeting facilities and will make a submission to them. Contact will be made with the Ministers office to see if the decision is final and if not will make a submission supporting its continuation.

(e) Natural Disaster Funding

Funding to Local Government for natural disaster works is only funded if it falls outside normal operational work and is undertaken out of hours as overtime. Warrumbungle Shire Council and Harden Shire Council are to prepare a discussion paper for the next meeting.

(f) Murray Darling Basin Plan

The need for a review of the social and economic impacts of the Murray Darling Basin Plan was discussed. Carrathool, Leeton and Wakool Shire Councils are to prepare a discussion paper for the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday, 5 November 2015

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.35pm.

Cr Rod Kendall  
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

The meeting commenced at 12.59pm

**PRESENT**

Cr P Speirs (Chair), Cr A Clinton, Cr D McCann, Mr J McGregor, Cr K Morris, Cr D Palmer and Cr P Templeton.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr A Grant (General Manager), Mr G Carr (Acting Manager Finance & Administration), Cr C Lasdauskas (Manager Technology), Cr S Baldry (Acting Manager Distribution & Construction), and Mrs A Coleman (Executive Assistant)

**1. APOLOGIES**

An apology for this meeting has been received from Cr Manchester.

**15/055 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Templeton that leave of absence be granted to Cr C Manchester.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 23 APRIL 2015**

**15/056 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McGregor that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2015 having been circulated and read by members be confirmed.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Nil

**5. PUBLIC ACCESS**

Nil

**6. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS**

No Notices of Motion or Rescission Motions have been received for this meeting.

**7. ADMISSION OF LATE REPORTS**

**15/057 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Clinton that Council consider the late reports of:

- **Making of Water Supply Special Charge**
- **Plant Procurement Policy**
- **Report on Meetings and Proposal by Water Analytics in CONFIDENTIAL**

**8. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE**

**15/058 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and Palmer that the minute was received with acclamation.

The Chairperson provided the following minute:

*'I wish to place on the records of Goldenfields Water County Council the heartfelt congratulations to our General Manager, Mr Andrew Grant, for his recognition in the 2015 Queens' Birthday Honours List. He has been awarded the NSW Public Service Medal.*

*The citation reads:*

For outstanding public service to water supply and distribution in the South West Tablelands of New South Wales.

Mr Grant is the General Manager of Goldenfields Water County Council. He has brought innovation and efficiency to the organisation through personal commitment, outstanding managerial and planning skills and leadership. This has reduced costs across all areas of Council, greatly improving overall finances. He has implemented a remote data metering network as best practice for NSW, resulting in a reduction in water losses and large savings in future capital expenditure. This network is also being used in feral animal trapping and stock route management trials in conjunction with Riverina Local Land Services. He has also partnered with Riverina Local Land Services to build an ongoing wildlife corridor project, currently with 230 hectares of revegetation agreements, and providing environmental education to regional schools. Mr Grant is a highly regarded public servant who continually strives to obtain the best outcomes for the community.

*As board members, we are delighted with the award as we feel it is a fitting recognition of the dedication and effort of Andrew's commitment to Goldenfields Water County Council.*

*Congratulations Andrew.*

**9.0 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS**

**9.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**9.1.1 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS (G35507005)**

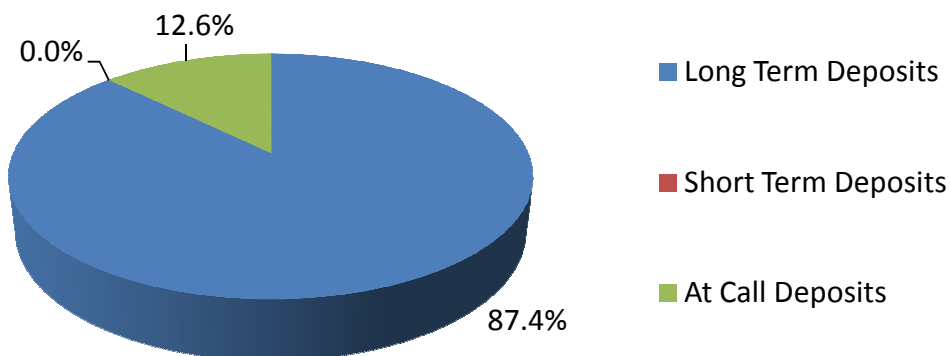
**15/059 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McGregor that the report detailing Council Investments at 29 May 2015 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

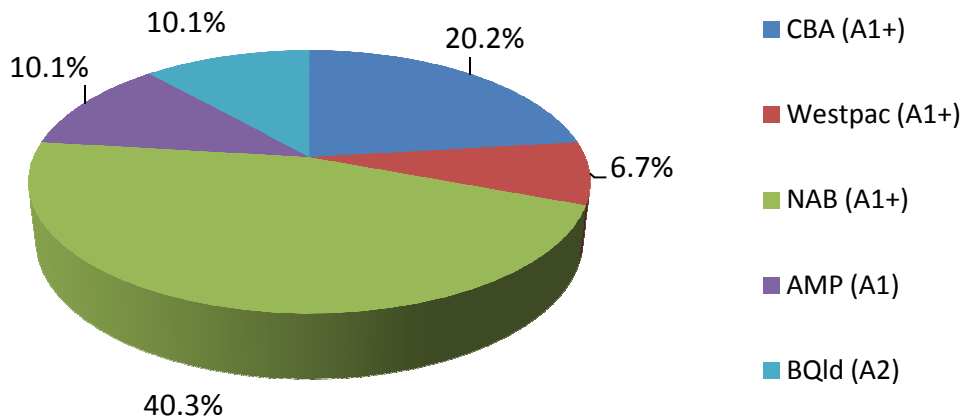
This report is presented for information on Council Investments in accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The following details Council Investments as at 29 May 2015:

	<b>Market Value (\$)</b>	<b>Term (days)</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>	<b>% of Portfolio</b>
<b>Long Term Deposits</b>	<b>26,000,000.00</b>				<b>87.4%</b>
Westpac Coupon Select Deposit (5yr)	2,000,000.00		3.92%	27/10/15	6.7%
National Australia Bank	3,000,000.00	1,096	3.73%	05/11/17	10.1%
Bank of Queensland	3,000,000.00	1,098	3.60%	05/12/17	10.1%
National Australia Bank	3,000,000.00	1,097	3.70%	04/12/17	10.1%
AMP	3,000,000.00	1,097	3.40%	19/12/17	10.1%
National Australia Bank	3,000,000.00	1,097	3.57%	08/01/18	10.1%
National Australia Bank	3,000,000.00	1,096	3.36%	12/02/18	10.1%
Commonwealth Bank	3,000,000.00	1,097	3.11%	17/03/18	10.1%
Commonwealth Bank	3,000,000.00	1,096	3.06%	20/04/18	10.1%
<b>Short Term Deposits</b>	<b>0.00</b>				<b>0.0%</b>
	0.00				0.0%
<b>At Call Deposits</b>	<b>3,750,000.00</b>				<b>12.6%</b>
Commonwealth Bank At Call A/c	1,750,000.00	At Call	2.45%	N/A	5.9%
AMP Bank At Call A/c	2,000,000.00	At Call	3.35%	N/A	6.7%
<b>Total Value of Investment Funds</b>	<b>29,750,000.00</b>				<b>100.0%</b>

**PORTFOLIO BY TYPE**



**PORTFOLIO BY INSTITUTION (incl S&P Rating)**



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

Cash Book balance as at 31 March 2015	1,050,187.82
Plus Deposits	
April	5,230,756.47
May	3,330,094.62
Less Payments	
April	5,939,668.67
May	855,329.90
 Cash Book balance as at 29 May 2015	 2,816,040.34
Less Outstanding Deposits	27,695.91
Plus Unpresented Cheques	343,055.84
 Bank balance as at 29 May 2015	 3,131,400.27

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

Local Government Act, 1993;  
Local Government (General) Regulation, 2005;  
Investment Order - dated 12 January 2011; and  
Council's Investment Policy (adopted 26/6/2014).

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.1.2 OUTSTANDING WATER DEBTORS (G35307005)**

**15/060 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and McGregor that the report detailing Council's outstanding water debtors as at 5 June 2015 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

This report is presented for information on Council's outstanding water debtors as at 5 June 2015:

<b>\$'s</b>	<b>Arrears</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Total</b>
Access Charges	149,492.31	16,714.02	228,095.41	394,301.74
Usage Charges	360,556.46	38,617.26	597,839.59	997,013.31
Deferred Developer Charges	23,763.00	0.00	308,758.00	332,521.00
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>533,811.77</b>	<b>55,331.28</b>	<b>1,134,693.00</b>	<b>1,723,836.05</b>
Less Overpayments Received				-166,824.14
<b>Total Outstanding</b>				<b>1,557,011.91</b>
Less Bulk Council Accounts Outstanding				-327,505.51
Less Deferred Developer Chg Accounts Outstanding				-332,521.00
<b>Total Outstanding from Retail Customers</b>				<b>896,985.40</b>

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.1.3 MAKING CHARGES FOR 2015/16 (G05601005)**

**15/061 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Templeton and Palmer that:

Water Charges

Council make the Water Charges listed on Attachment 1, for the year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Interest on Overdue Charges

Council make the Interest Rate on overdue charges 8.5% for the year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

It is necessary for Council to pass a formal resolution adopting the charges for Goldenfields Water County Council for the 2015/16 financial year, as proposed in Council's Draft Operational Plan.

Council resolved (15/037 24 April 2015) that Goldenfields Water halve the cost of rate rises on Consumption and Access Charges to 2.5% with a 4 year price path. These charges have also been publicly exhibited for this purpose.

The Office of Local Government has increased Section 603 Certificate approved fee to \$75.00 and set the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue charges for 2015/16 at 8.5%.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.



**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

**Attachment 9.1.3**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
	<b>2015/16</b>
<b>Access Charges (Annual)</b>	
<b><u>Residential</u></b>	
20mm Connection	178.00
25mm Connection	278.00
32mm Connection	455.60
40mm Connection	712.00
50mm Connection	1,112.60
80mm Connection	2,848.60
<b><u>Non-Residential Rural</u></b>	
20mm Connection	564.80
25mm Connection	882.60
32mm Connection	1,446.20
40mm Connection	2,259.80
50mm Connection	3,531.00
80mm Connection	9,039.60
<b><u>Non-Residential Other</u></b>	
20mm Connection	311.80
25mm Connection	487.40
32mm Connection	798.40
40mm Connection	1,247.60
50mm Connection	1,949.40
80mm Connection	4,990.40
100mm Connection	7,781.60
<b><u>Non-Residential High Volume Monthly</u></b>	
20mm Connection	264.00
25mm Connection	412.80
32mm Connection	676.80
40mm Connection	1,057.80
50mm Connection	1,652.40
80mm Connection	4,231.20
100mm Connection	6,610.80
150mm Connection	14,875.20
<b><u>Non-Residential Bulk Councils</u></b>	
68% of 20mm Res charge ( X equivalent no. of 20mm connections)	120.60
<b><u>Vacant Unconnected Properties</u></b>	
20mm Connection (applicable to new subdivisions after 1/07/11)	178.00
<b><u>Consumption Charges (per kilolitre)</u></b>	
Residential Charge - all consumption	2.17
Non-Residential Rural - all consumption	1.50
Non-Residential Other - all consumption	1.81
Non-Residential High Volume Monthly - all consumption	1.96
Non-Residential Bulk Council - all consumption	1.48
Standpipe Water Sales (Commercial, Portable, & Temporary)	4.35
Maximum Retail Charge for Standpipe Water Sales	5.79

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

**Attachment 9.1.3**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
	<b>2015/16</b>
<b><u>Infrastructure Charges</u></b>	
Retail DSP areas - per equivalent tenement	7,429.00
Bulk Council DSP areas - per equivalent tenement	6,794.00
<b><u>Tapping, Service and Meter Charges</u></b>	
20mm Connection	1,560.00
25mm Connection	1,722.00
32mm Connection	2,184.00
40mm Connection	2,604.00
50mm Connection	3,072.00
> 50mm Connection	At Cost
20mm Connection where service pipe has already been laid (plus cost of meter & device)	146.00
Downsizing a Connection: half the regular cost of the resultant connection size	
<b><u>Administrative Fees</u></b>	
Search Inquiry Certificate Fee - s603 (property transfer)	75.00
Urgent Certificates - fee for provision of s603 certificate required in less than three working days after receipt of both a properly completed application form and the necessary payment (includes statutory State Govt fee)	150.00
Request for information under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009:-	
Access to records concerning personal affairs:-	
Application Fee	30.00
Processing Charge (/hr after first 20hrs)	30.00
Internal review	40.00
Amendment of records	No Cost
<i>(NB. reductions &amp; refunds may apply - please refer to Council's Publication Guide)</i>	
Water Connection Application Fee (including Site Inspection)	260.00
Disconnection Attendance Fee - Permanent or Temporary (Non-payment of account or at Customer Request)	130.00
Reconnection Fee after Temporary Disconnection	130.00
Debt Recovery Attendance Fee	130.00
Meter Test Deposit (non-refundable if meter registers less than 3% more than	
20 or 25mm meter	130.00
32 or 40mm meter	195.00
50 or 80mm meter	260.00
> 80mm meter	At Cost
Special Meter Reading (refundable if routine reading by Council proven to be in error):	
Routine service - minimum 48 hours notice	77.00
Same day service	130.00
Special Inquiry/Certificate/Attendance Fee per hour (min 1hr)	130.00
Installation of Remote Meter Reading Device	At Cost
Interest on Overdue accounts (unpaid > 28 days from posting)	8.50%
Processing of Dishonoured Cheques	55.00
Copy of documents (per copy) freely available from website	33.00
<b><u>Portable Metered Hydrant Charges</u></b>	
Deposit for Non Local Customer	1,000.00
Short Term Hire - each week or part thereof	70.00
Annual Hire per annum of part thereof (nil consumption allowance)	295.00
All Portable Standpipe Water Sales per kilolitre	4.35

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

**Attachment 9.1.3**

<b>Service</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
	<b>2015/16</b>
<b><u>Development Proposals</u></b>	
Assess development proposals (incl subdivision, strata & community/neighbourhood plans - per connection):	
Up to 5 connections	208.00
6 to 15 connections	182.00
16 to 30 connections	156.00
> 30 connections	POA
<b><u>Pipe Locations</u></b>	
Locate Only (Minimum 1 Hour)	At Cost (min \$120/hr)
Locate & Expose (min 24 hours notice)(Minimum 1 Hour)	At Cost (min \$120/hr)
<b><u>Backflow Prevention</u></b>	
Installation of RPZD device (plus cost of device)	591.00
Inspection & Testing of Backflow Prevention Device (per device)	\$161 + \$130/hr
Installation of Double Check Valve	236.00
Yearly Servicing of Double Check Valve	58.00
<b><u>Engineering Services</u></b>	
Site Inspections (per visit)	260.00
Pressure Testing of New Mains	650.00
Chlorination/Disinfection of New Mains	650.00
Cutting in of New Mains:-	
100mm Mains	At Cost
> 100mm Mains	At Cost
Site Survey (per day)	775.00
Design and Drafting including Plans (per day)	885.00
<b><u>Private Works Hire</u></b>	
Private Works Admin Fee	10% (Max \$500)
Hire rates for Labour, Plant & Equipment	POA



**9.1.4 INTERNALLY RESTRICTED ASSETS (G35401005)**

**15/062 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Clinton that the report on internally restricted assets be received and noted; and Council maintains its four reserves in their current format.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

In preparation for completing Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015, now is a good time to reconfirm Council's funding of internally restricted assets.

Council has four internal restrictions (reserves) for specific purposes. Transfers to and from the restrictions are described below:

***Plant Reserve***

Transfer to Restriction - Plant depreciation (equivalent value) plus the written down value of plant sold, plus an interest calculation to negate inflationary pressures.

Transfer from Restriction - plant purchases are funded from this reserve.

***Infrastructure Reserve***

Transfer to Restriction - Infrastructure asset depreciation (equivalent value) as per Note 9 and the value of capital contributions received from Developer Infrastructure Charges. If there are insufficient funds to finance this transfer, in situations of deficit operating results, then these transfers should be caught-up when operating results allow.

Transfer from Restriction - all infrastructure projects, whether new or renewal / replacement, are funded from this reserve.

***Employee Leave Entitlement (ELE) Reserve***

Transfer to / from Restriction - is determined by the balance of Council's ELE liability provision at yearend (excluding related on-cost expenses). Council reserves 100% of its provision.

***Deposits, Retentions & Bonds Reserve***

This reserve restrict monies that Council is temporarily holding under some sort of contractual or policy arrangement.

Transfer to / from Restriction - is determined by the balance of Council's liability provision at yearend.

The current balances of Internally Restricted Assets are as follows:

Fund	Amount
Employee Leave Entitlements	\$1,265,434.00
Plant	\$1,271,583.00
Infrastructure	\$21,083,323.00
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds	\$53,739.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,674,079.00</b>

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.1.5 PRIVATE WORKS DEBTOR WRITE-OFF**

**15/063 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Morris that Council resolve to write off \$569.09 from Debtor Number 136 in the name of D Hedlund as uneconomic to recover.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

A debt of \$569.09 was raised in 2008-2009 year for damages to Council's infrastructure. At the time the contractor denied responsibility, subsequently a sub contractor was issued with the debt. Attempts to recover this debt in 2010 were unsuccessful. It is unlikely any further action will be successful, or economic with the sub-contractor understood to be denying any liability.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.2 WORKS REPORTS**

**9.2.1 APRIL 2015 / MAY 2015 (G95507005)**

**15/064 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Templeton that the works report for April/May 2015 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Production & Distribution**

**Water Losses & Mains Repairs**

NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
213.	2/4	14:30	18:30	Harden, Nimby Road West	375	-	100	Split Pipe
214.	9/4	11:00	12:00	Eurongilly, Dollar Vale Road	80	-	50	Joint Failure
215.	9/4	13:00	14:30	Cootamundra, Old Cootamundra Road	100	-	20	Split Pipe
216.	9/4	10:30	14:00	Naradhan, Monia Gap Road	80	-	10	Split Pipe
217.	9/4	14:00	18:00	Naradhan, Monia Gap Road	80	-	100	Split Pipe
218.	11/4	22:00	1:00	Marrar, Rockview Road	200	-	5	Split Pipe
219.	13/4	8:00	11:00	Marrar, Cartwrights Lane	50	-	100	Split Pipe
220.	13/4	15:30	17:30	Coolamon, Mary Gilmore Way	80	2	50	Split Pipe
221.	14/4	9:00	14:00	Junee, Roedigers Lane	200	-	150	Split Pipe
222.	15/4	15:30	16:30	Ganmain, Waterview Street	100	-	20	Split Pipe

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TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

NUMBER	DATE	TIME		LOCATION	PIPE DIAMETER	CONSUMERS AFFECTED	ESTIMATED LOSS (KI)	REASON
		Off	On					
223.	18/4	9:00	14:00	Marrar, Hare Street	100	-	300	Split Pipe
224.	21/4	7:00	9:00	West Wyalong, Church Street	100	-	10	Split Pipe
225.	27/4	7:30	12:00	Junee, Roedigers Lane	200	-	200	Split Pipe
226.	29/4	6:00	11:00	Temora, Crowley Street	100	14	20	Split Pipe
227.	29/4	6:30	10:00	Barellan, Barellan Merribee Road	100	-	15	Hole In Pipe
228.	29/4	10:00	11:00	Barellan, Barellan Merribee Road	100	-	5	Hole In Pipe
229.	29/4	11:00	1:00	Weethalle, Fishers Lane	100	-	10	Hole In Pipe
230.	29/4	13:00	15:30	Weethalle, Fishers Lane	100	-	10	Hole In Pipe
231.	29/4	6:30	8:30	Temora, Gidgee Street	350	-	600	Split Pipe
232.	5/5	14:00	17:00	Ganmain, Lake Street	100	8	100	Split Pipe
233.	8/5	13:00	15:00	Junee, Pattersons Road	50	-	50	Split Pipe
234.	9/5	4:00	12:00	Harden, Burley Griffin Way	375	-	150	Split Pipe
235.	10/5	11:00	14:00	Junee, Prince Street	160	-	300	Split Pipe
236.	11/5	7:30	12:00	Coolamon, Bruce Street	200	-	1000	Split Pipe
237.	12/5	7:30	10:00	Cootamundra, Dimaseer Road	50	-	50	Joint Failure
238.	12/5	10:00	12:00	Cootamundra, Dimaseer Road	100	-	40	Split Pipe
239.	13/5	9:00	14:00	Harden, Substation Road	375	-	40	Joint Failure
240.	14/5	9:00	13:00	Junee, Commins Street	100	-	200	Split Pipe
241.	14/5	13:00	15:00	Marrar, Webb Street	100	-	200	Split Pipe
242.	18/5	12:00	14:00	Cootamundra, Stockinbingal Road	375	-	50	Joint Failure
243.	20/5	6:30	9:30	Cootamundra, Dimaseer Road	50	-	220	Split Pipe
244.	20/5	10:30	12:00	Cootamundra, Dimaseer Road	100	-	20	Split Pipe
245.	23/5	9:00	14:00	Marrar, Coursing Park Road	150	-	150	Split Pipe
246.	26/5	11:00	13:00	Wallendbeen, Young Street	150	-	50	Split Pipe
247.	26/5	13:30	15:00	Wallendbeen, King Street	100	-	30	Split Pipe

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

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Complaints Water Quality

Dirty Water

04/04/2015 Mirrool Street, Ganmain  
16/04/2015 Millback Lane, Junee  
21/04/2015 Hall Street, Ganmain  
24/04/2015 Waterview Street, Ganmain  
28/04/2015 Loughnan Steet Coolamon  
04/05/2015 Burley Griffin Way, Stockinbingal  
10/05/2015 Cross Street, Junee

A total of 87 service difficulties and fault reports were received for April/May 2015.

**Construction and Major Maintenance:**

- Narrandera Meter Variances completed.
- Narrandera Meter Exchange completed.
- Narrandera Taggle completed.
- Replace/Repair Hydrants Ganmain
- New Turbidity Meter Junee Balance tanks
- Replace/Repair Hydrants Wallendbeen
- Mains Upgrade Monia Gap Rd 90% complete
- Replace/Repair Hydrants Calleen
- Replace Scour Frampton 50mm line
- Replace Scour Harefield
- Taggle new Meters Junee, Temora, Coolamon
- Meter and Taggle Check reads
- Pump checks for prevention and monitoring of abnormalities
- Servicing of ACV and PRV within the scheme
- Hylands Bridge pump station – fitting cyclone filter to pump to prevent seal failures and servicing reflux valves
- Jugiong WTP repairs to filter beds
- Temora transfer pumps – replace 2 reflux valves
- Remove Ganmain No.6 pump for rebuild.
- Jugiong No2 pump station machining and fabricating new pump parts
- Installing Ganmain No6 pump, aligning and test running
- Daylight pump station remove No2 pump for servicing and machining
- Demondrille pump station No1 pump strip for rebuild
- Hylands Bridge pump station replacing shafts in refluxes with counter weight assembly.
- Jugiong WTP – installing poly pump and replace poly pipe work.
- Matong No1 bore removed failed bore for investigation into no flow and repair.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

**9.2.2 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT (G35201005)**

**15/065 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McCann that the report detailing the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 12 June 2015 be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

This report is presented for information on the progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 12 June 2015.

Description	Total 2014/15 Projected \$	Estimate 2014/15 \$	Expend to date \$	Status
<b>New System Assets</b>				
New Temora Depot	502,000	352,000	89,700	In Progress
Site / Easement Acquisition	30,000	30,000	31,000	In Progress
Mains Extensions	11,200	11,200	11,200	Completed
Cootamundra Abattoirs Mains Extension	0	0	0	Not Required
	<b>543,200</b>	<b>393,200</b>	<b>131,900</b>	
<b>Renewals</b>				
Oura Bore Replacement	300,000	260,000	214,900	In Progress
Jugiong WTP Internal Repainting & Fittings	0	0	0	Postponed
Mains Replacement / Augmentation	498,600	498,600	391,700	In progress
Pumps Major Maintenance Program	80,000	80,000	55,000	In progress
Mt Daylight P/Stn Pump Replacement Program	0	0	0	Postponed
Jugiong & Oura Pump Stns Investigations	0	0	0	Postponed
Lonsdale Ln P/Stn Electrical Upgrades	65,000	65,000	0	TBA
Junee Reservoir Painting	0	0	0	Postponed
	<b>943,600</b>	<b>903,600</b>	<b>661,600</b>	
<b>Plant &amp; Equipment</b>				
Computer Equipment	20,000	20,000	10,000	In Progress
Office Equipment	8,000	8,000	1,600	In Progress
Water Meter Acquisition and Replacement	130,000	130,000	105,900	In Progress
Double Check Valves	20,000	20,000	0	TBA
Laboratories including Analysers	0	0	0	Postponed
Plant Purchases	910,000	910,000	754,800	In Progress
Plant Sales	-662,000	-662,000	-487,500	In Progress
	<b>426,000</b>	<b>426,000</b>	<b>384,800</b>	

**Totals** **1,912,800** **1,722,800** **1,178,300**

<b>Additions</b>				
Data Network	90,000	90,000	91,200	Completed
Mandamah Scheme	350,000	350,000	0	TBA
Mains Extension Ardlethan- Uley Lane	185,000	185,000	0	TBA
Postponed Mains Replacements	22,000	22,000	22,000	Materials Only
Jugiong No2 Booster Hi Voltage Agreement, Switch & Upgrade	71,000	71,000	0	TBA
	<b>718,000</b>	<b>403,000</b>	<b>113,200</b>	

**Totals** **2,630,800** **2,125,800** **1,291,500**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

This is Page 14 of the Minutes to the Goldenfields Water County Council meeting held on  
25 June 2015

General Manager.....Chairperson.....



**9.2.3 NEW WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS (G95151005)**

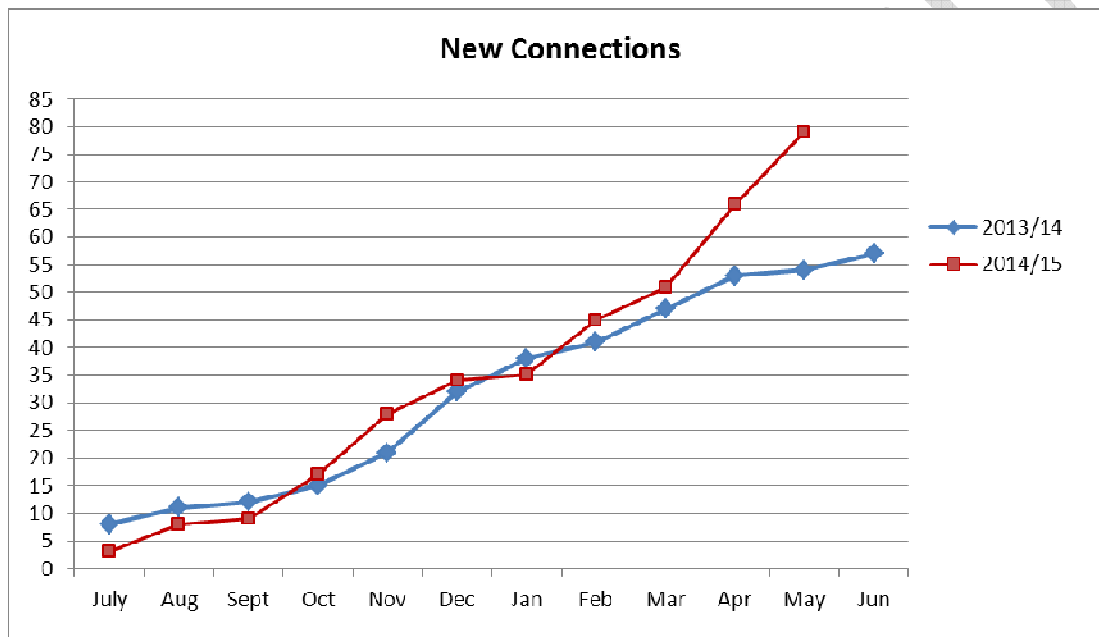
**15/066 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Palmer that the report detailing new water service connections be received and noted.

*Crs McCann requested that applicants that had water connections rejected be notified as to the reason.*

*The General Manager committed to reviewing Councils connection policy to ensure clarity.*

**Report prepared by Acting Senior Revenue Officer**

The following graph shows the number of new connections to 31 May 2015.



A further 2 connections have occurred for June with another 2 work orders pending connection. There are currently 8 letters of offer issued while a further 3 applications are under investigation and 1 awaiting further information. There have been 4 application rejected due excessive distances for rural water mains.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3 OTHER REPORTS**

**9.3.1 WATER PRODUCTION UPDATE (G95809505)**

**15/067 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Templeton that the reports detailing Council's water production status be received and noted.

**Report prepared by Senior Revenue Officer**

The attached graph shows water production comparatives between this year, last year and the sale's estimate for Council's two main water sources, Jugiong and Oura to 28 May 2015.

While Oura production is down 4.4% compared to 2014/15, Jugiong is 8.0% higher and Other sources are also up 5.6% providing overall production 2.0% higher than 2014/15. For the first time since 2011, Year to Date Jugiong production (3,881MI) is greater than Oura (3,754MI).

**Recommendation**

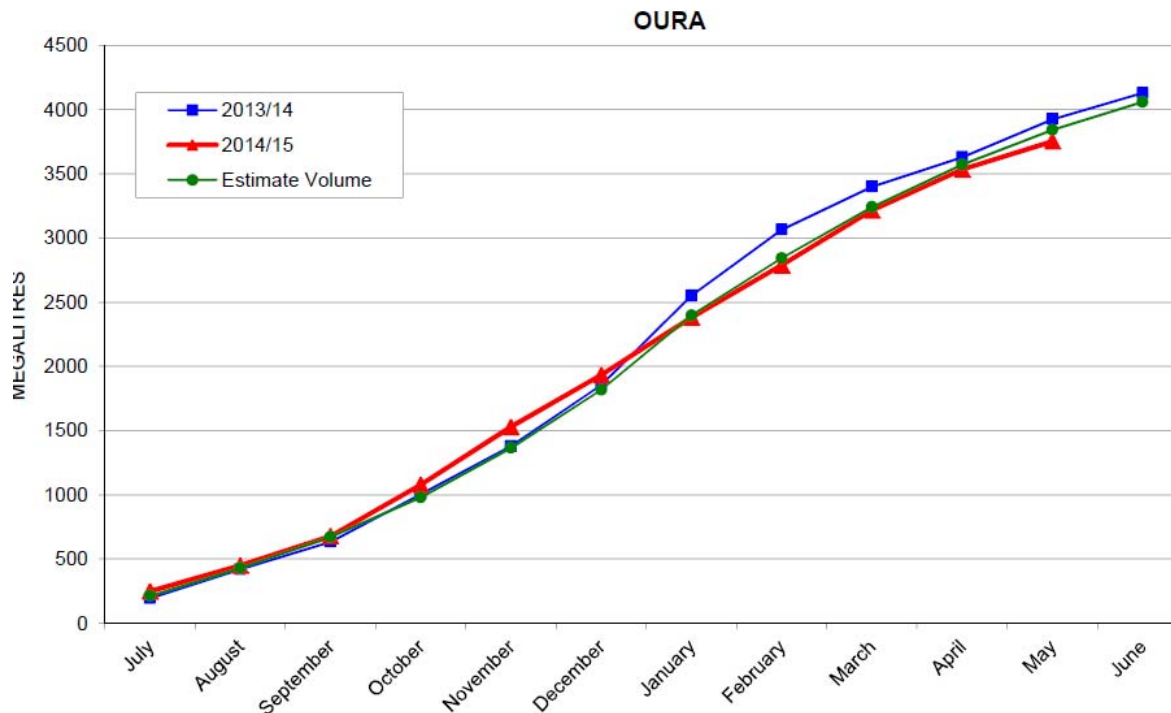
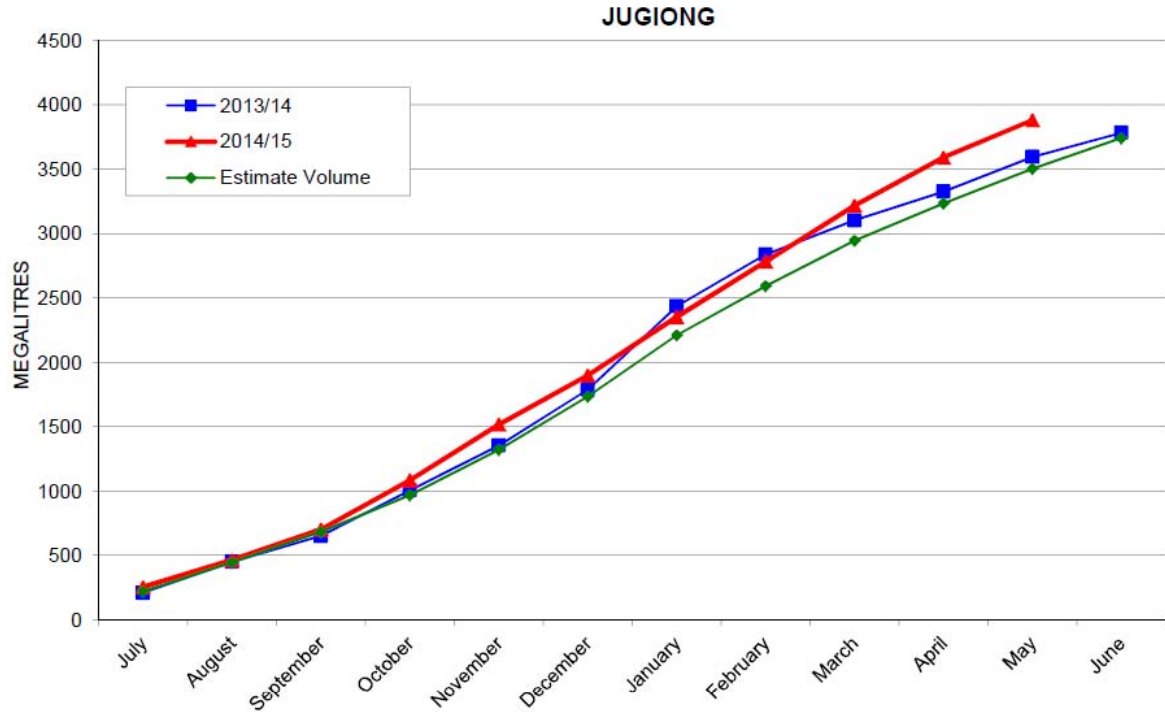
Recommendation made was adopted.

UNCONFIRMED

Attachment 9.3.2

# WATER PRODUCTION

UP TO 28/05/2015



**9.3.2 COUNCILLORS FEES FOR 2015/16 (G40202005)**

**15/068 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and Morris that Councillors fees be increased by 2.5% as per Local Government Remuneration Tribunal advice and that Councillors fees remain at the maximum amount allowable.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has advised that pursuant to s241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the annual fees to be paid to Councillors, Mayors, Members and Chairpersons of County Councils will increase by 2.5% from 1 July 2015.

The Annual Fees for County Council - Water are as follows:

	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Councillor	\$1,660	\$9,180
Chairperson	\$3,550	\$15,080

Council resolved at its June 2013 meeting (Minute 13/048) *“that Councillors fees be increased to the maximum amount allowable as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal”*.

Based on this resolution, the table below sets out the changes as of 1 July 2015 if this policy was maintained:

	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
Councillor	\$8,960	\$9,180
Chairperson	\$14,710	\$15,080

**Recommendation**

For Councillors' consideration.

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

**15/069 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McCann that Council adopt the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy (CP:022) reflecting the resolution made in 9.3.2.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

It is necessary to annually review Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy.

Apart from Appendix 1, 8.1 Councillor's Fees and 8.2 Chairman's Fees reflecting the outcome of another report, there are no proposed changes to the Policy attached for Council's consideration.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

UNCONFIRMED

Attachment 9.3.3



Policy Number: CP:022

Subject: Payment of Expenses and  
Provision of Facilities to Councillors

Keyword: Councillors, Expenses

Minute adopted: 14/110

Next Review: Annually

Approved for Release by GM:

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**1. Purpose of the Policy**

To ensure;

- a) That there is accountability and transparency in the reimbursement of expenses incurred, or to be incurred by the Chairperson and Councillors, and
- b) That the facilities provided to assist the Chairperson and Councillors to carry out their civic duties are reasonable, and
- c) For the purposes of interpretation any reference to the Chairperson and/or Councillor of Goldenfields Water County Council are to be taken as referring to the Administrator of the same organisation should one be appointed.

**2. Objectives and coverage of the Policy**

- 2.1 To provide for the fair and equitable payment and reimbursement of certain expenses not considered to be included in the annual fees payable to Chairperson and Councillors, where such expenses are incurred by the Chairperson and Councillors in discharging the functions of civic office, and
- 2.2 To provide adequate facilities for use by the Chairperson and Councillors to enable them to discharge the functions of civic office.

**3. Making and Adoption of the Policy**

This policy is made and adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 5, Sections 252-254A.

**4. Reporting Requirements**

- 4.1 Section 428 (2) (f) of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) requires the Council to include in its annual report:
  - The total amount of money expended during the year on Chairperson and Councillor fees.
  - The council's policy on the provision of facilities for use by Councillors and the payment of Councillor's expenses.
  - A statement of the total amount of money expended during the year on the provision of such facilities and the payment of such expenses.
- 4.2 The public is entitled to inspect Council's Policy free of charge, and may obtain a copy on payment of reasonable copying charges.

**5. Legislative provisions**

This policy is made under Sections 252 to 254A of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), which requires that the council must annually adopt such a policy.

**6. Other Government policy provisions related to this Policy**

- Division of Local Government Guidelines, Department of Premier and Cabinet for payment of expenses and provision of facilities.
- Model Code of Conduct.
- Division of Local Government Circulars to Councils.
- ICAC publications.

**7. Approval arrangements**

All approvals under this Policy shall be made by resolutions of the Council or jointly by the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and the General Manager or as stated in the policy.

**PAYMENT OF EXPENSES**

**8. Annual Fees – Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Councillors**

**8.1 Fees payable to Councillors**

The Council shall, prior to 30 June each year, set by resolution, the annual fees to be paid, monthly in arrears, to a Councillor for the following year commencing 1 July, provided that such a fee shall be within the range for the Council determined annually by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal. Such payment shall be subject to Section 254A of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 and any specific resolution of the Council under Section 254A.

**8.2 Fees payable to the Chairperson**

The Council shall prior to 30 June each year, set by resolution, the annual fee to be paid to the Chairperson for the following year commencing 1 July provided that such fee shall be within the range for the Council determined annually by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

**8.3 No deduction under this Policy from Fees**

Unless otherwise provided, the payment of, or reimbursement of expenses and the facilities which may be provided under this Policy, shall be provided without reduction from the annual fees payable to the Chairperson and Councillors, as determined by the Council, under 8.1 or 8.2 above.

**9. Payment of expenses generally**

**9.1 Allowances and expenses**

No allowances other than those expressly contained in this policy are payable to the Chairperson and Councillors.

**9.2 Reimbursement and reconciliation of expenses**

- a) All reimbursements are subject to the provision of receipts and are on a per Councillor basis.
- b) Advanced payment must be reconciled by the Councillor and acquitted for by receipts or refund.

**10. Establishment of monetary limits and standards**

Monetary limits or standards of facilities/services where applicable are specified in this policy.

**11. Spouse, partner and accompanying person/s expenses**

**11.1 The Council shall meet the following costs of an accompanying person**

- a) Local Government NSW annual conference;  
The costs of registration and any official conference dinners of the Chairperson or Councillor's accompanying person in attending the annual conference of Local Government NSW, but excluding any travel expenses, additional accommodation expenses and any optional personal tours which shall be the personal responsibility of the individual Councillor.

**11.2 Other Conferences**

- a) Where the Chairperson or Councillor is accompanied at a conference, other than the Local Government NSW annual conference, all costs for, or incurred by, the accompanying person, including travel, any additional accommodation costs, breakfast, meals, registration and/or participation in any conference programs, are to be borne by the Chairperson/Councillor/accompanying person and not by Council.
- b) Accompanying person's registrations, or accompanying person's program fees, are to be paid to the conference organiser, etc and paid at time of registration.
- c) Where Council meets, on account, any expenditure or cost on behalf of an accompanying person attending a conference, such expenditure must be repaid to the Council by the Chairperson or Councillor/accompanying person within seven (7) days of being invoiced for such expenditure.

**12. Specific expenses for Chairperson and Councillors**

Conferences held in Australia

**12.1 The Chairperson and Councillors may be nominated and authorised to attend conferences by:-**

- a) The Council, through resolution duly passed in open session at a Council Meeting;
- b) The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and General Manager jointly, acting within any delegated authority during Council recess;
- c) The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and General Manager jointly, where such conference is for one day or less or does not involve an overnight stay.



## **12.2 Substitute attendee**

By the adoption of this Policy, authority is hereby delegated to the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and General Manager jointly to nominate and authorise a substitute Councillor to attend any conference in lieu of the Chairperson or a nominated and authorised Councillor.

## **12.3 What Conferences may be attended**

The conference to which this Policy applies shall generally be confined to:-

- Local Government NSW (LGNSW), Local Government Women's Association (LGWA) and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Conferences and special "one-off" conferences called or sponsored by any of those Associations.
- Annual conferences of the major Professions in Local Government.
- Australian Sister Cities Conference.
- Regional Organisation of Councils Conferences.
- Conferences, which further training and development efforts of the Council and of Councillors, or which relate to or impact upon the Council's functions.
- Conferences or Meetings of Organisations or Bodies to which a Councillor had been elected, or appointed as a delegate or member of the Council, or the LGNSW, LGWA, or ALGA.

## **12.4 Conference Costs**

The Council shall pay or reimburse the Chairperson or a Councillor:-

### **12.4.1 Registration**

All normal registration costs, including costs relating to official luncheons, dinners and tours/inspections which are relevant to the interests of the Council.

### **12.4.2 Accommodation**

Reasonable accommodation costs including the night before and/or after the conference where that is necessary due to travel and/or conference timetables.

### **12.4.3 Travel**

- a) All reasonable travel costs to and from the conference location and venue by aircraft or suitable Council vehicle or if they are not available, or it is more convenient, by the use of a private vehicle.
- b) Where travel is by motor vehicle it should be undertaken by Council vehicle or by private vehicle subject to prior approval jointly by the Chairperson and General Manager.
- c) Where private vehicle is used under b) above, the Chairperson or Councillor may claim the "kilometre" allowance at the date of travel as per Clause 13.2.
- d) Hire cars, taxi fares and parking costs reasonably required in attending conferences.

### **12.4.4 Out of Pocket Expenses**

Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses associated with attendance at a conference upon presentation of a claim and receipts for the following:

- a) Any hotel/motel charges associated with the Conference, other than accommodation.
- b) All telephone or facsimile calls related to Council business

- c) Reasonable lunches, dinners and other meals incurred whilst travelling to or from the Conference and other meals occurring during the Conference but not included in the conference registration fee.
- d) Incidental expenses, e.g. parking, taxi fares, motorway or bridge tolls.
- e) Any optional activity in a conference program, but excluding any pre or post conference activities.

**12.5 Conference costs – payment in advance**

- a) The Council will normally pay registration fees, accommodation costs and airline tickets direct to conference organisers/travel agent in advance. Where this is not possible a cash advance equivalent thereto may be paid in advance to the attendee for payment to the appropriate party.
- b) Any cash advance must be properly accounted for and reconciled, with receipts, on the prescribed voucher form within one month after such conference.

**13. Travel costs**

**Councillor's transport services**

13.1 A Councillor may claim a kilometre allowance in accordance with clause 13.2 for use of a private vehicle in travelling:

- To and from the meetings of Council, or the meetings of any Committee of the Council.
- Upon inspections, provided such inspections are undertaken in compliance with resolutions of the Council or authorised by the Chairperson or General Manager.
- To attend conferences, official engagements and functions where the Councillor has been authorised by the Council to do so or is deputising for the Chairperson.

13.2 Kilometre rates for use of a private vehicle under this Policy will be paid at the rate set by the Local Government (State) Award, as at the date of travel.

13.3 Payment is subject to a claim on the prescribed claim form being lodged by the Chairperson or Councillor, and made no later than three (3) months after the travel occurred. Claims lodged for travel occurring more than three (3) months before the claim is lodged shall not be paid.

**14. Care and other related expenses**

**15. Insurance expenses and obligations – Chairperson and Councillors**

The Chairperson and Councillors will receive the benefit of insurance cover as specified in the following policies:

- Personal Accident
- Councillors' and Officer' Liability
- Statutory and Business Practices Liability
- Property (Personal Property) – Theft/Damage only
- Motor Vehicles Policy (Personal Property) – Theft/Damage only

**16. Legal Assistance for Chairperson and Councillors**

Subject to 16.2 below, legal assistance will be provided to the Chairperson and Councillors in the event of an enquiry, investigation or hearing, into the conduct of a Councillor by:

- The Independent Commission Against Corruption
- The Office of the Ombudsman
- Department of Local Government
- The Police
- The Director of Public Prosecutions
- The Local Government Pecuniary Interest Tribunal
- Council's Conduct Review Committee/Reviewers

**16.1 Subject to 16.2 below**

- a) Legal assistance will be provided to the Chairperson and Councillors in respect of legal proceedings being taken by or against them, arising out of or in connection with the Chairperson and Councillor's performance of their civic duties or exercise of their functions as a Chairperson or Councillor.
- b) Council by resolution may reimburse the Chairperson and such Councillor, after the conclusion of the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, for all legal expenses properly and reasonably incurred, given the nature of the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceeding, on a solicitor/client basis.

**16.2 Legal assistance and reimbursement as specified above will only be provided upon resolution of the Council and subject to the following conditions:**

- The amount of such reimbursement shall be reduced by the amount of any moneys that may be or are recouped by the Chairperson or Councillor on any basis.
- The enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings results in a finding substantially in favour of the Chairperson or Councillor.
- The amount of such reimbursement is limited to the equivalent of the fees being charged by Council's Solicitors.

**17. Additional Chairperson Expenses**

The Chairperson shall be entitled to receive the benefit of the following facilities, and payment of and reimbursement of expenses:

- 17.1 Shared Executive Assistant/Secretarial services including typing, photocopying, printing, postage, facsimile, computer and telephone facilities.

**PROVISION OF FACILITIES**

**Provision of facilities generally**

**18. Councillors**

Councillors are entitled to payment of expenses or reimbursement of the following expenses, and to receive the benefit of the following facilities generally:-

- 18.1 Reasonable refreshments associated with Council and Council Committee meetings, and meetings of the Chairperson or Councillors with Parliamentary representatives, visiting dignitaries and other delegations.
- 18.2 Councillor name badges and business cards.
- 18.3 Goldenfields Water County Council neck tie or scarf.
- 18.4 Secretarial services to facilitate the discharge of functions of civic office.
- 18.5 Email address provided to Councillors, as requested.

**19. Provision of equipment and facilities for the Chairperson**

- 19.1 All equipment and furniture provided under Clause 19 shall always remain in the possession of the Chairperson during his/her term of office, and shall remain the property of the Council and returned to the Council in good operational order and condition upon ceasing to hold the position of Chairperson.
- 19.2 Should the Chairperson (and/or Deputy Chairperson) so choose, Council will provide a mobile phone and will pay half the "Services and equipment rental" costs in accordance with the agreed plan. Call costs in excess of the plan are the responsibility of the user.  
  
The Chairperson's (and/or Deputy Chairperson) plan contribution, and any call charges in excess of the plan, are to be deducted from the user's monthly member's fee payment.

**OTHER MATTERS**

**20. Acquisition and return of facilities and equipment by Councillors**

All equipment provided to Councillors under this policy shall remain the property of the Council and be returned in good condition to the Council upon the Chairperson or Councillor ceasing to hold civic office.

**21. Dispute Resolution**

Where a dispute arises relating to the payment of expenses or the provision of facilities the following procedures will be applied:-

Councillor

If a Councillor disputes the method in which this policy has been applied then the matter will be referred to the Chairperson for determination.

Chairperson

If the Chairperson disputes the method in which this policy has been applied then the matter will be referred to the full Council for determination.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at  
TEMORA OFFICE on 25 JUNE 2015**

Policy Ref.	Description of expense &/ or Facility Provided	Reference Provided in Policy	Maximum Allowable	Limit set by Council
8.1	Councillors Fee	Determined annually by the local Government remuneration Tribunal	\$9,180	TBA
8.2	Chairperson Fee	Determined annually by the local Government remuneration Tribunal	\$15,080	TBA
9.1	Other Allowances	Other than those expressly contained in this policy		NIL
9.2a)	Reimbursement	Subject to the provision of receipts and are on a per Councillor basis		\$500
9.2b)	Advanced Payment	Must be reconciled by the Councillor and acquitted for by receipts or refund		\$500
12.4.2	Accommodation	Reasonable accommodation costs (per night)		\$300
12.4.3c)	Travel	Refer to 13.2 below		
12.4.4	Out of Pocket Expenses	(Per Day)		\$200
12.5	Costs - Payment in Advance	Cash advance equivalent to actual Conference costs		\$2,000
13.2	Travel Costs	Set by the local Government (State) Award, as at the date of travel.		
		Vehicle Allowances (cents/km) - Under 2.5 Litres	68c/km	68c/km
		Vehicle Allowances (cents/km) - 2.5 Litres and over	78c/km	78c/km

**Appendix 1.**

**9.3.4 BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN (G05601505)**

**15/070 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Clinton that Council;

1. Adopt the Business Activity Strategic Plan incorporating the Delivery Program and Operational Plan as circulated; and
2. Authorise for expenditure all operating and capital items budgeted for in the 2015/16 financial year.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

Council's Draft Business Activity Strategic Plan was placed on public exhibition for 28 days as is required under the Local Government Act 1993.

No submissions were received by the closing date.

The plan is required to be formally adopted to meet legislative requirements.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.5 INVESTMENT POLICY (CP:018) (G40350505)**

**15/071 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Morris that Council adopt the unchanged Investment Policy (CP:018).

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

It is necessary to annually review Council's Investment Policy. There are no proposed changes to the Policy attached for Council's consideration.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

Attachment 9.3.5



Policy Number: CP:018  
Subject: Investment Policy  
Keyword: Investment  
Minute adopted: 05/131,10/133,11/024,14/058  
Next Review: Annually  
Approved for Release by GM:

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### Introduction

To assist Councillors, General Managers and the Responsible Accounting Officers of councils to invest surplus funds in a prudent and appropriate manner, all councils are required to develop an investment policy. The Office of Local Government released new *Investment Policy Guidelines* in May 2010 to provide assistance with the preparation of a policy and the prudent and appropriate management of a council's surplus funds. These guidelines have been used in the production of this policy.

### Objectives

To provide a framework for the investing of Council's funds at the most favourable rate of interest available to it at the time whilst having due consideration of risk and security for that investment type and ensuring that its liquidity requirements are being met.

While exercising the power to invest, consideration is to be given to the preservation of capital, liquidity, and the return of investment.

- Preservation of capital is the principal objective of the investment portfolio. Investments are to be placed in a manner that seeks to ensure security and safeguarding the investment portfolio. This includes managing credit and interest rate risk within identified thresholds and parameters.
- Investments should be allocated to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements, as and when they fall due, without incurring the risk of significant costs due to the unanticipated sale of an investment.
- Investments are expected to achieve a market average rate of return in line with the Council's risk tolerance.

### Legislative Requirements

All investments are to comply with the following:

- Local Government Act 1993;
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005;
- Ministerial Investment Order;
- Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting;
- Australian Accounting Standards; and
- Office of Local Government Circulars.

### **Delegation of Authority**

Authority for implementation of the Investment Policy is delegated by Council to the General Manager in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The General Manager may in turn delegate the day-to-day management of Council's Investment to the Responsible Accounting Officer or senior staff, subject to regular reviews.

Officers' delegated authority to manage Council's investments shall be recorded and required to acknowledge they have received a copy of this policy and understand their obligations in this role.

### **Prudent Person Standard**

The investment will be managed with the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise. As trustees of public monies, officers are to manage Council's investment portfolio to safeguard the portfolio in accordance with the spirit of this Investment Policy, and not for speculative purposes.

### **Ethics and Conflicts of Interest**

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Council's investment portfolio. This policy requires officers to disclose any conflict of interest to the General Manager.

Independent advisors are also required to declare that they have no actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

### **Approved Investments**

Investments are limited to those allowed by the most current Ministerial Investment Order that has been issued by the Minister for Local Government (Attachment 1).

### **Prohibited Investments**

In accordance with the Ministerial Investment Order, this investment policy prohibits but is not limited to any investment carried out for speculative purposes including:

- Derivative based instruments;
- Principal only investments or securities that provide potentially nil or negative cash flow; and
- Stand alone securities issued that have underlying futures, options, forwards contracts and swaps of any kind.

This policy also prohibits the use of leveraging (borrowing to invest) of an investment.

### **Risk Management Guidelines**

Investments obtained are to be considered in light of the following key criteria:

- Preservation of Capital - preventing losses in the investment portfolio's total value (considering the time value of money);



- Diversification - limiting amounts invested with a particular financial institution or government authority to reduce credit risk. Guidelines in relation to diversification / credit risk are attached (Attachment 2);
- Credit risk - the risk that council has invested in fails to pay the interest and or repay the principal of an investment;
- Market Risk - the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in market prices;
- Liquidity Risk - the risk an investor is unable to redeem the investment at a fair price within a timely period; and
- Maturity Risk - the risk relating to the length of term to maturity of the investment. The larger the term, the greater the length of exposure and risk to market volatilities.

### **Investment Advisor**

Investment Advisors engaged by Council must be licensed by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. The advisor must be an independent person who has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to investment products being recommended and is free to choose the most appropriate product within the terms and conditions of the investment policy.

The independent advisor is required to provide written confirmation that they do not have any actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to the investments they are recommending or reviewing, including that they are not receiving any commissions or other benefits in relation to the investments being recommended or reviewed.

### **Reporting and Reviewing of Investments**

Documentary evidence must be held for each investment and details thereof maintained in an Investment Register.

The documentary evidence must provide Council legal title to the investment.

Certificates must be obtained from the financial institutions confirming the amounts of investments held on the Council's behalf as at 30 June each year and reconciled to the Investment Register.

All investments are to be appropriately recorded in Council's financial records and reconciled at least on a monthly basis.

A bimonthly report will be provided to Council. The report will detail the investment portfolio in terms of performance, percentage exposure of total portfolio, maturity date and market value.

This Investment Policy will be reviewed at least once a year or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Investment Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of that Council and in the spirit of this policy. Any amendment to the Investment Policy must be reported to Council at the next Council meeting.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – INVESTMENT ORDER**  
(Relating to investments by councils)

I, the Hon. Barbara Perry MP, Minister for Local Government, in pursuance of section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and with the approval of the Treasurer, do, by this my Order, notify for the purposes of section 625 of that Act that a council or county council may only invest money (on the basis that all investments must be denominated in Australian Dollars) in the following forms of investment:

- (a) any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by, the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory;
- (b) any debentures or securities issued by a council (within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW));
- (c) interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit-taking institution (as defined in the *Banking Act 1959* (Cwth)), but excluding subordinated debt obligations;
- (d) any bill of exchange which has a maturity date of not more than 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- (e) a deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation or investments in an Hour-Glass investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation;

All investment instruments (excluding short term discount instruments) referred to above include both principal and investment income.

Transitional Arrangements

- (i) Subject to paragraph (ii) nothing in this Order affects any investment made before the date of this Order which was made in compliance with the previous Ministerial Orders, and such investments are taken to be in compliance with this Order.
- (ii) Paragraph (i) only applies to those investments made before the date of this Order and does not apply to any restructuring or switching of investments or any re-investment of proceeds received on disposal or maturity of such investments, which for the avoidance of doubt must comply with this Order.

Key Considerations

An investment is not in a form of investment notified by this order unless it also complies with an investment policy of council adopted by a resolution of council.

All councils should by resolution adopt an investment policy that is consistent with this Order and any guidelines issued by the Chief Executive (Local Government), Department of Premier and Cabinet, from time to time.

The General Manager, or any other staff member, with delegated authority by a council to invest funds on behalf of a council must do so in accordance with the council's adopted investment policy.

Councils have a fiduciary responsibility when investing. Councils should exercise the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons.

When exercising the power of investment councils should consider, but not be limited by, the risk of capital or income loss or depreciation, the likely income return and the timing of income return, the length of the term of the proposed investment, the liquidity and marketability of the proposed investment, the likelihood of inflation affecting the value of the proposed investment and the costs (including commissions, fees, charges and duties payable) of making the proposed investment.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2011

  
Hon BARBARA PERRY MP  
Minister for Local Government

## DIVERSIFICATION / CREDIT RISK GUIDELINES

### Managed Investments

The total amount invested with any one fund manager should not exceed 45% of average annual funds invested by Council.

### Direct Investments

The amount invested with any one financial institution should not exceed the following percentages of average annual funds invested by Council: -

Long Term Rating (Standard & Poors)	Short Term Rating (Standard & Poors)	Maximum Percentage of Total Investments
AAA to AA-	A1+	45%
A+ to A-	A1	40%
BBB+ to BBB-	A2	20%
Not Rated	Not Rated	10%

### Credit Ratings

If any of Council's investments are downgraded such that they no longer fall within these investment policy guidelines, they will be divested as soon as is practicable.

UNCONFIDENTIAL

**9.3.6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015 (G40151005)**

**15/072 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Morris that Council endorse the General Manager, Chairperson and Cr Clinton to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference.

**Report prepared by General Manager**

The Local Government NSW Annual Conference will be held at Rosehill from Sunday 11 October to Tuesday 13 October 2015.

Nominations for attendance are sought from Council to allow registration and booking arrangements to be made.

In past years the General Manager and a member/s of the board have attended this event.

**Recommendation**

That Council nominate attendees for the 2015 LGNSW Annual Conference and approve the attendance of General Manager.

**9.3.7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2015 (G40151005)**

**15/073 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Clinton that Council endorse the General Manager, Chairperson and Cr Palmer to attend the LGNSW Water Management Conference.

**Report prepared by General Manager**

The Local Government NSW Water Management Conference will be held at Bowral on Monday 24 August 2015 to Wednesday 26 August 2015.

Nominations for attendance are sought from Council to allow registration and booking arrangements to be made.

In past years the General Manager and a member/s of the board have attended this event.

**Recommendation**

That Council nominate attendees for the Local Government NSW Water Management Conference and approve the attendance of General Manager

**9.3.8 AUDIT TENDER (G05101005)**

**15/074 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Clinton that Council appoint Auswild & Co to provide audit services for the six year period for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2021.

**Report prepared by General Manager**

Tenders closed on 28 May 2015 for the provision of Audit Services for the six year period for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2021.

One tender was received from Auswild & Co.

Auswild & Co are Councils current Auditors and have proven to be very capable in fulfilling the role.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.9 REPORT ON IRC OUTCOMES TO DATE (G70204010)**

**15/075 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Morris that the report be noted and the Board budget \$85K to legal and travelling expenses associated with dealing with these matters.

**Report prepared by General Manager**

On June 5 the General Manager, Chairman and Deputy Chairman attended the Industrial Relations Commission in Sydney regarding current matters relating to disputes over Cootamundra relocations, OH&S disciplinary matters, GWCC Award negotiations and complaints about management.

The award matters were settled, apart from sections relating to performance pay which the union was demanding should be on top of GWCC's pay and super increases. The union agreed to put changes to remove this to the members.

The IRC directed that GWCC bring in a mediator to bring external resources to moderate the current disputations.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.10 STAFF AWARDS**

**15/076 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and McCann that the report be received and noted.

**Report prepared by General Manager**

Goldenfields Water is proud to acknowledge the recent honours awarded to two members of staff;

Andrew Grant (General Manager) was awarded the Public Service Medal as part of the Queens Birthday Awards for his contribution to Goldenfields Water and the wider water community.

Shane Baldry (Acting Manager Distribution and Construction) was awarded the NSW Training Awards Vocational Student of the Year Award for Riverina.

Shane will now go on to compete at State level.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.11 DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION OF DEPOT BUILDINGS, 124-126 CROWLEY ST, TEMORA (G10150505)**

**15/077 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Templeton and Clinton that the Design and Construction of Depot Buildings, 124-126 Crowley St, Temora report to be received and noted.

**Report Prepared by Design & Modelling Officer**

Design and construction of depot buildings at 124-126 Crowley St Temora, has been awarded to Coolamon Steel Works.

Council is currently obtaining the required Development Application and Construction Certificate form Temora Shire Council.

Coolamon Steel Works is currently working on the engineering drawings of the building.

Construction is estimated to start at the end of July 2015 for a construction period of 16 weeks.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.12 BARELLAN STANDPIPE RESERVOIR REHABILITATION (G95208005)**

**15/078 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McGregor and Palmer that the Barellan Standpipe Reservoir Rehabilitation report to be received and noted.

**Report Prepared by Design & Modelling Officer**

Barellan standpipe reservoir was rehabilitated in September 2012 using a coating system supplied by Carboline and the product carries a 25 year warranty.

Late 2014 field staff reported that a small leak had formed and Council had contacted the manufacturer about the failure of the coating. Recently field staff have reported that the leak is getting worse.

An internal inspection of the coating was performed by divers and a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) from Aqualift on the Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015. The report from Aqualift has been sent to both the product manufacture and the applicator for determination of the failure and Council is currently waiting on response from both parties.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.13 ULEY LANE RURAL SCHEME (G95151010)**

**15/079 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Palmer that the Uley Lane Rural Scheme report to be received and noted.

**Report Prepared by Design & Modelling Officer**

The scheme will extend south from Ardlethan towards Coolamon along the Newell Highway, Ardlethan – Coolamon Road, Uley Road and McDougalls Lane for a total length of 12900m.

The scheme currently has 3 signed and committed water connection applications.

Council has obtained concurrence from Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and Coolamon Shire Council for construction of the scheme with the condition that a Review of Environmental Factors is completed. Council has engaged Riverina Local Land Services to perform the review and draft the document.

Letter of Offer has been sent to the 3 committed applicants and Council is currently waiting on reply.

The estimated start of construction is mid to late July 2015 depending on weather and available supply of materials.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.14 PLANT PURCHASE – HYDROSTATIC TRENCHING MACHINE (G75057510)**

**15/080 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McGregor that Council approve management to pursue investigations for the purchase of a Hydrostatic Trencher and put to tender as required.

**Report Prepared by Acting Manager Distribution and Construction**

Council is currently looking at purchasing a hydrostatic trenching machine that would suit our capital works program and be an asset to Council for future projects. We currently have 206 kilometres of Capital works.

A Hydrostatic Trencher will be able to trench 450mm wide by 1 metre deep at a rate 1000 metres a day.

This is not part of our current capital works program.

If this was to go ahead it would be put out to tender and be brought to a special council meeting for recommendation and approval.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

**9.3.15 NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday 27 August 2015 at 1.00PM.

**9.3.16 MAKING OF A WATER SUPPLY SPECIAL CHARGE (G05601005)**

**15/081 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Morris and Clinton that Council make the Special Water Supply Charge (Local Government Act s552) for the Mandamah Scheme for a period of 10 years of an Annual Development Charge of \$500.00 (subject to Annual Consumer Price Index) and levying the difference between the yearly Residential and the Non Residential-Rural Usage Charge, such that each connection pays an additional \$10,000 per 1 megalitre above the upfront headworks and connection charges.

**Report prepared by Acting Manager Finance & Administration**

Arrangements for the proposed Mandamah Scheme include the levying of a yearly development charge on top of the annual access charge, and land holders will be levied the Residential Charge for water up-to 1 megalitre per year for a period of ten years.

The development charge and the difference between the Residential and the Non Residential-Rural charge would be considered a 'Water Supply Special Rate or Charge'.

Goldenfields Water County Council has one existing Special Water Supply Charge for Deferred Developer Infrastructure Charges.

**Recommendations**

Recommendation made was adopted.



**9.3.17 PLANT PROCUREMENT POLICY (G40350505)**

**15/082 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Morris and McGregor that Council approve the draft Plant Procurement Policy as presented.

A draft Plant Procurement policy is presented to Council for consideration. The policy has been altered to ensure transparency in the selection of plant providers.

All vehicles will now be put to Tender with tenders under \$150k advertised in local constituent council newspapers, and tenders over \$150,000 advertised regionally in addition to local advertising.

**Recommendation**

Recommendation made was adopted.

UNCONFIRMED

**Attachment 9.3.17**



**Plant Procurement Policy CP: 025**

Keyword: Plant, Vehicles, Purchase, Disposal  
 Minute adopted: 14/111    Next Review: 2016  
 Approved by GM:

**Purpose**

To ensure value for money, accountability and transparency in the purchase and sale of plant; assist the General Manager in fleet purchase and maintenance under Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Policy**

These procedures are to assess plant replacement under the value stipulated for tender under current Local Government Regulation. The General Manager is authorised to use discretion considering value for money including work function, staff safety and comfort. Guideline triggers are shown below. The General Manager is authorised to nominate a staff member to fulfil plant procurement duties as required. They will be referred to as *Procurement Officer* for the purpose of this policy.

Plant Category	Minimum		Maximum	
	Years	Kms/Hrs	Years	Kms/Hrs
5 Tonne Excavators	10	2,500 hrs	12	6,000 hrs
Trucks	6	160,000 kms	8	200,000 kms
Trailers/Floats	As required			
Mini Excavators/ Bobcat	5	1,500 hrs	6	1,800 hrs
Light Commercials	1	80,000 kms	2	100,000 kms
Sedans / Station Wagons (Petrol and Diesel)	1	40,000 kms	2	100,000 kms

**Specification of Plant**

Section manager submits plant specifications to Procurement Officer with reasons for specifications/additions. Procurement Officer modifies specs as per standard feedback forms and notes changes.

**Approval of Plant for Tender**

Procurement Officer undertakes pricing of plant and submits recommendations for plant model to the General Manager for signed approval.

**Calling of Tenders**

After receiving signed approval the Procurement Officer will call for Tenders. Tenders under \$150,000 will be advertised in local constituent council newspapers, with tenders over \$150,000 advertised regionally in addition to local advertising. Priority will be given to the GWCC region.

Prior to tender the Procurement Officer obtains estimated valuations for the sale vehicles from the auction houses in Canberra and Wagga Wagga. Preference will be given to Wagga Wagga Auction house over Canberra Auction house to the value of \$2000 plus shipping costs. If there has been an assessment in the 6 months prior, the best value auction house may be used.

**Assessment of Tenders**

Tender prices are put into an assessment matrix based on Price, Customer Service History and Delivery Time by the Procurement Officer. Completed matrixes with recommendations on choice of supplier are provided to the General Manager for signed approval.

**Acceptance of Tender**

Acceptance of the tender and disposal of plant, remain with the General Manager under Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993. After written approval from the GM the Procurement Officer completes purchase orders for the chosen plant.

Tenders over \$150,000 will be referred to Council Board for approval.

**Compliance**

All Policy conditions must be complied with. No member of staff outside Finance or the GM's staff is to be involved in selection of vendor or auction house, other than feedback on customer service.

**10. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

Cr McGregor asked that the Chairperson minute regarding the General Managers Public Service Medal be circulated to Constituent Councils.

Cr Templeton thanked the General Manager for attending the Bland Shire Council meeting on 9 June 2015.

Andrew Clinton asked that the General Manager keep the board informed of when his Public Service Medal will be presented.

**11. CLOSED SESSION 2.21PM**

*In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act and should be dealt with in part of the meeting closed to the media and public.*

**15/083 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and Clinton that Council move into Closed Session.

*Mr Gerard Carr, Mr Shane Baldry and Mr Chris Lasdauskas departed the meeting and did not return.*

**11.1 REPORT ON MEETINGS AND PROPOSAL BY WATER ANALYTICS**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

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

**15/084 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Palmer and McCann that council endorse the signing of the statement of intent and authorise the General Manager to progress negotiations to State Government Level, at which stage the Chairman is to be involved.

**15/085 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs McCann and Clinton that the Board recommend the General Manager attend training to better equip him in communicating and dealing with difficult situations involving staff.

**15/086 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and Templeton that Council authorise the General Manager to seek independent legal opinion and provide information to an independent mediator for advice on the scope of mediation which is then to be provided to the Commissioners appointed mediator.

**15/087 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Clinton and McGregor that the media release regarding matters before the IRC be approved for distribution as required.

*Cr John McGregor left the meeting at 3.43pm and did not return.*

**OPEN SESSION 3.54PM**

**15/088 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Templeton and Morris that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in Closed Session be made public.

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There being no further business requiring the attention of the Council the meeting closed at 3.54pm

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UNCONFIRMED

**MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM ON WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST 2015 COMMENCING AT 5.00PM**

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**Present:** Pam Butcher (Chair), Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman, Martin Lane, David Scobie, Lesley Duncan

**Apologies:** Dot Smith

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Cr McGlynn and seconded by Cr Grellman that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**ITEM 1 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

- Nil

**ITEM 2 CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence In

- Nil

Correspondence Out

- Nil

**ITEM 3 HERITAGE ADVISORY REPORTS**

**8 July 2015**

- Vehicle Damaged Awning – construction advice and colour scheme
- 128 Main Street – Heritage conservation advice to prospective tenant in particular restoration of tiles and signage.
- 172 Main Street – colour scheme prepared for building owner.

**ITEM 4 HERITAGE ASSISTANCE FUND**

- Nil

**ITEM 5 PROJECTS**

- David Scobie advised that there are three building owners interested in verandah reinstatement and asked that thought be given to how the committee will prioritise these projects.

**ITEM 6 GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Reg Rattey Memorial – Cr McGlynn and seconded by Cr Grellman moved that David Scobie be involved in landscaping for the Reg Rattey Memorial.  
CARRIED
- David Scobie advised that grants are available from Museums & Galleries NSW for Natural History Collections until the end of August.
- David Scobie advised that the National Trust has announced the theme for the 2016 Heritage Festival is to be Discovery and Rediscoveries.

**ITEM 7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee is 7 October 2015 commencing at 5.00pm in the Council Committee Room.

**ITEM 9 CLOSE**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.40 pm.

## NEWELL HIGHWAY TASK FORCE MEETING

### **Minutes of the Newell Highway Task Force (NHTF) meeting held in Gilgandra Shire Council Chambers on Tuesday 12 May 2015**

The NHTF meeting commenced at 9:30am

#### **1. Welcome, Attendees, Apologies**

The Chair Ken Keith welcomed the Newell Highway Task Force and Committee members to Gilgandra and thanked Gilgandra Shire Council for hosting the meeting.

Cr Doug Batten the Mayor of the Gilgandra Shire welcomed the Newell Highway Task Force and Committee members to Gilgandra. Cr Batten mentioned that the Newell Highway is the life blood of Gilgandra that supports and generates employment, 11 motels and two truck stops.

#### **Attendees:**

The Chair Ken Keith welcomed the following attendees:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Cr Ken Keith	Parkes Shire Council
Cr Tony Lord	Bland Shire Council
Jeff Stien	Bland Shire Council
Cr Lyn Griffiths	Dubbo City Council
Ray Graham	Forbes Shire Council
Graham Miller	Forbes Shire Council
John Morris	National Road Transport Association' (NRTA)
Fiona Simson	NRMA
Phil Standen	RMS Western Region
Cr Denis Todd	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Kevin Tighe	Warrumbungle Shire Council

#### **Apologies:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Ray Smith	Bland Shire Council
Cr Ruth McRae	Jerilderie Shire Council
Craig Moffitt	Jerilderie Shire Council
Ian Dinham	Moree Plains
Cr Conrad Bolton	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Lloyd Finlay	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Kevin Morris	Narrandera Shire Council
Cr Jenny Clarke	Narrandera Shire Council
Ron Collins	NRMA
Anna Wyllie	Parkes Shire Council
John Walkom	RDA Orana
Lindsay Tanner	RMS South West
Bruce Bates	RMS Western Region

Rachel Rice	RMS Western Region
Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council

### **Resolution**

That the apologies be confirmed.

**Moved: Cr Graham Miller                      Seconded: John Morris**

**All in favour**

**Carried**

## **2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting held in West Wyalong at the Club Inn Resort on Wednesday 18 February 2015**

### **Resolution**

That the Minutes of the Newell Highway Task Force meeting held in West Wyalong at the Club Inn Resort on Wednesday 18 February 2015 which were distributed to members of the Task Force be confirmed.

**Moved: Cr Tony Lord                              Seconded: John Morris**

**All in favour**

**Carried**

## **3. Matters Arising from Minutes**

The matters arising will be covered in General Business and the letter regarding the wide centre lanes should be sent to Peter Duncan who is the CEO at the RMS.

## **4. Business Arising**

Nil

## **5. Correspondence**

- Newell Highway Brochure Launch
- Newell Highway Taskforce Media Release
- \$120 million for 27 new heavy vehicle projects across New South Wales
- NSW Premier Mike Baird, Deputy Premier and Dubbo MP Troy Grant and Roads Minister Duncan Gay Media Release
- Sunday Telegraph News Article – Open Season Declared On Caravan Parks
- Updated Newell Highway Task Force Freight Strategy
- Letter from Parkes Shire Council

**Moved: Cr Dennis Todd                              Seconded: Cr Tony Lord**

**All in favour**

**Carried**



## 6. RMS Update

Phil Standen provided the following Roads & Maritime Services update:

### Newell Highway Taskforce Update Report May 2015

#### RMS Works Program

Current Year (2014/15)

<b><u>MAJOR ROAD UPGRADES</u></b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding (\$M)</b>	<b>Status</b>
Pilliga Widening	1.5	Completed
Castlereagh Highway Intersection Rehab at Gilgandra	2.6	Completed
Bellatta Foam Bitumen Final Seal	0.7	Completed
Government Tank Drainage Improvements & Rehab (Nth of Gil)	0.8	Underway
Asphalt HD Pavement Trial near Waterloo Ck (north of Narrabri)	3.0	Completed
Pavement strengthening near Gurley (north of Narrabri)	8.0	Underway
Moree Airport Rehab	0.2	Completed
5 Mile floodway – pavement AC resurfacing	0.7	Complete
Boxalls Reconstruction – North of West Wyalong	1.2	Complete
Morundah Road – Part Seg Reconstruction - 78km North Jerilderie	0.7	Complete
West Wyalong HV bypass- Compton Street	0.9	Underway
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20.3</b>	
<b><u>OVERTAKING LANES</u></b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding (\$M)</b>	<b>Status</b>
Telescope OT Lane (nth of Parkes)	2.2	Completed
2 x OT Lanes near Weddin/Forbes Boundary	1.6	Completed
Oxley Springs OT lane – Nth of Gilgandra	1.8	Completed
Tap Hill OT Lane – Nth of Gilgandra	2.1	Underway
Corobimilla N B Overtaking lanes – South of Narrandera –final seal	0.2	Completed
Morundah Rail South Bound overtaking lane – North of Jerilderie	0.3	Planning
Other – Planning and Final Seals	0.7	Underway
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8.9</b>	

**Next Year (2015/16)**

<b>MAJOR ROAD UPGRADES</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding (\$M)</b>	<b>Status</b>
Bundaburrah Rehab (South of Forbes)		Planning
Government Tank Rehab (North of Gilgandra)		Underway
Marsden Rehab		Planning
Rehab near Lampies Causeway (Nth of Peak Hill)		Planning
Pavement strengthening near Gurley (north of Narrabri)		Planning
Rehab cracked pavement (north of Narrabri)		Planning
Foam Bitumen rehab near Tycannah Ck (north of Narrabri)		Planning
Finley – Headford Street		Planning
West Wyalong HV Bypass		Planning
Blackbutt Road Road Intersection (South of Dubbo) - Design		Planning
Newell Hwy/Mitchell Highway at Dubbo – Investigation & Design		Planning
Killarney/Tibareena St Intersection at Narrabri - Design		Planning
<b>TOTAL FUNDING is comparable to 2014/15</b>		
<b>OVERTAKING LANES</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding (\$M)</b>	<b>Status</b>
2 x OT Lanes near Kyalite Lane (north of Peak Hill)		Planning
Morundah OT Lane (north of Jerilderie)		Planning
<b>TOTAL</b>		

**NEWELL HIGHWAY UPGRADE  
(Announced since November 2014)**



Reserve \$2B for Regional Road Freight Corridor Program (Golden, NE, GWH, Newell)

Includes \$500M for Newell Highway including:

- Additional Overtaking Lanes - \$36M
- HD Pavement construction between Narrabri & Boggabilla - \$270M
- Parkes Heavy Vehicle Bypass - \$50M
- Coona Bypass (Planning only) - \$12.5M
- Trewilga Realignment - \$33M
- LH Ford Bridge Duplication - \$50M
- Blackbutt Road Improvement - \$1M
- Pilliga Widening (Coonabarabran to Narrabri)

Other projects mentioned:

- Grong Grong
- Moree bypass

\$500 million for the Newell Highway upgrade including:

- \$95 million for an upgraded road surface between Narrabri and Bellata
- \$90 million for an upgraded road surface north of Moree
- \$85 million for an upgraded road surface between Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla
- \$50 million for the duplication of the L.H Ford Bridge at Dubbo (which connects the Dubbo CBD to the highway)
- \$50 million for a truck bypass at Parkes
- \$36 million for overtaking lanes in addition to the 12 delivered since 2011
- \$33 million to better align the highway at Trewilga
- \$12.5 million for further planning, including a truck bypass of Coonabarabran
- Pilliga
- Blackbutt Road improvement

The Newell Highway Corridor Strategy will be released at the Parkes Shire Council Chambers on Wednesday 20 May. Planning is well on the way and collaboration with the RMS and LGA's.

Other issues raised by the attendees included:

- passing lane at Tap Hill and grade related issues at Tap Hill
- in the future there may be an overtaking lane every 20 kilometres
- overtaking lanes on the flat sections as well as inclines
- separation of traffic
- round about at Coonabarabran
- long term vision for the modern road train
- west of the Newell B-triples
- Triples and quads in Trangie
- Government support for productivity and safety – a 1% improvement = \$2 billion
- lights at the intersection of the Newell & Mitchell Hwy
- LH Ford bridge there may be better alternatives and routes
- West Wyalong heavy vehicle bypass and the intersection treatment at the Newell and Mid Western Highways to the west of West Wyalong.

## **7. Newell Highway Promotions Committee Update**

Jeff provided an update on the following Newell Highway promotions activities:

- There will be a second Greg Grainger Travel OZ television segment involving Shepparton, Narrandera and the Bland Shire.
- The Newell Highway website has been updated and is mobile friendly and includes videos and distance calculator etc.
- The committee is looking at producing a map of the Newell Highway and will be looking at sponsors to come on board.
- The Newell Highway brochure is being well received at the caravan and camping shows.

## **8. General Business**

The Newell Highway Corridor Strategy will be released at the Parkes Shire Council Chambers on Wednesday 20 May.

## **9. Review of the Newell Highway Task Force Strategy Visions Three & Four**

The NHTF discussed Vision Three: Network-friendliness. A highway that forms part of a transport network possessing intermodal linkages and no bottleneck.

Following discussions it was decided to include:

- To mitigate the effect of flooding on the Newell and feeder routes.
- Consider alternate routes be investigated in times of flooding.

The NHTF were happy with Vision Four: The Visitor Economy. A tourism-friendly highway of choice.

Free camping and RV Friendly towns and RV Friendly caravan parks.

## **10. Next meeting, date and venue**

Tuesday 11 August in Moree at 9:30am for a 10:00am start.

Meeting Closed 10:35am



**Minutes of  
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils Inc.  
Ordinary Meeting  
Friday 8 May 2015  
Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers,  
Station Street,  
Quirindi**

**The meeting commenced at 9 30am**

**Attendance**

Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council (Chair)
Cr Chris Connor	Wollongong City Council (Deputy Chair)
Mr Steve Loane	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Mr Ron Zwicker	Wollongong City Council
Cr Sharon Wilcox	Cabonne Shire Council
M/S Heather Nicholls	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Cr Catherine Collyer	Narrabri Shire Council
Mr Glenn Inglis	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Owen Hasler	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Eric Groth	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Paul Hawker	Campbelltown City Council
Mr Anthony Spooner	Campbelltown City Council
Mr Greg Lamont	Narromine Shire Council
Cr Tony Ellis	Narromine Shire Council
Cr John Martin OAM	Singleton Council
Cr Hollee Jenkins	Singleton Council
Cr Scott Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council
M/S Rebecca Ryan	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Michael Banasik	Wollondilly Shire Council
Mr David Henry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Col Stewart	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Mr Ron VanKatwyk	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Jim Nolan	Broken Hill City Council

**Staff**

Mr Don Tydd	Executive Officer
M/S Julie Goodwin	Accounts Administrator



## **Apologies**

Cr Lilliane Brady (OAM)	Cobar Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
Mr Garry Woodman	Cobar Shire Council
Cr Col Mitchell	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Hans Allgayer	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Brad Cam	Mid Western Regional Council
Cr Des Kennedy	Mid Western Regional Council
Cr Peter Bishop	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Cr Niel Pokoney	Bland Shire Council
Cr Leeanne Hampton	Bland Shire Council
Cr Robyn Faber	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Jeff Maybury	Cessnock City Council
Cr Don McKinnon	Wentworth Shire Council
Mr Peter Kozlowski	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr Michael Greenwood	Parkes Shire Council
Cr Gordon Bradbery	Wollongong City Council

### **1. Mayoral Welcome to Liverpool Plains Shire**

Chair Councillor Peter Shinton asked the Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Mayor, Councillor Andrew Hope, to formally welcome delegates to the Shire.

Cr Hope welcomed delegates and also recorded his thanks to Councillor Col Stewart for representing Liverpool Plains Shire Council as its delegate to the Association.

### **2. Apologies**

13/2015 Resolved that the apologies be received and noted.

(Cr Jenkins/ Cr Wilcox)

### **3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests**

Delegates now disclose any pecuniary interests and reasons for declaring such interests in the matters under consideration at the meeting.

Mr Ron Zwicker declared an interest due to holding shares in a CSG company.



#### **4. Adoption of Minutes, Ordinary Meeting held in the Parkes Room, Level 47 MLC Centre, Martin Place, Sydney Thursday 12 February 2015.**

14 /2015 Resolved that minutes of the Association's Ordinary Meeting held in Parkes Room, Level 47, MLC Centre, Martin Place Sydney on Thursday 12 February 2015 be received and noted.

(Cr Wilcox/ Cr McGlynn)

#### **5.Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

#### **6. Recommendations – Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2015**

15/2015 Resolved that Recommendations (as a whole) be received and noted.

(Cr Hasler/Cr Wilcox)

##### **6.1 Fly In- Fly Out Enquiry**

16/2015 Resolved :

1. The Association write to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Honourable Warren Truss MP, requesting that the current government consider and adopt the recommendations of the Fly In – Fly Out Enquiry ,
2. The Association provide written support to Gunnedah Shire Council for its motion in relation to this matter and which is to be tabled at the 2015 National Assembly of Local Government and,
3. Encourage member councils to support the Gunnedah Shire Council's motion at the National Conference in relation to Fly In- Fly Out employment management practices.

(Cr Wilcox/Cr Hawker)

##### **6.2 Request to State Government to Review Current Mining Rate Methodology and Classification**

17/2015 Resolved the following Ministers be invited to the August 2015 Association meeting to be held in Sydney:



- The Honourable John Barilaro, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills and Minister for Small Business
- The Honourable Anthony Roberts, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy
- The Honourable Rob Stokes, Minister for Planning
- The Honourable Paul Toole, Minister for Local Government

(Cr Hasler/ Cr Collyer)

### **6.3 . Consideration of the Appointment of an Environmental Expert Panel to Assist the Association in Decision Making**

18/2015 Resolved:

1. The Executive Officer assisted by Mr Greg Lamont and Mr Ron Zwicker prepare a matrix and associated list of individuals and companies that have provided an expression of interest and,
2. The matrix and list (also showing Executive Committee members' current preferences) be further reviewed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee to be held on Thursday 30 July 2015 for final recommendations to the Association's ordinary meeting to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

(Cr Hasler Cr Wilcox)

### **6.4 Voting System for The Association's Annual Elections.**

19/2015 Resolved:

1. the Executive Committee continue to consider the draft constitutional changes for voting and draft policy for voting systems and,
2. Place a recommendation as to these two items for consideration at a special meeting to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

(Cr Wilcox/ S Loane)

### **6.5. Local Government NSW 2015 Conference**

20/2015 Resolved the Association be represented at this year's Local Government NSW Annual Conference. Further, a request be made to the conference organisers that an Association representative be given an opportunity to make a short presentation on the organisation's activities.

(Cr S Wilcox/Cr J Martin)





## **6.6 Financial Statements**

21/2015 Resolved financial statements for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 be received and noted.

(Cr S Wilcox/G Lamont)

## **7. Notices of Motion – Narrabri Shire Council**

### **7.1 Mine Rating Income**

The NSW Government is committed to a review of the NSW rating system as prescribed in the Local Government Act 1993. The Government will in the coming months commission IPART to conduct the review. The recommendations of IPART will be considered and any recommended changes adopted by the NSW Government will be incorporated into the rewrite of the Local Government Act in early 2016.

This IPART review provides an opportunity to independently examine the matter of excluding mines rating income from the notional general income yield calculation.

### **Recommendation**

That the Association of Mining Related Councils write to the Minister for Local Government requesting that the Terms of Reference for the rating review include provisions to examine the removal of mine rating income from the notional general income yield calculations

### **Further Comment**

Cr Hawker advised that from his discussions within Local Government NSW that the rewrite of the Local Government Act may be delayed beyond October 2015. Cr McGlynn commented on Bland Shire Council's present rating policies. Cr Martin spoke on the importance of having the "rating mix" in correct proportions.



22/2015 Resolved the Association of Mining Related Councils write to the Minister for Local Government requesting that the Terms of Reference for the rating review includes provisions to examine the removal of mine rating income from the notional general income yield calculation.

## **7.2 Air Quality Monitoring System**

The NSW Government has failed to implement the regional air quality monitoring system in the Gunnedah Coal Basin.

The commitment by the NSW Government to install the system formed part of the PAC approval for the Maules Creek Coal Mine Project resulting from a recommendation of the Strategic Regional Land Use Plan for the New England North West.

### **Recommendation**

That the Association of Mining Related Councils write to the Minister for the Environment seeking an urgent response as to why the air quality monitoring system has not been implemented in the Gunnedah Coal Basin.

### **Further Comment**

Cr Hasler spoke to the motion and gave further details in relation to the present situation for the introduction of air quality monitoring equipment in the Gunnedah Coal Basin.

23/2015 Resolved the Association of Mining Related Councils seek a meeting with the Minister for the Environment as to why the air quality monitoring system has not been installed in the Gunnedah Coal Basin.  
(Cr Collyer/ Cr Hawker)

## **8. Executive Officer's Report**

24/2015 Resolved the Executive Officer's Report be received and noted.  
(Cr Connor. Cr Wilcox)



## 9. Guest Speakers

The meeting was adjourned at 10.10am to allow delegates to hear presentations by invited guest speakers.

### 9.1 M/S Alison Frame and M/S Meagan Kanaley- Department of Planning and Environment

Following a welcome by the Chair, M/s Frame opened the session by providing a presentation on planning agreements.

#### Discussion Points

- The Department was continuing to embrace change under new senior management and the recently appointed Minister (the Honourable Rob Stoakes MP) who was very interested in his role and that of the Department in environmental and planning matters. This included a more proactive approach to council issues. The Department hoped to finalise outstanding mining policy issues by 30 June 2015.
- The new Minister has a “community focus” in his beliefs and a single focus on how policy will impact on people particularly the vulnerable in our society.  
NB. M/S Frame answered delegate’s questions and comments on a continuing basis during her presentation.
- M/s Frame spoke on the draft document relating to planning agreements. It was noted that to allow changes under the present legislation, the reference had to be to “Planning Agreements” and not as commonly known as “Voluntary Planning Agreements”.

**NB a copy of the Department’s draft document relating to planning agreements was distributed to delegates and also sent to all delegates electronically during M/S Frame’s presentation.**

- She urged member councils to seriously engage with the Department on the draft document.
- M/s Kanaley also spoke on the need for councils to engage with the Department on the draft document and also advised there was a necessity to keep it to 8 -10 pages.



## Delegates Comments and Further Discussions

- Consultations involving councils with new mining developments needed to be early and with the developers not the later operating companies.
- IPART is still considered the most appropriate arbitrator where parties cannot agree on issues surrounding a planning agreement.
- Planning agreements should remain with the land or mine owner and be a condition of consent.
- What is the situation is a mine closes? Can a planning agreement be registered on the land title? Department to investigate this matter.
- A critical factor with planning agreements is when they are to be executed- a definite time frame was essential. When does a project actually “commence”. Differences of opinions on this issue between developers and councils.
- If Section 94 contributions were available or, known grants from the Resources for Regions program, planning agreements would not be necessary. There needed to be some clarification on this issue.
- Roads were a critical issue involving mining developments particularly related dust. (NB the Department would like member councils’ clarification on this matter).
- There was a problem in proving (despite local knowledge) that mining developments were contributing to problems with local roads including dust.
- The Department view was councils need to investigate at the earliest opportunity if infrastructure improvements are necessary.
- The matter of development application fees being shared with councils- there were legal constraints within the present framework.
- The matter of council’s strategic plans in planning agreements to be investigated by the Department following input from delegates/councils.
- It was noted the importance of identifying future issues that may be relevant when mining development comes to a local government area.



Delegates congratulated M/S Frame and M/S Kanaley on the progress made with the matter of planning agreements. In further discussion, M/S Frame indicated the new guidelines would be introduced as soon as possible after 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015. She urged delegates and their councils to provide feedback on the proposed guidelines. Comments could be e mailed to her or she could be contacted by telephone on 9228 6203.

Councillor Shinton thanked M/s Frame and M/S Kanaley for making the time available to attend today's meeting.

## **9.2 Councillor Conrad Bolton (Deputy Chair) and Mr Steve Bartlett (Executive Officer) from the Namoi Group of Councils.**

At 11.15am, the Chair welcomed Councillor Bolton and Mr Bartlett to the meeting. Councillor Bolton spoke on the Namoi Group's experience with the new Joint Organisation (JO) initiative under current reform of local government in NSW.

Councillor Connor spoke on the development of a JO in the Illawarra region.

Mr Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager, Narrabri Shire Council and former member of the Independent Local Government Review Panel was asked by Councillor Bolton to provide background to the development of JOS.

Mr Inglis in his presentation emphasised the need for councils in any JO to interact as part of a larger strategic plan for local government. There was a need for regional leadership and regional advocacy. There was need for legislation to ensure there was wider local government involvement in economic and infrastructure planning.

JOS gave the ability for local councils to raise issues and have them brought to the attention of government departments.

Mr Barlett in his presentation gave background on the development of the original Namoi ROC and its development as a JO. Its core functions were being established within the proposed model. There was a shared service component and the opportunity for the JO to have an economic focus.

Legislative change was needed to formalise the model and this is expected by March 2016.



In his conclusion to his presentation, Councillor Bolton spoke on the need to identify a region for the successful operations of a JO and the need for the organisations strategic plan to incorporate local plans. This process for the Namoi Group was underway including data from other government Authorities/Departments. There was continuing contact with Treasury on the organisation's development.

The Chair thanked Councillor Bolton, Mr Bartlett and Mr Inglis for their presentations.

### **9.3 M/S Allison McGaffin and Mr Geoff Wise - Western NSW Sector Performance Group**

The Chair welcomed M/S McGaffin and Mr Wise to the meeting.

Mr Wise in his presentation outlined his role as the independent Chair and keeping the various meeting participants (including local government, state departments and mining industry) focussed on the issues. The intention was to have improvements in social and economic benefits from the mining industry. The aim of the group was also to assist western councils that lacked resources to address current issues.

M/s McGaffin in her presentation provided a background to her role with the Group.

- She had been appointed the Regional Coordinator for the group which had arose from discussions around a regional action plan to assist with the positive aspects of mining in western NSW.
- Issues included housing, job creation, skills development and infrastructure development. What are the opportunities and how are they captured?
- In western NSW immediate impact areas were identified and where there were pressure on local communities. There was a varied preparedness of local councils to address these issues.
- Five council areas are initially involved: Bogan Shire, Balranald Shire, Blayney Shire, Broken Hill City and Narrabri Shire. Each council had a different set of needs and level of resources to address those needs.



- REM Plan had been utilised to assess impact of services - reports had been completed.
- Some resources had been provided to western councils an example being the provision of a planner from the Department of Planning and Environment.
- The role of the Group was to link councils and share experiences.
- The Group also had a role in planning for mining expansion and use of the Dubbo City Council REM plan in related decisions. Also cooperation at the sub regional level (Gunnedah Shire Council, Narrabri Shire Council and Liverpool Plains Shire Council). Related reports have been completed.
- The Group's reports were provided to Cabinet. The Group's future role would be subject to advice from the recently elected NSW government.
- The Group's activities allowed a study of relationships between the mining industry and western communities. Such issues as rating, and infrastructure planning were under investigation involving two months' work.
- The Group had provided valuable information for government for the planning of services in western NSW.

Delegates made comment of M/s McGaffin's presentation and asked questions as to the operation of the Group. In reply, M/S McGaffin indicated the Group could assist the Department of Environment and Planning on proposed planning agreements. Mr Wise commented that the Group had made progress in getting state government agencies to communicate.

The previous time frame for operation of the Group was two years but had been given an extension of a further six months.

On the question of whether councils had been receiving information on the Group's activities it appeared this was not occurring. It was agreed that the Group and the Association would exchange information of their activities.

The Chair thanked Mr Wise and M/s McGaffin for their presentations.



## 10. General Business

### 10.1 Gunnedah Shire Council- Fly In – Fly Out motion for National Local Government Conference

Councillor Hasler advised copies of Gunnedah Shire Council's motion were available for member councils attending the National Conference.

### 10.2 Western NSW Section Performance and Coordination Group

Geoff Wise asked if any member councils had any comments on the operation of the group.

Councillor Bolton on behalf of the Namoi Group of Councils generally supported the Group's activities although there were some issues arising from its confidential operations.

Steve Barlett on behalf of the Namoi Group of Councils advised his organisation has had positive experiences with the western Group. He believed the interaction would assist the operations of the JO when established including the involvement of state agencies.

Steve Loane commented that any JO needed local plans to be incorporated.

Councillor Collyer asked about the importance of the REM plan. Allison McGaffin advised the plan was of value and state agencies supported its use.

There being no further businesses, the meeting concluded at 12 20pm.

**The Minutes (Pages 1 to 12) were confirmed at a meeting held on Thursday 13 August 2015 and are a true and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on Friday 8 May 2015.**

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**Cr Peter Shinton  
Chairperson**



## SECTION 2 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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### 9.1 Better Practice Review – Action Plan Progress Report – August 2015

*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:** General Manager

**Officer's Recommendation:**

**That the progress report on the implementation of the Better Practice Review Action Plan be received and noted.**

**Introduction**

Councillors will be aware of the Better Practice Review that was undertaken by the NSW OLG in May 2014 which was a review of council's current practices and procedures. Arising from the Final Report was an Action Plan where 15 areas were identified for further development with only 6 areas with a high priority, 7 areas with a medium priority and 2 areas with a low priority.

A copy of the Action Plan, with details of implemented actions to date, is attached to this report.

**Conclusion**

The majority of 'high priority' tasks have either been acted on or are in hand with all other tasks being addressed accordingly.

**Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications associated with the implementation of the action plan as recommended by the OLG.

## 10. AREAS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT - ACTION PLAN

The following Action Plan should be utilised by the Council to guide the implementation and monitoring of agreed actions to address areas for further development identified during the Promoting Better Practice review.

### Civic Leadership and Organisational Governance

Area for Further Development	Priority	Action Proposed	Time Frame	Responsibility	Progress Report
1. Development of a councillor learning and professional development strategy which is funded and incorporated within the Delivery Program	Medium	<p>Create a register for recording all councillors training attendance.</p> <p>Undertake a training needs analysis and develop plan and budget.</p> <p>Identify training opportunities and make available.</p> <p>Allocate and plan for council elections in 2016/17 year.</p>	June 2015	General Manager	<p><i>A register has been established commencing 1 July 2015.</i></p> <p><i>The training needs analysis will be undertaken from July to September 2015.</i></p> <p><i>GM to submit details to council as opportunities arise.</i></p> <p><i>There will be a budget allocation and planning will commence in conjunction with any outcome from the Fit for the Future assessment.</i></p>
2. Opportunities for councillors to strengthen their understanding of the role and function of the I P & R suite of documents.	High	<p>Internal Council Workshop and discussions.</p> <p>External training opportunities identified.</p> <p>Investigate mentor program with other councils.</p>	March 2015	General Manager	<p><i>This will form part of the budget workshop scheduled for 14 April 2015.</i></p> <p><i>As and when they arise.</i></p> <p><i>It was agreed that no further action be taken until the outcome of the Fit for the Future is known.</i></p>

3. The council may consider reinvigorating its City / Country drought support relationship with Ku-ring-gai council to follow up on staff development opportunities and other benefits to the council.	<b>Low</b>	Review arrangements and determine options.  Identify other opportunities if required.	January 2015	General Manager	<i>It was agreed that no further action be taken on this matter.  As and when they arise.</i>
4. Effectiveness of Council communications, particularly with the community, should be monitored and measured to inform future revisions of the communications plan.	<b>Medium</b>	Communications plan to be reviewed in 2015.  Identify measures and develop process.  Community survey to be undertaken in 2015/16 and will include communication component.	December 2015	Director Corporate Community & Development Services	<i>Model Engagement Strategy developed including measures and processes.  Communications plan to be reviewed in 2015.  Community Survey included in 2015/16 draft budget</i>
5. Address outstanding risk management activities as a priority.	<b>High</b>	Recruit staff to Risk Manager Advisor position.  Identify priorities and action.	December 2015  December 2015	Director Asset & Engineering Services	<i>WHS and Risk Assistant is working through the risks and identifying areas for action.  First priority is satisfying Statewide that the risks they perceive are adequately covered by Council. Second priority is to review existing Risk Plans.</i>
6. Review the internal audit committee structure to include external representation.	<b>Medium</b>	Investigate options including REROC participation.  Appointment of external member.  Review internal audit committee structure.	July 2015	General Manager	<i>Internal Audit Committee is now meeting quarterly.  An Independent member has been appointed. (Ken Crofts) A review of the IAC structure will be undertaken after 12 months operation.</i>

7. Update the Delegations register to reflect the recent restructure.	<b>High</b>	Finalise staff structure.  Review existing delegations to staff.  Develop a system and Register.  Issue delegations to affected staff.	March 2015	General Manager	<i>Staff structure has been finalised.</i>  <i>The delegations Register has been reviewed and updated.</i>  <i>A process to ensure delegations are up to date is being devised.</i>  <i>The revised delegations have been issued to staff.</i>
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### Strategic Community Planning

Area for Further Development	Priority	Action Proposed	Time Frame	Responsibility	Progress Report
8. Prepare plans of management for all community land.	<b>Medium</b>	Identify relevant land.  Liaise with relevant stakeholders.  Develop plans.	<b>June 2016</b> This is a huge task requiring significant resources and a more realistic time Frame would be <b>June 2017.</b>	Director Assets & Engineering Services	<i>Sewer and Reticulation completed. Others in various draft stages. The completion will accelerate with the filling of vacant positions.</i>
9. Address agricultural and mining employment issues in future iterations of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery program, and consider more broadly the social and other impacts of the eventual mine closure.	<b>High</b>	Establish committee and terms of reference.  Develop responses to Barrick Impact Assessment report.  Liaise with stakeholders.	June 2015	General Manager	<i>Committee and terms of Reference have been established.</i>  <i>Appropriate responses are being formulated.</i>  <i>As part of the community engagement strategy.</i>

		Incorporate into 2016 Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.			<i>This will occur as part of the preparation / review of Council's CSP.</i>
10. Consider the development of a Tourism and Economic Development Strategy to support the achievement of the Community Strategic Plan (or incorporate such strategies into future iterations of the Community Strategic Plans).	<b>High</b>	Progress short, medium and long term plans.  Liaise with community and other stakeholders.  Incorporate into 2016 Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.	December 2014	General Manager	<i>Draft strategic plans are being prepared.</i>  <i>This is occurring on a regular basis.</i>  <i>This will occur as part of the preparation / review of Council's CSP.</i>

#### Resourcing the Plans to Achieve Financial Sustainability

<b>Area for Further Development</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Action Proposed</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Progress Report</b>
11. The Long Term Financial Plan needs to be revised to forecast a financially sustainable future.	<b>High</b>	Review depreciation rates for the council's assets.  Council consideration of fees and charges for use of facilities.  Review of service levels.	June 2015	Director Corporate Community & Development Services	<i>Depreciation being reviewed in conjunction with revaluations and auditor recommendations</i>  <i>Fees and charges being reviewed in budget process.</i>  <i>Service levels being reviewed in line with available funds.</i>

12. The council should adopt a Borrowing Policy and incorporate it into the Long term financial Plan.	<b>Medium</b>	Develop borrowing policy and procedure.  Incorporate into the 2015 review of the Long term financial Plan.	January 2015	Director Corporate Community & Development Services	<i>Borrowing policy has been adopted by Council.</i>  <i>Proposed borrowing will be incorporated in LTFP as required.</i>
13. Review the practice of transferring funds from the operational budget to reserves.	<b>Medium</b>	Review process.  Liaise with councillors and staff.	June 2015	Director Corporate Community & Development Services	<i>Practice to be reviewed in line with budget deliberations.</i>
14. The council is encouraged to progress its succession planning, particularly in relation to the identified key positions.	<b>Medium</b>	Identify key positions.  Complete risk matrix.  Collate information and develop plan.	June 2015	General Manager	<i>Key positions have been identified.</i> <i>The risk matrix has been completed.</i> <i>A succession plan has been developed.</i>

### Delivering Services to the Community

Area for Further Development	Priority	Action Proposed	Time Frame	Responsibility	Progress Report
15. Consider the introduction of a formal monitoring and evaluation process for resource sharing arrangements.	<b>Low</b>	Identify arrangements. Liaise with stakeholders. Develop process and agreements.	January 2016	General Manager	<i>REROC has produced an updated publication that identifies all of the resource sharing opportunities taking over the past 10 years.</i>

## 9.2 Disclosure Of Interest Returns

*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 Councillors note the Disclosure of Interest return requirements and accept the Disclosure of Interest Register as tabled.**

### **Background**

Pecuniary Interest Returns for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 are due for submission to Council by 30 September 2015 for Councillors and designated persons who held office at 30 June 2015.

At the time of completing this report all returns, with the exception of Mr Lindsay Moore as he is currently overseas, have been completed and the Disclosure of Interest Register is tabled for Council's information.

### **Legal Statutory Implications**

Under Section 451 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 a councillor or designated person holding that position at 30 June in any year must complete and lodge with the General Manager within 3 months after that date a return in the form prescribed by the regulations.

## 9.3 Investigation Into Locations For A Visitor Information Centre (Revised)

*Our prosperity*

*Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future*

*Vision: Growing our population and jobs*

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

**Author:** General Manager

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That the following revised list of possible locations for a Visitor Information Centre is adopted and that the list be referred to the VIC Working Group for consideration.**

### **Introduction**

In accordance with a resolution of Council further investigations were undertaken to identify a suitable location for a Visitor Information Centre (VIC) and a subsequent report was submitted to the July Council meeting.

That report contained possible VIC locations and preliminary costings and council resolved to refer the entire list of locations to the working party that is being established to assist council in its deliberations on this matter.

Council will be well aware that the issue of identifying a suitable location for a VIC has been on the agenda of many meetings without any real progress being made. Council undertook a community survey which has complicated the situation given the varying interpretations of the survey results.

In view of council's inability to make a firm decision I am now endeavouring to provide some direction. I have shortlisted the following locations for further consideration knowing that there will still be some resistance from councillors and from certain sectors of the community. However, if council is to move forward with this project some hard decisions need to be taken.

Many of the suggested locations would have been cost prohibitive and for this reason have been eliminated.

I hold the view that the elected representatives are the 'decision makers' and the role of the staff is to present to the councillors as much information as possible in order for an informed decision to be made.

On this occasion, in my role as general manager, I am attempting to assist council by reducing the possible available options, by due process, and providing a short list of feasible locations.



I will be in a position to provide, to the working group, additional information on each site, particularly in relation to Cafe Peckish following a meeting later this week with the CEO of Kurrajong Waratah. However, I have provided some brief comments on each location in support of my choices for a suitable VIC location.

### **Possible Locations**

#### **Cafe Peckish**



There is potential to extend the existing facility in McCann Park. The current structure is on council owned land and therefore is in council ownership. There is also a possibility that the current tenants, Kurrajong Waratah, may be interested in managing a VIC in conjunction with the existing cafe. The location has the advantage of being adjacent to an existing park with a quality playground and public amenities and is also highly visible from the main road. There are issues to be addressed in relation to suitable parking and future road works.

#### **184 Main Street (Old Elders Building)**



This building is already in council's ownership, is located on the main road thus having high visibility and is in close proximity to many main street businesses. There are issues to be addressed in relation to suitable parking.

## Cooinda Reserve



This is obviously a 'green field' site bringing with it a range of additional challenges in relation to a suitable or purpose built facility.

The location has high visibility from the main road and ample parking.

The reserve, however, is subject to an aboriginal land claim.

## Attorney Generals House



Council has considered this location previously but there is still debate occurring on establishing 'Topy' as a cultural precinct and the location of a VIC in this area would certainly enhance that concept.

There are issues to be addressed in relation to suitable parking and it would require the purchase of the existing premises.

## Financial Implications

The allocated budget for this project currently stands at:

Staffing and fit out     \$150,000

Building modifications \$ 80,000 (As they relate to 184 Main Street)

Total amount to date   **\$230,000**

The preliminary costs referred to in the report to the July 2015 Council meeting are a good guide but are subject to change and variations and depending on the final location chosen there will more than likely need to be a review of the overall budget for this project.

### **Conclusion**

This has been a difficult task for council and given the mixed results of the survey and the fact that there are differing views within the community, it is obvious that whatever decision council makes will not please all of the stakeholders.

However, this is one of the roles of the elected representatives to make some hard decisions based on all of the information presented and based on what, as a councillor, you believe is best for the community.

This is not a time to be over influenced by a vocal minority.

## 9.4 Proposed Lease Of Council Car Park Adjacent To Bernardi's IGA Supermarket

*Our infrastructure*

*Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

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

*DP11.2 In collaboration with users and budgetary constraints provide facilities that are maintained to acceptable levels.*

**Author:** General Manager

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That the general manager be delegated authority to proceed with a lease of the council car park, bounded by Church Street, Barnado Street and White Tank Lane, to the Bernardi Group, on the following basis:**

- **The car park is to remain a 'public' car park**
- **The lease fee to be negotiated in the vicinity of \$1500.00 pa with annual CPI adjustments**
- **There be a clear delineation of maintenance responsibilities**
- **The current traffic plan is to be maintained**
- **The length of the lease to be between 10-20 years**
- **The lessee to take out adequate Public Liability Insurance**
- **The lessee to be responsible for all signage within the car park boundaries**

### **Introduction**

Council will be aware that the Bernardi Group have been interested in leasing the council car park, bounded by Church Street, Barnado Street and White Tank Lane, for quite some time and that council would consider such a lease if the Bernardi Group were to consider the installation of a shade structure over the majority of parking spaces.

A development application has now been approved, under delegated authority, for the construction of a shade structure for the entire length of the centre parking spaces. It is expected that this structure will be completed in time for this coming summer period.

In view of this it is reasonable for council to now consider entering into an appropriate lease for this facility based on the following:

- The car park is to remain a 'public' car park
- The lease fee to be negotiated in the vicinity of \$1500.00 pa with annual CPI adjustments
- There be a clear delineation of maintenance responsibilities
- The current traffic plan is to be maintained
- The length of the lease to be between 10-20 years
- The lessee to take out adequate Public Liability Insurance
- The lessee to be responsible for all signage within the car park boundaries

**Conclusion**

The lease by council of this car park will have a positive financial outcome, a reduction in staff time allocated to the maintenance of the facility while still providing public access at all times.

The Bernardi Group have been faithful to their undertaking to provide shade cover and overall the community will have a much improved facility

**Financial Implications**

The recommended lease fee of \$1500.00 per annum, with annual CPI adjustments, is considered fair and reasonable.

## SECTION 3 – CORPORATE, COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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### 9.5 Financial Statements – July 2015

*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 July, 2015
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 July to 31 July 2015, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$3,642,097.34

#### STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2015.

##### BANK BALANCES AS AT 31 JULY, 2015

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 1,842,246.61
BCard	\$ 15,990.00
	<b>\$ 1,858,236.61</b>
Invested Funds	
Fixed Deposits	\$12,500,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$ 1,273,519.87
	<b>\$13,773,519.87</b>
Net Balance	<b>\$15,631,756.48</b>
Percentage of investment to Net Balance	88.11%

**STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31.07.15**  
**SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING AUGUST 18, 2015**

Balance as at 01.07.15 \$495,504.10

**Add Receipts**

For month of July 2015 \$ 4,988,839.85

Includes

<b>Receipt Date.</b>	<b>Receipt Name</b>	<b>Received Total</b>
1/07/2015	Financial Assistance Grant (General Purpose)	\$1,914,652.00
1/07/2015	Financial Assistance Grant (Local Roads Component)	\$1,372,643.00
2/07/2015	Redeem Rural Bank Investment	\$1,000,000.00

**Less Payments**

For month of July 2015 \$3,642,097.34

Includes

<b>Payment Date.</b>	<b>Payee Name</b>	<b>Payment Total</b>
2/07/2015	Bank of Queensland Investment	\$1,000,000.00
9/07/2015	Statewide Mutual	\$385,978.37
29/07/2015	Town & Country Asphaltting Pty Ltd	\$570,064.00

Cash Balance \$ 1,842,246.61

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$ 350,000.00

## ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period July 01, 2015 to July 31, 2015.

I CERTIFY,

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

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Voucher No.s</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cheques	024599 - 024623	\$ 211,380.63
Auto-pay      Creditors	E005005 – E005292	\$2,983,612.66
Auto-pay      Payroll	05/07 – 26/07	\$ 418,872.09
July Bank Charges & Commission etc		\$1,322.38
Direct Debits	Repayments & Vehicle Lease	\$ 26,909.58
		<b>\$ 3,642,097.34</b>

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



**CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER**

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 18 August 2015, 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 \$ 3,642,097.34 was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 18 August 2015 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....  
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

Rating Year From  
1/07/2015

## Rates Financial Transaction Summary

Period Ending  
31/07/2015

	Period To Date					Year To Date				
	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total
** DEBIT **										
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78
Credit/Debit Allocation	\$92,609.14	\$0.00	\$20,146.87	\$0.00	\$112,756.01	\$92,609.14	\$0.00	\$20,146.87	\$0.00	\$112,756.01
Fees (i.e. Legal or Dishonour)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,477.60	\$0.00	\$4,477.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,477.60	\$0.00	\$4,477.60
Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,442.23	\$2,173.36	\$5,615.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,442.23	\$2,173.36	\$5,615.59
Advalorem Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25
Base Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441,106.53	\$0.00	\$441,106.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441,106.53	\$0.00	\$441,106.53
Service Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00
Supplementary Levy	\$249.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$249.49	\$249.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$249.49
Transfer within Module	\$1,189.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,189.13	\$1,189.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,189.13
<b>Total</b>	\$94,047.76	\$0.00	\$8,348,800.48	\$2,173.36	\$8,445,021.60	\$648,273.54	\$0.00	\$8,348,800.48	\$2,173.36	\$8,999,247.38
** CREDIT **										
Credit/Debit Allocation	-\$394.37	\$0.00	-\$112,336.71	-\$24.93	-\$112,756.01	-\$394.37	\$0.00	-\$112,336.71	-\$24.93	-\$112,756.01
Supplementary Levy	-\$589.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$589.80	-\$589.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$589.80
Pensioner Rebate Government	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$124,517.89	\$0.00	-\$124,517.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$124,517.89	\$0.00	-\$124,517.89
Pension Rebate Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$36,647.80	\$0.00	-\$36,647.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$36,647.80	\$0.00	-\$36,647.80
Receipt via other Agencies	-\$3,697.75	\$0.00	-\$3,206.03	-\$1.14	-\$6,904.92	-\$3,697.75	\$0.00	-\$3,206.03	-\$1.14	-\$6,904.92
Receipt via Australia Post	-\$15,641.02	\$0.00	-\$1,708.99	-\$4.20	-\$17,354.21	-\$15,641.02	\$0.00	-\$3,010.64	-\$4.20	-\$18,655.86
Receipt via BPay	-\$40,289.90	\$0.00	-\$13,827.62	-\$14.52	-\$54,132.04	-\$40,289.90	\$0.00	-\$13,827.62	-\$14.52	-\$54,132.04
Receipt via Direct Deposit	-\$150.00	\$0.00	-\$825.00	\$0.00	-\$975.00	-\$150.00	\$0.00	-\$825.00	\$0.00	-\$975.00
Receipt	-\$36,489.87	\$0.00	-\$6,810.58	-\$32.75	-\$43,333.20	-\$36,489.87	\$0.00	-\$6,810.58	-\$32.75	-\$43,333.20
Receipt via Payroll	-\$337.43	\$0.00	-\$6,122.57	\$0.00	-\$6,460.00	-\$337.43	\$0.00	-\$6,122.57	\$0.00	-\$6,460.00
Transfer within Module	-\$1,189.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,189.13	-\$1,189.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,189.13
<b>Total</b>	-\$98,779.27	\$0.00	-\$306,003.19	-\$77.54	-\$404,860.00	-\$98,779.27	\$0.00	-\$307,304.84	-\$77.54	-\$406,161.65
<b>Group Total</b>	-\$4,731.51	\$0.00	\$8,042,797.29	\$2,095.82	\$8,040,161.60	\$549,494.27	\$0.00	\$8,041,495.64	\$2,095.82	\$8,593,085.73

### INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 31st July 2015. 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
02-July-2015	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	201 days	2.95%	19-January-2016
17-March-2015	ING Bank (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	185 Days	3.03%	14-September-2015
04-June-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 Days	2.95%	03-December-2015
01-May-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	185 Days	2.95%	02-November-2015
23-July-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 days	2.97%	22-January-2016
19-May-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,500,000.00	181 days	2.95%	16-November-2015
01-February-2015	Westpac (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.43%	01-August-2015
14-April-2015	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 days	2.95%	14-October-2015
31-March-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	184 days	3.00%	01-October-2015
26-May-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	150 days	3.00%	23-October-2015
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,724.37	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	1,222,795.50	Cash at Call		
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	13,773,519.87			

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

## 9.6 Alcohol Free Zone

*Our leadership*

*Setting a benchmark for community standards*

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

*DP18.1 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures*

*DP18.2 Council's plans, policies and documents continue to be put on effective public display for comment and feedback from the community.*

**Author:** Manager Development Services

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That Council resolve to establish an Alcohol Free Zone and place the current configuration on public exhibition for comment.**

### **Introduction**

Alcohol Free Zones (AFZ) have been in place in Wyalong and West Wyalong since 1994, and have been widely supported by the local police, business community and members of the public.

Section 644 of the Local Government Act 1993 enables Council to prepare a proposal for the establishment of an AFZ in accordance with the Act and any appropriate guidelines. The proposed AFZ may comprise either or both of the following:

- (a) A public road or part of a public road;
- (b) A public place that is a car park or part of a car park.

The proposal may provide for an Alcohol Free Zone to be established for a period of not exceeding four (4) years and for the zone to operate for the whole of that period or for days on which particular special events occur.

The time period for during which an Alcohol Free Zone operates cannot be extended and Council is required to establish a new Alcohol Free Zone which can be in the same configuration.

To establish an AFZ, Council must consult with the NSW Police and interested parties. This process requires that a notice is placed in a newspaper circulating in the area and a copy of the proposal is to be sent to the Police Local Area Commander, liquor licensees and secretaries of registered clubs whose premises border on, are adjacent to the proposed zone and invite representations or objections within 30 days from the date of sending a copy of the proposal.

At the conclusion of the consultation process, Council must then consider any representations, submissions or objections received. The proposal would then require a Council resolution to establish the Alcohol Free Zone.

**Conclusion**

It is proposed, initially to exhibit the existing Alcohol Free Zone. Once the consultation period has concluded it will be required to review any submissions received prior to adopting the proposal.

The proposed AFZ is the same as the current zoning.

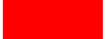

**Financial Implications**

To replace the existing signs with new signage would cost approximately \$3000.00. It is proposed to update the existing signs using adhesive labels to amend the operational dates. This option would cost between \$200.00 to \$300.00.

# ALCOHOL FREE ZONE - WEST WYALONG



## Alcohol Free Zone - West Wyalong

-  AFZ - Public Roads
-  AFZ - Public Carparks

# ALCOHOL FREE ZONE - WYALONG



## 9.7 Reg Rattey VC Memorial

*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:** Director Corporate, Community & Development Services

### **Officers Recommendation:**

**That the Council determine the successful artist from the shortlisted applicants of Artventure and Brett Garling to enable the artwork to be completed and installed by the opening scheduled for 9 April 2016.**

### **Introduction**

Based on a Council resolution to erect a memorial to honour VC recipient Reg Rattey, a Public Art Expression of Interest, Artist Briefing Document was advertised and released to the public by Bland Shire Council on 30 March 2015, with submission closing date of 15 May 2015.

Four (4) shortlisted artists met with the Director Corporate, Community & Development Services, Eastern Riverina Arts Advisor and two members of the Rattey family on Monday 22 June 2015 to further discuss their submission and investigate the site on which the memorial will be erected.

The shortlisted artists were then to submit their final proposal by 24 July 2015, with presentations of their design conducted on 29 July, attended by Carmel Barbary, Robert Rattey, Helen Rattey, Pam Butcher, Cr Liz McGlynn, Cr Kerry Keatley, Scott Howie (Eastern Riverina Arts) and Adele Casey.

On completion of the presentations the working group discussed each proposal and voted on their first and second options, with the result as follows:

1. Artventure
2. Brett Garling
3. Col Henry
4. Alan Somerville

Only one (1) vote separated the first and second proposals. The family indicated that Brett Garling's proposal was the favoured artwork.

### **Artventure**

The Artventure proposal is a reflective approach, projecting a modern interpretation of Mr Rattey VC and his heroic action. It was generally liked by the committee, ranking first in the vote. It was felt that the project has dignity and respect for the subject, is attractive to the eye and has potential for tourism by enticing people to stop, look and reflect on Mr Rattey VC and his story.



The proposed structure is to be constructed from treated steel (rust effect), to suggest the time passed, angled at 5-10 degrees representing the trees of the jungle, with minimal allusions to the vines that hang within the tropical forest. The centre shaft, made from either Glass or Polycarbonate will include Mr Rattey's story and portrait (content to be determined). The shaft represents the light – a beacon of inspiration – penetrating through the jungle.

The sheer size of the structure, 6.5m high by 5m, wide allows one to interact and move through the structure and ponder Mr Rattey VC, his act and by association, all who fought for their country.



### **Brett Garling**

Mr Garling's proposal is a life size bronze, showing Mr Rattey in action, Bren gun at the hip while poised to throw the grenade, elevated upon a plinth ensuring it is visible to passing traffic.

Mr Garling has modelled the artwork to capture the dynamic action of the events that earned Mr Rattey the VC award and will capture ones imagination and pay true, dignified memorial to Reg Rattey VC.

The proposal was generally liked by the committee, ranking second in the vote. It was felt that the project has dignity and shows reverence for the subject, is attractive to the eye and has potential for tourism by enticing people to stop, look and reflect on Mr Rattey VC and his story.



### **Conclusion**

The decision regarding the preferred artist will allow the successful applicant to complete the artwork in time for the opening scheduled for 9 April 2016.

### **Financial Implications**

Both of the preferred artworks will be completed within the \$80,000 allocated to the project excluding any options, but will allow for conduit and preparation for lighting to be installed at a later date.

## 9.8 Community Groups Assistance Grant – West Wyalong

*Our places*

*Where our sense of community shines*

*Vision: Providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy*

*7.4 Assist community groups to provide activities to the wider community*

**Author:** Community Development Officer

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That Council approve a Community Groups Assistance Grant of \$525 for the West Wyalong Bowling Club to assist with the cost of hosting the West Wyalong Women's Spring Carnival.**

### **Introduction**

The West Wyalong Bowling Club (WWBC) has applied for a Community Groups Assistance Grant to assist with the cost of hosting West Wyalong Women's Spring Carnival on 19 and 20 September 2015. It is expected that visiting teams will travel from as far as the ACT for the events, with 36 teams expected to take part. This event will inject money into the local economy, providing financial benefits to motels, restaurants and other local business within the community.

The event will provide affordable recreational activities for local players, who struggle to travel to major tournaments outside the area, promote social interaction opportunities and support the health and well-being of the participants. The event will strongly benefit local bowlers with successful events assisting to generate interest and activity within the Bowling Club, which is currently experiencing financial difficulties. It is further expected that the event will encourage visitors to return to our community in the future.

Funds requested from Council will be utilised for postage and printing costs, advertising, umpires travel and accommodation, scorers and green keepers fees. These events will be managed by the WWBC board and the West Wyalong Women's Bowling Club tournament committee.

### **Conclusion**

The Bowling tournaments will promote tourism within the community, and provide a source of social interaction and recreational activity for local and travellers alike. Local businesses will benefit from the influx of visitors, including local fuel stations, food outlets, hospitality outlets and motels. This request meets the objectives set out in Councils Community Strategic Plan. Council has provided similar financial support for this tournament in recent years.

### **Financial Implications**

Council has \$5000 available in its Community Groups Assistance grant fund.

## 9.9 Strengthening Communities Grant – Barmedman Show Society Inc

*Our places*

*Where our sense of community shines*

*Vision: Providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy*

*DP8.5 Assist Community groups to provide activities to the wider community*

**Author:** Community Relations Officer

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That Council determine its level of support for a Strengthening Communities application from the Barmedman Show Society to assist with the cost of children's entertainment and fireworks.**

### **Introduction**

The Barmedman Show Society has applied for a Strengthening Communities grant to assist with the costs of providing entertainment for the annual Barmedman Show. The Show Society aims to provide a family friendly event which celebrates Barmedman's agricultural heritage and brings the community together.

The Show Society has applied to Council for a \$3000 grant to assist with the cost of providing children's entertainment, including an evening fireworks display. The Show Society advise that the costs of providing children's entertainment are not covered by admission fees and are provided free of charge to ensure they are accessible to all residents regardless of their socio-economic status.

According to the application, the grant will help cover the costs of evening fireworks (\$3000), two jumping castles (\$550), Show bag giveaways (\$400), lucky dip purchases (\$100), lighting for the kids area (\$300), surfacing for the kids area (\$600), fencing for the kids area (\$50), face painting (\$50) and miscellaneous entertainment (\$300) totalling \$5350, meaning the grant request is 56% of the estimated costs.

Based on figures from previous years, the Show Society is anticipating attendance of more than 200 people, including past and present rural and village residents.

### **Conclusion**

Council provided Strengthening Communities grant funding of \$1500 in 2013 and \$3000 in 2014 toward the provision of children's entertainment, including fireworks, at the Barmedman Show. The application once again meets Council's Strengthening Communities grant guidelines.

### **Financial Implications**

Council has \$50000 available in its Strengthening Communities Grant fund.

## 9.10 Access Incentive Grant – House of Fashion

*Our people*

*Our greatest and most important asset*

*Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community*

*DP3.5 Implement and review recommendations contained in the community plan*

**Author:** Community Development Officer

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

**That Council approve an Access Incentive Grant application from House of Fashion for \$535 towards the purchase of a portable access ramp to be used at the premises**

### **Introduction**

House of Fashion has applied to Council for an Access Incentive Grant to assist with the purchase of a portable ramp to be used at the premises. The ramp is light weight, simple to use and provides a non slip grip to ensure it is safe in all weather conditions.

The proposal will facilitate improved access to the premises from the Main Street footpath for people who require the assistance of a mobility device, the elderly and parents/carers with prams. The ramps are portable and will be used only when access is required in and out of the store.

This proposal accords with the Access Incentive Scheme grant guidelines which notes that preference will be given to projects/applicants that:

o Clearly complement broader access objectives e.g. Improve access to Main Street of towns and villages within the Bland Shire.

House of Fashion has received a quote for the portable ramp of \$1070.

House of Fashion is seeking a grant from Council for half of the associated cost (\$535).

### **Conclusion**

The aim of the Access Incentive Scheme is to:

- Provide financial assistance to improve access to and within buildings in the Bland Shire
- Encourage the development of partnerships between local businesses, community organisations/services, local governments and the general public
- To encourage a greater awareness of access issues in the community.

The completion of the project will allow all community members and visitors to access the House of Fashion in a safe and comfortable manner.

### **Financial Implications**

Council's Access Incentive Scheme budget has a balance of \$15,000.

## **SECTION 4 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

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**Officer's Recommendation:**

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

- **9.11 - Asset & Engineering Services Report**
- **9.12 - Community Services Report**
- **9.13 - Children Services Monthly Update**
- **9.14 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update**
- **9.15 - Development Services Activities/Statistics for July 2015**
- **9.16 - Economic Development & Tourism Report – August**

## 9.11 Asset & 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. NATIONAL AND STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Routine maintenance as per single invitation contract carried out on MR57 South and SH17.
- Bitumen patching carried out on SH17.

#### 2. REGIONAL ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on MR231, MR398 and MR371.

#### 3. SHIRE ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on the following;
  - Bygoo Road
  - Lake Cowal Road
  - Quandialla Road
  - Kikoira Road
- Wet Grading
  - Youngareen Road
- Gravel Patching
  - Lake Cowal Road
- Guide posting has been done on a number of rural sealed roads, minor gravel patching and drainage works has been done on a number of unsealed roads within the shire.
- Linemarking has been completed on various rural sealed roads and town streets.
- The Calleen silo contract work for Graincorp top wearing course is in progress.

#### 4. MAINTENANCE GRADING

ROADS	WORK PERFORMED	LENGTH KM'S
Beaties Road	Form up	1
Overs Lane	Form up	0.5
Thulloo Road	Shoulders and Grade Road	7
Gibsonvale Road	Grade Road	11.58
Martens Lane	Form Up	3
Slattery's Lane	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	4.17
Worners Lane	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	5.09
Charcoal Tank Road	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	6.5
Youngareen Road	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	8.5
Monia Gap Road	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	10
Morris Lane	Grade Road/Table and Mitre Drains	4

**5. NOXIOUS WEEDS/ENVIRONMENTAL**

- National Tree Day plantings were undertaken in conjunction with Weethalle, Tallimba and Barmedman School students
- The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:
  - Vegetation control of tree saplings (Mulch) – Weethalle Township Hazard reduction, Kikoira Road, Buralyang Road, Wamboyne Road.
  - Roadside vegetation control of tree saplings (Spray) – Tallimba Road.
  - Roadside vegetation control of shoulders (Mow) – Aria Park Road, Brolga Road, Buralyang Road, Wamboyne Road, Blow Clear Road.
  - Prickly Pear – Wamboyne Road, Race Course Road, Barmedman Showground Road, Barmedman Landfill, Kikoira Landfill, West Wyalong – Condobolin Road, Goldfields Way, Old West Wyalong Landfill site, West Wyalong Gun Club, Airport Road, Coinda Park

**6. SEWERAGE TREATMENT WORKS – JULY, 2015**

Service Line Chokes – 11

Main Line Chokes – 3

**7. 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

**8. PARK MAINTENANCE**

- McCann park, Barnado park and small parks and areas mown, trimmed and maintained
- Council chambers and H.A.C.C Maintenance carried out
- Aerodrome Maintenance work carried out
- Barnado park has had water pipe line repairs carried out
- Annuals have been fertilised and sprayed for pest and disease in McCann, Barnado parks as well as main street and H.R building front
- Clean up at Parks and gardens depot
- McCann park prepared for Saturday markets

**9. 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
- Coinda park tree watering carried out
- Line marking for athletics, Australian rules, Rugby league, Rugby union and soccer completed
- Ovals and pump sheds irrigation checks carried out
- Tallimba line marking completed for athletics carnival



**10. TOWN MAINTENANCE**

- Main street gardens tidied, watered and replanted
- Star lane cleaned and tidied
- 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
- Water street car park maintenance
- Supplied traffic control for funerals and road works in town

## 9.12 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 Development Officer and Community Relations Officer

### **Community 'Ice' Forum**

Bland Shire Council held a Community 'Ice' Education Forum on Wednesday 22 July with over 220 community members packing out St Mary's School Hall for the event.

The idea of holding the forum was to educate and inform community members about the dangers associated with the drug methamphetamine/ice. It is well documented that the use and availability of ice in rural communities across the country is on the rise and is wreaking havoc on a number of regional areas. As such Council staff felt it was necessary to adopt a proactive stance in ensuring our community is aware of the drug and its effects on users, families and communities.

Presenting at the forum was a previous user, a Drug and Alcohol Clinician and the MML Clinical Nurse Consultant with Police and Ambulance staff also on hand to field any questions. A question and answer session was held following the presentations with a number of community members engaging all members of the panel.

Luke (the previous user) gave a very real account of his experiences with using ice and informed the community of his first hand experiences regarding using ice, the dangers associated with it and the impacts it has had on both himself and his family.



Following the success of the forum a number of follow up activities are planned for the future including the implementation of:

- Increased youth education around drugs and alcohol
- The initiation of the 'Friends program' being rolled out in Bland Shire Schools one day a week. The friends program is proven to be effective at building resilience and preventing/treating anxiety and depression in individuals and families of all ages. Specifically, the programs employ a positive psychology approach, focused on building strengths and promoting a healthy lifestyle (rather than on deficits and problems).
- The Other Talk program – A program encouraging Australian families/parents to talk openly about alcohol and other drugs with their children. It is planned that this program will be held in West Wyalong later in the year.

### **Walking Wounded**

Bland Shire Council was thrilled to partner with the Walking Wounded organisation to bring their Tribute to the ANZAC's event to the Bland Shire community. Walking Wounded is an organisation that supports the physical and psychological recovery of wounded Australian soldiers. They work to inspire and support those returning from war and the families of those soldiers that did not return home. The Community was thrilled to have the CEO Brian Freeman and members of their organisation here in West Wyalong as part of their seven-month, Great Australian Traverse in which they are carrying the Roll of Honour (Afghanistan) from Australia's most Northern to Southern points in a bid to raise funds and awareness for their cause. The Roll of Honour contains the names of the 41 Australian soldiers who have been killed in Afghanistan. The Roll of Honour is being carried on foot by Brian Freeman, a former Special Forces soldier and a veteran of the Australian Army with 20 years of service and the founder of the Walking Wounded organisation. Over 230 school students and community members attended the event which further included the mother of a fallen soldier speaking of her experiences and the impact that her son's death has had on herself and her family. This Traverse of Australia will see Brian and the team walk and run a massive 65km per day for 65 days. Along the way, the Roll of Honour (Afghanistan) will travel through 89 towns with West Wyalong lucky enough to have had Brian and the team stop here for the event. Following the formal proceedings, a BBQ lunch was provided by Bland Shire Council to all those who attended.



### **Bubble soccer**

After much anticipation, over 55 eager and energised local youth turned out for a fun filled afternoon of bubble soccer. The inclement weather conditions were no deterrent for those young people attending the event with all players engaging in a battle of the blue versus pink bubbles.

The event was hugely successful with fantastic feedback received from numerous participants and many requests that similar activities be held in the future. It was a great milestone for Council staff managing to engage 55 young people between the ages of 12 – 18 for the event, an age demographic that has been notoriously challenging to engage in the past.



### **Stress Less Workshop**

As part of the winter youth program Bland Shire Council held a Stress Less Workshop for teens with eight young people attending to brush up on their stress management techniques.

During the one hour session wellness Guru Barbra Elkins demonstrated some simple breathing techniques that are proven to assist with relaxation, reducing tension, and relieving stress and discussed some of the ways in which teens can recognise stress in themselves and how to manage it. The workshop offered a fantastic opportunity for those attending to learn some simple, timely and highly effective ways to manage stress and anxiety that will assist them in coping with exam stress and the pressures of school and studying in the future.

### **Astronomy**

Bland Shire Council partnered with Fizzics Education to host a highly popular and fully booked Astronomy Workshop on Tuesday 7 July. Luckily, the weather conditions were in our favour with the sky remaining clear allowing the 23 attendees and their families to observe the night sky through one of the 8 telescopes that were available for use. Those who attended were able to observe constellations and even get an up close and personal view of Jupiter and Venus.

### **Animation Workshop**

Council was thrilled to partner with Eastern Riverina Arts (ERA) to offer a 2 day Stop Motion Animation Workshop to local youth. It is fantastic that Council is able to partner with ERA to offer such wonderful and diverse opportunities that are otherwise unavailable on a local level. During the workshop participants learnt a range of stop motion animation techniques that can be used on IPads and/or smart phones before working together as a group to create a short music video clip. Great feedback was received from those attended.



### **Raise the Roof youth disco**

As a response to a direct request from the youth focus group that Council's Community Services staff have been working with, a youth disco was held at the Sports Stadium on Friday 3 July for High School aged students. As well as the dress up disco a photo booth with props was made available and a number of competitions occurred on the night including best dressed and best dancers. A great time was had by all who attended the event.



### **NRMA Safer Drivers**

Bland Shire Council hosted the ever popular NRMA Safer Drivers program on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 July. The fully booked program allowed 10 young Bland Shire residents the opportunity to improve their levels of safety when driving by learning how to manage on road safety risks, increasing their current driving skills and acquiring new ones through a combination of classroom learning and practical supervised instruction from a professional driving instructor. Those who attended gained vital knowledge and driving experience and had 20 driving hours deducted from the future log book requirements.

### **Triathlon**

Bland Shire Council is submitting a grant application through the Cowal Partnering Program (CPP) for financial support to hold a triathlon in West Wyalong early in 2016.

The application to the CPP is to provide seed funding to meet the initial expense of purchasing the resources required to hold a triathlon. Funding models prepared by Council staff suggest the event should be profitable by the second year with an opportunity for a community group to potentially take over the event as a major fundraiser.

Council has also made positive preliminary contact with organisers of the popular Riverina Triathlon Series with a view to having the West Wyalong event included as an official leg of the 2015-2016 series – which will ensure strong participation from across the region and beyond.

If the funding application is successful, the triathlon will be based around West Wyalong's showpiece Holland Park pool and deliver significant health and wellbeing and economic benefits to the Bland Shire.

### **Tree Day/Local Government Week**

Bland Shire Council took National Tree Day and Local Government Week celebrations on the road this year to reach out to village communities.

Individual events were held at Tallimba Public School, Weethalle Public School and Barmedman Public School with students actively participating in the planting of trees in their communities before enjoying a barbecue lunch and snacks provided by Bland Shire Council. The initiative was extremely well received with students and teachers grateful for the opportunity to participate and engage directly with Bland Shire Council.

A report in the West Wyalong Advocate, which was submitted by staff from Barmedman Public School read –

“Barmedman Public School students had a wonderful time planting trees with Bland Shire Council staff for National Tree Planting day. The students planted trees in the entry way to Barmedman as well as in and around the school grounds. They also enjoyed a yummy barbecue sizzle together with snacks provided by Bland Shire Council. They have thanked Council for a wonderful day and their very kind generosity.”

Further youth and community focused activities are planned for the villages later in the year.



## 9.13 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:** CSU Coordinators

### **Preschool**

Term 3 is a busy term at preschool, we are organising craft for the children to enter in the show as well as Father's day gifts. Staff are continuing to implement a fantastic school readiness program.

The Parent committee have conducted a "Movie Night" this term which was held on the 21 July, for all our children and their families. This was an extremely popular event with over 100 people attending. Educators have heard nothing but positive feedback from the event. The parent committee will also be organising the 2015 school photos which will take place Week 9 of this term.



The children have begun harvesting the winter veggie patch and have used this produce in the classroom making kale chips, spinach muffins, adding snow peas to our fruit platters and even taking home rosemary, parsley and basil. The veggie patch along with the worm farms and chooks are a fantastic opportunity for introducing the children to sustainable practices, which is extremely important in the Early Years Learning Framework.

Our preschool numbers remain healthy and full with a waiting list for our 3 year old classes.

### **Mobile Resource Unit**

#### **Playgroup**

Playgroup sessions recommenced after the school holidays as per schedule. The new cubby house has been installed at Ungarie and has proved very popular with the children.

### **Ungarie Preschool**

Numbers for Ungarie Preschool are currently stable with 14 enrolled. The children are currently planning for Father's day and preparing their entries for the Ungarie Show.

### **Vacation Care**

The Vacation Care service participated in the Assessment and Rating Program during the July holidays and received terrific results as follows:

QA1: Educational Program and practice – MEETING

QA2: Children's Health and safety – MEETING

QA3: Physical environment – MEETING

QA4: Staffing arrangements – MEETING

QA5: Relationships with children – EXCEEDING

QA6: Collaborative partnerships with families – MEETING

QA7: Leadership and service management - MEETING

This qualifies the Bland Shire Vacation Care service for an overall rating of 'MEETING' for the next three years.

The July program was quieter than usual with attendance numbers down but the highlights were the visit from 'Fizzics Education' – Science Show, Wagga Ten Pin Bowling and Temora Town Hall Cinema excursions.

### **Bland/Temora Family Day Care**

The Bland/Temora Family Day Care service was advised that they had been successful in gaining the funding for 2015-16. Fees and levies were also reviewed in accordance with Councils revenue policy to ensure that the service can remain financially sustainable into the future. Part of the funding application required support from other local services and feedback/surveys from families. The information from these surveys is being reviewed and to be included in the services quality improvement plans.

Fortnightly playgroups, monthly toy library services and monitoring visits were completed as per schedule.

The Coordination Staff organised for Asthma and Anaphylaxis training to be held both in West Wyalong and Temora for the educators to attend. This assisted them to meet the mandatory requirements for these qualifications.

### **It takes a village (ITAV)**

This month "It takes a village" (ITAV) visited Naradhan, Mirrool and Tallimba. At each venue ITAV set up a playgroup session. These sessions were aimed at children between the ages of 0 to 5 years old and included a focus on numeracy/literacy skills and transition to school support.

Unfortunately, the Mirrool session was cancelled due to very heavy rain causing nil attendance.

Annual reporting and survey commitments have been completed and submitted as required.



## 9.14 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: Senior Library Assistant

### **Riverina Regional Library Update**

Bland Shire Library recently hosted a visit from the Riverina Regional Library Management team (July 22) which was attended by library staff, GM Ray Smith, DCCDS Adele Casey, Cr Lord, Cr McGlynn, Cr Keatley and Cr Hampton. The library received very positive feedback from members of the RRL Management team.

### **Children's Book Week 22 – 28 August 2015**

Children's Book Week is shaping up to be a busy time for library staff with an overwhelming response to its Book Week Competitions and a large number of school groups scheduled to visit the library. A variety of activities have been planned for Book Week including the popular and highly anticipated Amazing Race. A Book @ Bedtime night-time event will be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 6 pm – 7 pm for 3 – 7 year olds.

### **YourTutor**

Bland Shire Library has renewed its subscription to the online tutoring service YourTutor. The service which operates from 3 pm - 10 pm Sunday to Friday (except national public holidays) gives students Yr 3 to TAFE, Uni foundation, continuing mature age and international students, free access to professional tutors to assist with homework and studies.

Recent statistics show that the service is being well utilised with positive feedback received from local teaching staff and HSC students. It should be noted that Riverina Regional Library does not subscribe to this service and YourTutor is only available to Bland Shire Library patrons via the Bland Shire Library webpage.

### **E-Library Resources**

As a member of the Riverina Regional Library network, Bland Shire Library patrons now have free access to a number of e-Library resources via the RRL website. In lieu of this, Bland Shire Library is committed to promoting these resources (listed below) to patrons.

- Freegal music – free access to MP3 music and music videos
- Beamafilm – free access to award winning documentaries and indie features
- Storybox – free access to stories for children
- PK Mag – free online magazine for creative kids primary school age
- SpineOut – interactive magazine written by youth for youth 12 – 18 year. They share their ideas and thoughts and their creativity in words, art, film or music.

### **Computer Usage**

Computer usage remains high with almost all public PCs in use from 3 pm – 5pm on any given week day due to after school activity. The library's Broadband for Seniors kiosk also continues to be well utilised during opening hours.

### **Knit and Natter**

The library's resident knitting group Knit and Natter continues to knit for a variety of charities (local, regional and State) with attendance remaining strong. It is anticipated that a display of their handiwork will be exhibited at the West Wyalong Show in September.

### **Day Book Club**

The library's Day Book Club which meets in the library the first Monday of each month is steadily growing with a number of new members.

### **Words Work**

Despite low numbers, members of the library's resident writers group Words Work remain optimistic, enthusiastic and proactive and continue to be supported by library staff.

### **Housebounds**

The library's home delivery service to patrons who are housebound due to a physical disability or age related condition continues to be well utilised.

### **Children's Programs**

- Baby Bounce is held fortnightly and continues to attract good numbers
- Storytime is held weekly with attendance remaining high
- Family Day Care storytime is held once a month and continues to be well supported
- Both the Preschool and Little Wattle continue to visit the library on a regular basis with a number of class visits scheduled in August
- Wyalong Public School's year 3 – 6 students continue to visit the library on a regular basis during school term with the primary aim of their visits being to familiarise students with the library's physical and online resources. Senior Library Assistant Cathy Lange is currently looking at extending this program to other local schools.

### **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

## 9.15 Development Services Activities/Statistics for July 2015

*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*

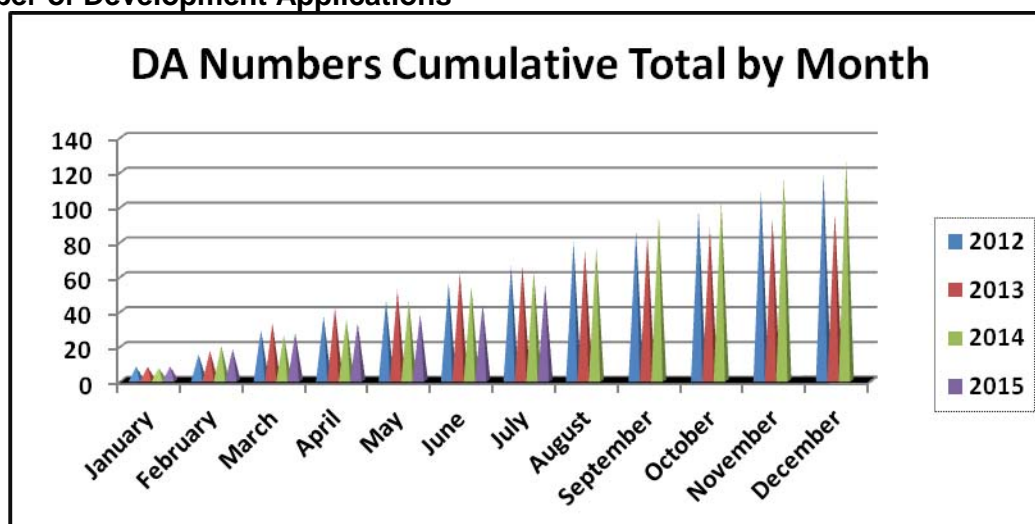
**Author:** Manager Development Services

### Development Applications

The value of development applications received by Council during July 2015 is detailed in the following table.

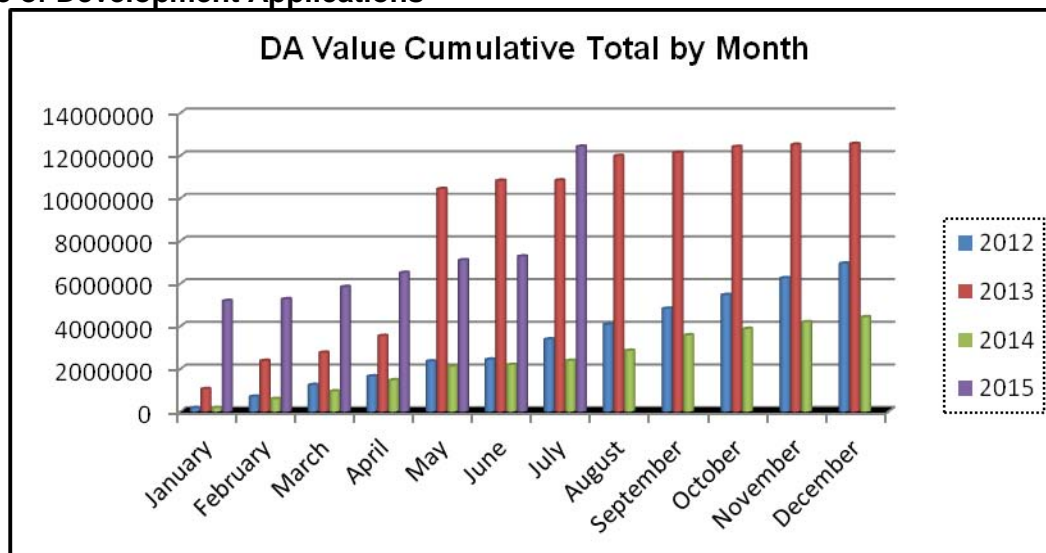
Development Type	Current Year			
	July 2015		Year to Date 1.01.15 30.06.15	
	Number	Value \$	Number	Value \$
Residential	4	73,800	28	1,864,410
Industrial	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Commercial	3	5,082,000	18	10,412,600
Rural Residential	Nil	Nil	1	150,000
Subdivisions	1	Nil	3	Nil
Other	3	Nil	5	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5,155,800</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>12,427,010</b>

### Number of Development Applications



This graph details the cumulative number of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2015.

## Value of Development Applications



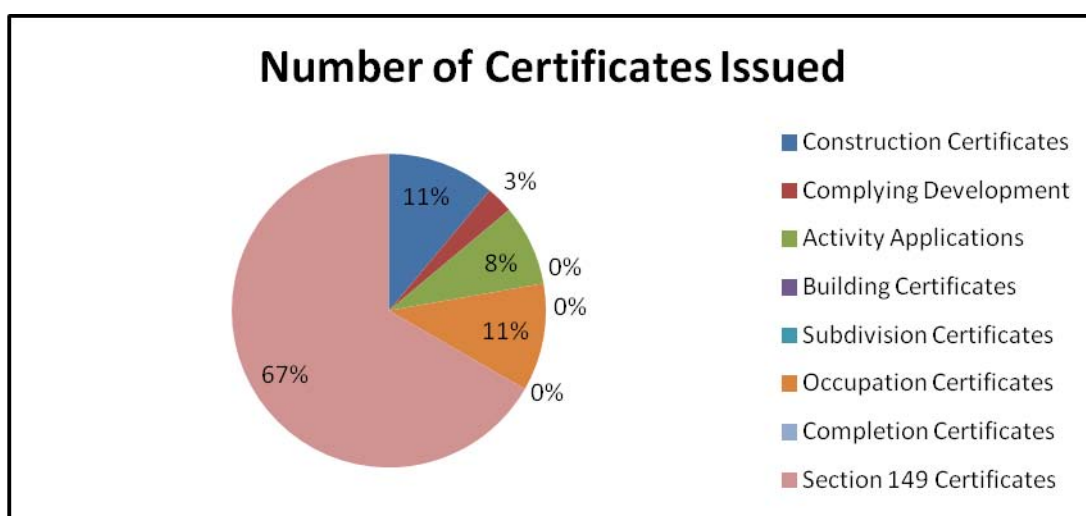
This graph details the cumulative value of development applications received by month comparing 2012 to 2015.

The following Development Applications were determined all by approval during July 2015:

App No.	Property	Development
DA/2015/098	246 – 248 Neeld Street, West Wyalong	Additions to a commercial premises
DA/2015/099	53 Wollongough Street, Ungarie	Installation of a manufactured home and a new double garage
DA2015/0104	12 – 20 Barnado Street, West Wyalong	Covered structure used for a carparking facility
DA2015/0106	78 Church Street, West Wyalong	Double garage and front brick fence
DA2015/0111	Adjacent to 138 Main Street, West Wyalong	Use of footpath for outdoor dining
DA2015/0112	Adjacent to 268 Neeld Street, West Wyalong	Use of footpath for an “A” frame advertising sign
DA2015/0114	Adjacent to 181 Main Street, West Wyalong	Use of footpath for an “A” frame advertising sign

## Certificates issued during July 2015:

Certificate Type	Number Issued
Construction Certificates	4
Complying Development Certificates	1
Activity Applications	3
Building Certificates	Nil
Subdivision Certificates	Nil
Occupation Certificates	4
Completion Certificates	Nil
Section 149 Certificates	24



## Public Health Activities Update

Food Shop Inspections Undertaken in July – Nil

- Number Compliant – Nil
- Number Non-compliant – Nil

No. of "I'm Alert Online Interactive Food Safety Program Users for July - 3 Total - 512

Swimming Pool Inspections Undertaken in July – Nil

- Number Compliant – Nil
- Number Non-compliant – Nil

In accordance with Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Policy these inspection have been carried out on rural properties – Quandialla / Naradhan / Weethalle / Ungarie. 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 – 31/7/2015

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	16/12/2014
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	

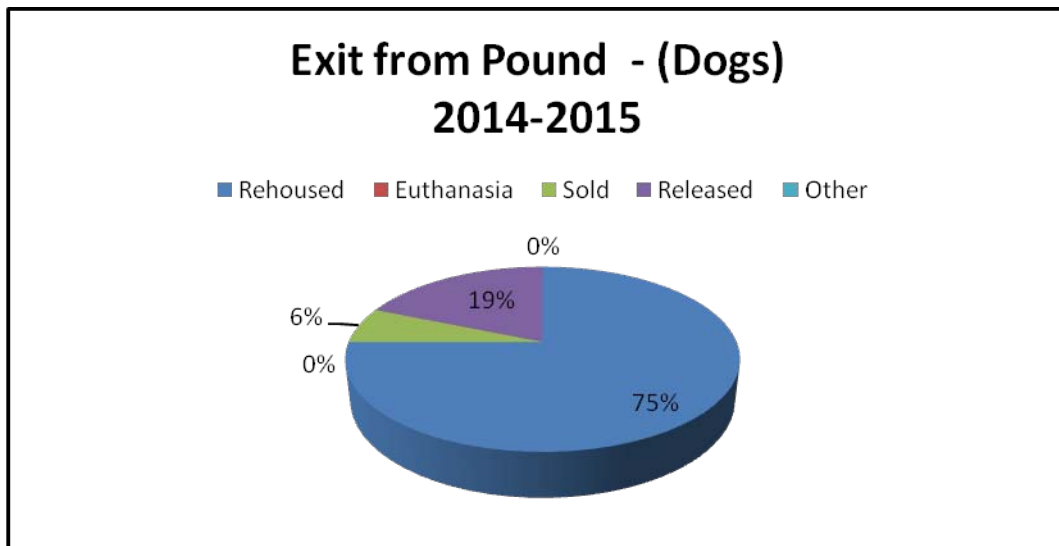
## Companion Animal Activities

The following table summarises the management of companion animals during July 2015:

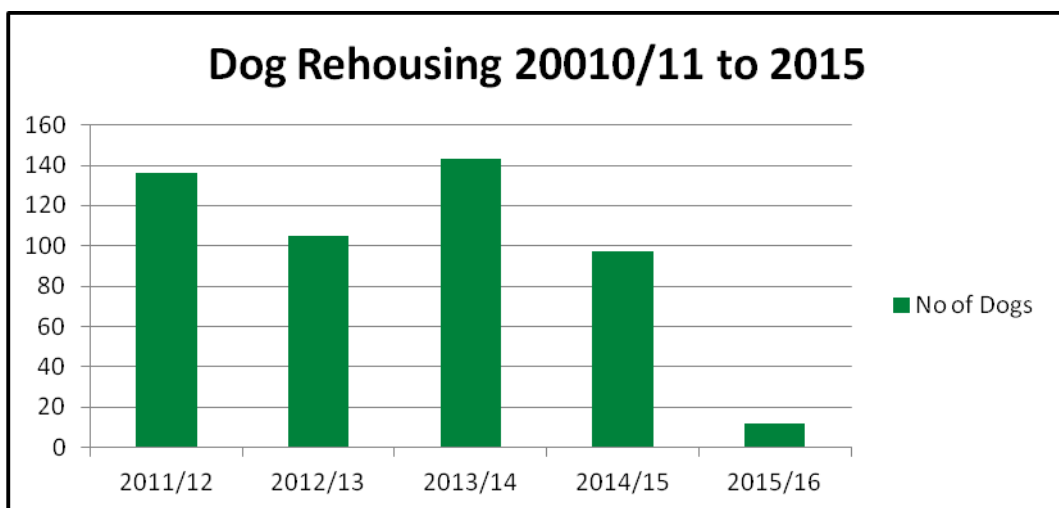
Animals into Pound -  
Monthly Cumulative Totals

	Dogs	Cats
<b>Seizure Activities:</b>		
Seized	4	3
Returned to Owner	0	0
Transferred to Pound from Seizure Activities	4	3
Animals in Pound at start of Month	5	1
Dumped	7	8
Surrendered	4	0
<b>Total Animals in Pound</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>
Released to Owner	3	1
Euthanased	0	7
Sold	1	0
Stolen from Pound	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Rehoused	12	1
<b>Total Animals Leaving Pound</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
Animals in Pound at end of Month	5	1

Month	Dogs	Cats
July	20	12
August		
September		
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 July 2015 to 30 July 2015.



This chart summarises the annual rehousing statistics from 2011/12 to 31 July 2015:

#### Break In Figures at Pound

- July - Nil

No. of "I'm Alert Online Responsible Dog Ownership Users for July – Nil Total - 61



## 9.16 Economic Development & Tourism Report - August

*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 Small Biz Bus



The Small Biz Bus visited West Wyalong on Wednesday 5 August 2015 with six businesses taking advantage of the free business advice.

### Travel OZ

The second Newell Highway Travel OZ segment was screened on Sunday 1 August.

### The Rabbits Foot

The official teaser trailer for 'The Rabbit's Foot' has now been released! Cinema Australia has already made it their 'Trailer of the Day':

<http://cinemaaustralia.com.au/2015/08/03/trailer-of-the-day-the-rabbits-foot/> The Rabbit's

Foot | Official Teaser Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Lgh5H2842A> The film

crew are planning on coming back out to West Wyalong and the surrounding area around

November / December time to film the second part of the film.

# May Newell Highway Website Analytics



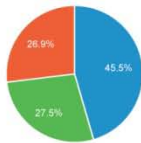
## Newell Highway Analytics Report

May 2, 2015 - May 31, 2015

All Sessions  
100.00%

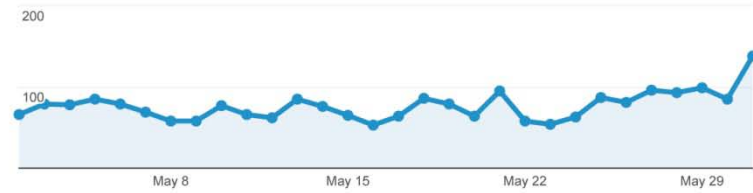
### Sessions by Device Category

desktop tablet mobile



### Visits (Sessions)

Sessions



### Pageviews

**6,847**

% of Total: 100.00% (6,847)



### Visits

**2,298**

% of Total: 100.00% (2,298)



### Visitors

**1,814**

% of Total: 100.00% (1,814)



### Users by Country

Country	Users
Australia	1,715
Brazil	27
New Zealand	12
United States	7
United Kingdom	6

### Top Landing Pages

Landing Page	Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page
/time_distance_calculator.php	1,861	00:01:31
/route39/	1,121	00:01:26
/route39/distances/	898	00:00:47
/newell_towns.htm	275	00:01:13
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	210	00:01:41
/route39/towns/	119	00:00:58
/info.htm	86	00:01:09
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	68	00:01:25
/route39/about/	65	00:01:14
/newell_brochure.htm	47	00:00:55

### Unique Pageviews by Page

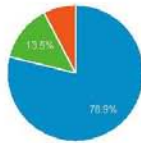
Page	Unique Pageviews
/time_distance_calculator.php	1,069
/	604
/newell_towns.htm	387
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	382
/route39/distances/	345
/newell_brochure.htm	276
/route39/	242
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	96
/route39/towns/	89
/info.htm	77

#### Users by City/Town

Region	Users
Victoria	659
New South Wales	581
Queensland	372
South Australia	59
Tasmania	31
Australian Capital Territory	26
(not set)	16
Western Australia	12
State of Sao Paulo	12
Auckland	9

#### Visits by Channel

■ organic
 ■ (none)
 ■ referral



#### Top Non-Branded Keywords (Configure)

Keyword	Sessions
newell highway	28
newell highway map	9
distance melb to narandransw	3
how far from rockhampton to forbes	3
west wyalong to coonabarabran	3
coonabarabran forbes how far	2
deniliquin to echuca distance between cities	2

#### Top Referrers

Source	Sessions
newellhighway.com.au	29
tripadvisor.com.au	21
best-seo-offer.com	18
visitwestwyalong.com.au	17
m.facebook.com	13
search.media.telstra.com.au	10
buttons-for-your-website.com	9

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# June Newell Highway Website Analytics



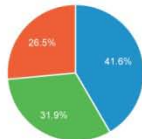
## Newell Highway Analytics Report

Jun 1, 2015 - Jun 30, 2015

All Sessions  
100.00%

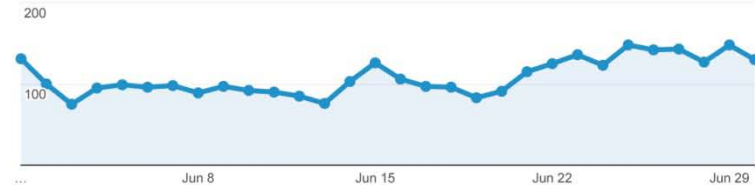
### Sessions by Device Category

desktop mobile tablet



### Visits (Sessions)

Sessions



### Pageviews

9,957

% of Total: 100.00% (9,957)



### Visits

3,262

% of Total: 100.00% (3,262)



### Visitors

2,368

% of Total: 100.00% (2,368)



### Users by Country

Country	Users
Australia	2,314
United States	19
(not set)	10
United Kingdom	6
New Zealand	6

### Top Landing Pages

Landing Page	Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page
/route39/distances/	4,625	00:00:55
/route39/	2,894	00:01:20
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	1,201	00:00:51
/route39/towns/	606	00:01:00
/route39/about/	123	00:01:04
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	104	00:01:46
/route39/tour/temora/	84	00:00:08
/route39/tour/greater-shepparton/	34	00:02:27
/route39/tour/parkes-region/	33	00:01:35
/route39/councils/	30	00:01:31

### Unique Pageviews by Page

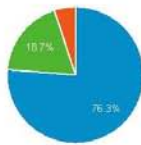
Page	Unique Pageviews
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	2,057
/route39/distances/	1,933
/route39/	853
/route39/towns/	326
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	290
/route39/about/	121
/route39/towns/page/2/	92
/route39/tour/goondiwindi/	83
/route39/tour/parkes-region/	79
/route39/tour/dubbo/	68

#### Users by City/Town

Region	Users
Victoria	869
New South Wales	782
Queensland	538
South Australia	64
Tasmania	42
Australian Capital Territory	32
(not set)	25
Western Australia	19
New York	11
England	5

#### Visits by Channel

■ organic
 ■ (none)
 ■ referral



#### Top Non-Branded Keywords (Configure)

Keyword	Sessions
newell highway	37
newell highway map	7
coonabarabran to shepparton	4
distance from wellington nsw to bendigo	3
distantw cobram to ahepparton	3
melbourne to parkes distance	3
brisbane to coonabarabran	2

#### Top Referrers

Source	Sessions
tripadvisor.com.au	27
visitwestwyalong.com.au	23
int.search.tb.ask.com	15
m.facebook.com	15
search.media.telstra.com.au	12
rms.nsw.gov.au	8
facebook.com	7

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# July Newell Highway Website Analytics



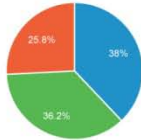
## Newell Highway Analytics Report

Jul 2, 2015 - Jul 31, 2015

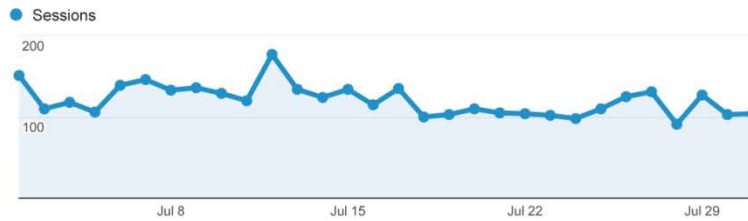
All Sessions  
100.00%

### Sessions by Device Category

desktop mobile tablet



### Visits (Sessions)



### Pageviews

**10,558**

% of Total: 100.00% (10,558)



### Visits

**3,620**

% of Total: 100.00% (3,620)



### Visitors

**2,657**

% of Total: 100.00% (2,657)



### Users by Country

Country	Users
Australia	2,591
United States	24
(not set)	10
United Kingdom	8
New Zealand	5

### Top Landing Pages

Landing Page	Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page
/route39/distances/	5,339	00:00:52
/route39/	2,529	00:01:15
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	1,345	00:00:59
/route39/towns/	632	00:00:59
/route39/about/	198	00:01:16
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	107	00:01:23
/route39/tour/temora/	55	00:00:04
/route39/weather/	38	00:00:39
/route39/tour/parkes-region/	24	00:01:19
/route39/tour/gilgandra/	23	00:00:26

### Unique Pageviews by Page

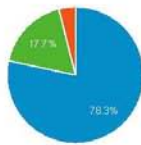
Page	Unique Pageviews
/time_distance_calculator_route39.php	2,365
/route39/distances/	2,235
/route39/	822
/route39/towns/	313
/route39/newell-highway-brochure/	251
/route39/about/	132
/route39/towns/page/2/	76
/route39/tour/west-wyalong/	74
/route39/tour/parkes-region/	71
/route39/tour/goondiwindi/	70

#### Users by City/Town

Region	Users
New South Wales	944
Victoria	881
Queensland	681
South Australia	56
Tasmania	36
Australian Capital Territory	33
(not set)	25
Western Australia	11
New York	10
England	8

#### Visits by Channel

■ organic
 ■ (none)
 ■ referral



#### Top Non-Branded Keywords (Configure)

Keyword	Sessions
newell highway	46
newell highway map	10
towns on the newell highway	5
how long does it take from moree to ipswich qld's	4
west wyalong to melbourne	4
tocumwall to ballarat distance	3
distance brisbane to dubbo	2

#### Top Referrers

Source	Sessions
tripadvisor.com.au	35
search.media.telstra.com.au	28
int.search.tb.ask.com	20
visitwestwyalong.com.au	17
pomsinoz.com	5
rms.nsw.gov.au	5
int.search.myway.com	3

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13 July 2015

2015 Regional Telecommunications Review Secretariat  
Department of Communications  
GPO Box 2154  
CANBERRA ACT 260

Dear Secretariat

Thank you for the opportunity for Bland Shire Council to provide a submission to the 2015 Regional Telecommunications Review Issues Paper. Bland Shire Council has prepared this submission in support of our businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors.

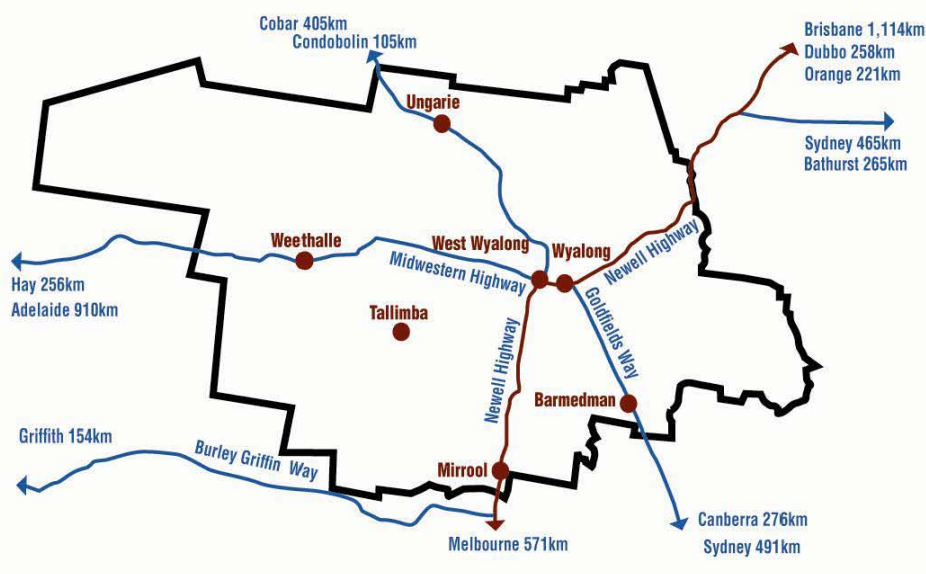
#### **Background**

The Bland Shire was proclaimed on 6 March 1906. The Bland Shire, West Wyalong is centrally located at the junction of the Newell and Midwestern Highways and Goldfields Way in regional New South Wales. The Bland Shire has a population of 5,865 and covers an area of 8,558 square kilometres. The towns and villages in the Bland Shire include West Wyalong, Wyalong, Barmedman, Mirrool, Naradhan, Tallimba, Kikiora, Ungarie and Weethalle.



**The Bland Shire and West Wyalong central location**





**The Bland Shire**

The Bland Shire is surrounded by the Shires of Lachlan, Forbes, Weddin, Young, Temora, Coolamon, Narrandera and Carrathool.

The majority of the land mass and roads in the Bland Shire have numerous black spots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures. This not only proves difficult and frustrating for the businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors, but also represents a specific risk during disaster and emergency conditions.

The Bland Shire's history is deeply engrained in agriculture and gold production which continues through to today. The Barrick Cowal Gold Mine commenced construction in 2004 with gold production in 2006 and in 2012, Barrick Cowal produced 268,000 ounces of gold.

The Bland Shire is one of New South Wales largest cereal-growing areas producing wheat, barley, oats, triticale, cereal rye, chickpeas, field peas, lupins, canola and sorghum.

Eucalyptus oil production started in 1907 and the West Wyalong area has become one of the major world exporters of Eucalyptus oil in Australia.

**Q1. Do people in regional Australia believe their reliance on telecommunications differs from those in urban areas? How does it differ and can you provide examples?**

Agriculture is the Bland Shire's largest industry sector and is at the heart of the Australian identity. Australia's history and economy was 'built on the sheep's back'. Today agriculture continues to play a pivotal role in building the wealth of Australia; this is why the sector is one of the five pillars of the Australian economy and why the Government has made agriculture a priority.

Agriculture is a significant contributor to the Australian economy. The value of farm production was \$51 billion in 2013-14 (ABARES 2015a). Agriculture contributed around two per cent of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) and 15 per cent of total Australian merchandise exports

(ABARES 2014). Agriculture underpins Australia's largest manufacturing industry—food, beverage and tobacco processing—which added \$25 billion to the economy in 2013–14 (25 per cent of manufacturing GDP) (ABS 2015a). As the mining construction boom moderates it will be important to foster growth in other export sectors, including agriculture.

Many rural areas including the Bland Shire do not have access to the mobile phone and internet services that are taken for granted in urban Australia. Reliable mobile phone and internet coverage is critical for the future growth of Australia's agriculture sector. Today's trading environment requires real-time access to, and sharing of, information. Enhancing mobile coverage in regional and remote areas also has clear social, economic and safety benefits.

Access to reliable and affordable mobile phone and internet coverage in remote and regional areas is essential to Australia's future growth, and the growth of the agriculture sector. Improved services have the potential to revolutionise agriculture in Australia. For good reason communication coverage was the issue most often raised by the agriculture sector during the development of this White Paper. This is an area of critical importance to the Government.

The use of information technology has evolved from basic GPS to precision farming. The next frontier is 'big data'—or data-enabled agriculture, which will provide information to assist better decision making through real time delivery of relevant and specific knowledge. The potential for productivity gains through increasing yields, reducing costs and reducing agricultural risks is progressing through initiatives currently underway. These include Sense-T in Tasmania and the GrainGrowers ProductionWise programme. Farm machinery companies have developed applications that not only warn farmers of the need for maintenance, but also use data collected to facilitate real time benchmarking, further driving productivity gains. Today's farmers need access to mobile phone coverage and broadband internet to run their businesses efficiently. Those farmers that have access to these services are able to run their businesses from the stockyard, from their tractor or while they are harvesting. But communication services are often not available, or are unreliable or expensive.

While mobile carriers claim to provide coverage to 99 per cent of Australia's population, around 70 per cent of Australia's landmass does not have terrestrial mobile coverage (Commonwealth of Australia 2015j).

Traditionally, analogue phone services to regional Australia were funded via the Universal Service Obligation levy, however, these traditional policy responses need to be updated so that internet connectivity can be funded as an essential service.

Expanding mobile coverage to areas where it is currently inadequate or non-existent has clear economic, social and safety benefits. A study commissioned by the Australian Communications and Media Authority found that in the seven years to 2013, mobile broadband contributed 2.1 per cent of productivity gains in the agriculture sector (CIE 2014). Due to comparatively higher costs and lower levels of revenue, mobile network operators are reluctant to invest in extending coverage into regional areas on a commercial basis. To help address this, the Australian Government established the \$100 million Mobile Black Spot Programme.

The policy was designed to attract co-funding from other levels of Government and the private sector. The total investment as a result of the program is around \$385 million. A second round of investment in mobile blackspots was announced in June, with the Federal Government contributing an additional \$60 million. Source: The Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper <http://agwhitepaper.agriculture.gov.au/>.

The Bland Shire received two Vodafone towers from the Mobile Black Spot programme, one at Ungarie and Weethalle. Telstra has the best coverage in regional Australia and whilst the two new Vodafone towers are welcomed, the majority of businesses and residents in Regional Australia are connected to Telstra do to their better coverage.

Inadequate mobile phone coverage is a significant issue especially in regional and remote communities. This includes portions of major highways and transport routes, popular seasonal tourist locations, locations at high risk of natural disasters, and key mining and agricultural areas.

Mobile phone blackspots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures adversely affect community resilience and increase the vulnerability of communities when the need for mobile communications is heightened.

Inadequate mobile phone coverage disadvantages individual communities and the wider national economy. Lives can quite literally depend on access to mobile phone coverage.

It is accepted that the Australian population is increasingly reliant on mobile services as a convenient utility for safety and emergency purposes. However, mobile phone blackspots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures exist in regional and remote areas of Australia meaning mobile telephones services cannot be relied upon or do not exist in some areas.

The majority of the land mass and roads in the Bland Shire have numerous black spots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures. This not only proves difficult and frustrating for the businesses, residents, motorists and visitors, but also represents a specific risk during disaster and emergency conditions. In the case of farmers, often working alone on their properties, this is also an unacceptable health and safety risk.

The mobile phone coverage along the major transport routes, in small communities and in locations prone to experiencing motor vehicle accidents or natural disasters must be improved in the Bland Shire. The Newell and Mid Western Highways and Goldfields Way that traverse the Bland Shire all have black spots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures. One suggestion would be to leverage off the rollout of the wireless National Broadband Network (NBN) to improve mobile coverage.

Provide open access infrastructure to improve coverage along major transport routes. Increased competition will sharpen incentives for carriers to provide better quality services and lower prices in regional areas, as it does in the cities.

Federal and State Government funding must be given to mobile phone network providers who are prepared to expand the coverage and quality of their mobile networks into regional and remote areas that lack sufficient coverage. There are some locations where the economic viability of expanding the existing network may be marginal, but modest government financial support may tip the balance.

The photographs on the next page were taken in a new model Toyota Kluger in the Bland Shire on different dates and locations and shows that there is no mobile phone service using the blue tick approved Samsung Galaxy S6 phone:



The regional and remote communities and the Bland Shire businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors must have access to wider and more reliable mobile phone and internet coverage, and should have the same or if not better levels of telecommunications services as our urban counterparts. There are concerns that regional and remote communities and the Bland Shire businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors will have a competitive disadvantage in the future if the Bland Shire and regional and remote communities can't offer a basic level of service or if not better levels of telecommunications services as our urban counterparts.

**Q2. For those users already connected to an nbn network service, has the service met your expectations?**

The fixed wireless NBN network has been rolled out to the following locations in the Bland Shire:

- West Wyalong – 310 available connections
- Ungarie – 310 available connections
- Barmedman – 250 available connections

Construction of the fixed line NBN for West Wyalong is scheduled to commence in late 2016.

A graphic designer based in West Wyalong has provided the following comments and they are hoping that the fixed line NBN will be a vast improvement on his current Telstra Internet:

Current internet connection speeds provided by Telstra Internet at my place of business in West Wyalong, NSW are:

Download speed = average is 17Mbps

Upload speed = average is 0.84Mbps

Latency = between 15ms & 50ms

Jitter = between 0ms & 9ms

As a graphic designer working from my studio, my business continues to suffer from the slow upload speeds provided by Telstra Internet. The service is weighted to provide reasonable download speed but leaves insufficient upload speed to enable my business to carry out online proofing with e.g., printers. In one particular instance (after 3 test trials) Alpine Press, Sydney (2nd largest print group in Australia) refused to carry out online proofing, as my upload speeds were so slow. This required a days physical trip to Sydney with computer to complete the job, plus a day to return. The minimum speed required by the printer for my upload to make the job practical was apparently 1.5Mbps.

My son works from my former home in UK where since 2011 he has enjoyed FTTP Broadband offering 100Mbps, his job entails downloading data from servers around the world reworking the data then uploading again. On a three month working visit staying with me in West Wyalong he estimated that he spent on average 2.5 hours more upload/download waiting time each day than he would have in the UK. Needless to say he is not keen to work from here again unless things improve.

My wife is an artist and is part of a group of 4 other artists who regularly exhibit together, being geographically distant they use Skype to communicate with each other and also group video calling with, Regional Art Gallery administrators, etc. She would like to use HD video in the group calls but as this requires a 1.2Mbps minimum upload speed she has to be content with a lower resolution that does not show paintings to best advantage.

Satellite is one of the most economic ways of delivering high speed broadband in areas where fixed wireless and fixed line services can be prohibitively expensive to deliver. However, satellite broadband has some limitations, such as limited monthly data allowances and fixed capacity during busy hours.

The NBN satellite, fixed line and fixed wireless infrastructure needs to be greatly extended to connect the regional and remote locations of Australia.

**Q3. Having regard to the technical solution likely to be used in your area, do you have views on the adequacy of that solution in terms of meeting needs now and into the future?**

Australia's three national mobile network operators (MNOs) - Optus, Telstra and Vodafone Hutchison Australia - collectively claim to provide mobile coverage to 99 per cent of the population (i.e. premises), around 70 per cent of Australia's landmass does not have terrestrial mobile coverage (Commonwealth of Australia 2015j).

The majority of the land mass and roads in the Bland Shire have numerous black spots, extensive grey and shadow spots and mobile phone coverage failures. This not only proves difficult and

frustrating for the businesses, residents, motorists and visitors, but also represents a specific risk during disaster and emergency conditions.

The Bland Shire covers an area of 8,558 square kilometres, and has a road network of 3,237 kilometres including the Newell and Midwestern Highways and Goldfields Way that conveys in excess of two million vehicles on an annual basis. Towns, villages and locations in the Bland Shire include West Wyalong, Wyalong, Ungarie, Weethalle, Tallimba, Barmedman, Mirrool, Kikoira, Gubbatta and Naradhan.

The Bland Shire also receives a large flow-through of population along our vast road network and highways as we are based centrally from most capital cities and are a large distance from other towns. More and more visitors and travellers are also accessing information from their smartphones and or mobile devices and when they stop they often make use of the opportunity to phone friends and family, use their tablets and computers and consequently put added pressure on the telecommunication infrastructure. The lack of consistent reliable mobile phone coverage reception has obvious safety consequences for not only the visitors to the Bland Shire but also the residents.

The Bland Shire is one of the largest winter cereal cropping districts in NSW and subsequently has a large number of contractors visiting the area to grow and harvest these crops who need consistent reliable mobile phone coverage.

Telstra mobile phone coverage needs to be established and improved across the entire Bland Shire, but particularly in the following areas:

- North, South, East and West of Weethalle
- North, South, East and West of Tallimba
- North, South, East and West of Ungarie
- North, South, East and West of Naradhan
- North, South, East and West of Calleen
- North, South, East and West of Gubbatta
- North, South, East and West of Barmedman
- North, South, East and West of Yalgogrin
- North, South, East and West of Mirrool

Areas just outside the Bland Shire that mobile phone coverage needs to be established and improved include:

- North, South, East and West of Burcher
- North, South, East and West of Wamboyne
- North, South, East and West of Rankin Springs
- North, South, East and West of Tullibigeal
- North, South, East and West of Marsden
- North, South, East and West of Caragabal
- North, South, East and West of Quandialla
- North, South, East and West of Ariah Park

**Q4. Irrespective of the adequacy of your local access, are there issues with backhaul or long distance carriage that impacts on your use of telecommunications services?**

The Bland Shire also receives a large flow-through of population along our vast road network and highways as we are based centrally from most capital cities and are a large distance from other

towns. More and more visitors and travellers are also accessing information from their smartphones and or mobile devices and when they stop they often make use of the opportunity to phone friends and family, use their tablets and computers and consequently put added pressure on the telecommunication infrastructure. The lack of consistent reliable mobile phone coverage reception has obvious safety consequences for not only the visitors to the Bland Shire but also the farmers and residents.

The Bland Shire is one of the largest winter cereal cropping districts in NSW and subsequently has a large number of contractors visiting the area to grow and harvest these crops who need consistent reliable mobile phone coverage.

As a result of the above the Bland Shire experiences substantial peaks in visitation which significantly impacts the capacity of the mobile networks, resulting in backhaul issues.

**Q5. For users living in areas without mobile coverage, what priorities, other than specific locations, do you consider should be recognised in future efforts to improve coverage?**

For the proportion of businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors users who live and work in the many areas in the Bland Shire without mobile coverage, providing social and economic equity to all communities, businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors especially now that digital communication plays such a critical social, economic and emergency role in the everyday lives of rural and remote communities, is of the highest priority.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone and internet coverage.

A suggestion in regional remote locations would be to leverage off the rollout of the wireless National Broadband Network (NBN) to improve mobile coverage.

Provide open access infrastructure to improve coverage along major transport routes. Increased competition will sharpen incentives for carriers to provide better quality services and lower prices in regional areas, as it does in the cities.

Federal and State Government funding must be given to mobile phone network providers who are prepared to expand the coverage and quality of their mobile networks into regional and remote areas that lack sufficient coverage. There are some locations where the economic viability of expanding the existing network may be marginal, but modest government financial support may tip the balance.

**Q6. What opportunities do the mobile network industry see for extending coverage in regional Australia and increasing investment in mobile networks?**

A suggestion in regional remote locations would be to leverage off the rollout of the wireless National Broadband Network (NBN) to improve mobile coverage.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone and internet coverage.

Provide open access infrastructure to improve coverage along major transport routes. Increased competition will sharpen incentives for carriers to provide better quality services and lower prices in regional areas, as it does in the cities.

Federal and State Government funding must be given to mobile phone network providers who are prepared to expand the coverage and quality of their mobile networks into regional and remote areas that lack sufficient coverage. There are some locations where the economic viability of expanding the existing network may be marginal, but modest government financial support may tip the balance.

**Q7. Do you have any views on co-investment approaches that might help to improve the broadband technology outcome in your area?**

A suggestion in regional remote locations would be to leverage off the rollout of the wireless National Broadband Network (NBN) to improve mobile coverage.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone and internet coverage.

Provide open access infrastructure to improve coverage along major transport routes. Increased competition will sharpen incentives for carriers to provide better quality services and lower prices in regional areas, as it does in the cities.

Federal and State Government funding must be given to mobile phone network providers who are prepared to expand the coverage and quality of their mobile networks into regional and remote areas that lack sufficient coverage. There are some locations where the economic viability of expanding the existing network may be marginal, but modest government financial support may tip the balance.

**Q8. How might new applications and services that utilise mobile networks for voice and data transform the way you live and work?**

According to the Australian Communications and Media Authorities Communication Report 2013 -14, mobile services are now at saturation levels with 2013–14 seeing the first, albeit small, decline in the number of mobile services in operation to 31.01 million mobile services—a 0.3 per cent decline on the previous year.

There is evidence of a similar slow down occurring in the growth of internet connections, with approximately 81 per cent of Australians (14.7 million) having an internet connection in the home, with growth slowing over the past three years.

Australians are engaging more intensively online, downloading more data and making greater use of mobile handsets. In the six months to May 2014, 68 per cent of internet users accessed the internet via three or more devices. Mobile phones and laptop computers were the most popular devices used by adult Australians to access the internet at May 2014 (76 per cent and 74 per cent, respectively). While use of mobile devices to access the internet has seen significant growth, fixed-line broadband (with subscriptions that generally offer faster download speeds and larger data plans than mobile handset internet subscriptions) nonetheless contributed 93 per cent of total growth in data downloads during the June quarter of 2014.



The total volume of data downloaded in Australia during the June quarter of 2014 was 53 per cent higher than the volume downloaded during the June quarter of 2013—data downloaded via fixed-line broadband increased by 53 per cent and downloads via wireless broadband increased by 20 per cent.

Australians have continued the shift towards over-the-top (OTT) and mobile communications for voice services, while the use of digital media also increased, with 44 per cent of adult Australians (6.4 million) streaming music, movies, TV programs, video clips or radio—a 21 percentage point increase over the past five years. Video and audio content is contributing to the continued growth in the volume of data downloaded.

The availability of higher-speed internet services on both fixed and mobile networks, larger data download plans and growth in the use of cloud content services are contributing factors to increases in streaming and downloading.

From a regulatory perspective, the compliance performance of Australia's communications and media organisations with regulated performance requirements has generally been very strong. Source: Australian Communications and Media Authorities Communication Report 2013 -14, <http://www.acma.gov.au/theACMA/Library/Corporate-library/Corporate-publications/communications-report>

Access to the internet in today's world is just as important as voice connectivity. Mobile phones are a tool for communication as well as a source for information. With new technology that means the internet can be accessed remotely, mobile phones bridge the domains of communication and information technology. As mentioned earlier there are 31.01 million mobile services in Australia that were accessing the internet by mobile devices. Connection to the internet is vital during natural and non natural disasters to be able to link to social media, weather maps and alerts etc, and the internet has huge economic benefits by enabling people to continue to undertake business without geographical restrictions. The Regional Telecommunications Review 2015 and the Mobile Black Spot Programme should therefore not just target or measure success against increased voice coverage but also measure against increased data coverage.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics there were 12,691,000 internet subscribers in Australia at the end of December 2014. This is an increase of 2% from the end of December 2013 and almost all (99%) of internet connections were broadband. The number of dial-up internet connections continued to decline.

Modern mobile phones allow you to:

- Voice
- SMS / MMS
- Send and receive emails
- To get information
- Entertainment purposes (music, games, photos, video)
- Visit websites and/or browse or search the Internet
- Banking including transfers and bill payments
- Buy things online
- Read or edit documents or files
- GPS / Maps
- Weather
- News
- Connect to other compatible devices

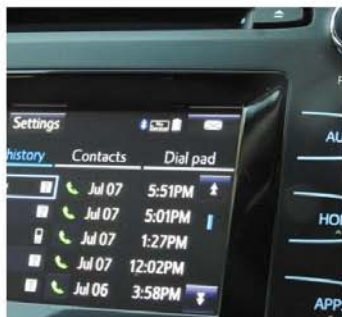
- Video calling and video conferencing
- Fast data exchange
- Apps
- Emergency SMS and Voice communication during emergencies and disasters

Some of the benefits, new applications and services that the NBN may deliver include:

- Healthcare / Telehealth
- Education / Remote learning
- Videoconferencing
- Gaming
- Smart Homes
- Flexible working, boost productivity / Working from Home
- Media & Entertainment
- More in-home information
- Faster two-way internet
- Small businesses / Interactive shopping
- Online Banking
- Communication with dispersed family members
- Cloud Computing
- Better business engagement, stronger relationships
- Connectivity counts, so does cutting costs
- New markets, new opportunities

**Q9. What communications barriers have you experienced in expanding or operating your business or providing services, such as health or education? Have you been able to overcome these barriers and if so, how?**

The Government should understand that reliance on telecommunications if anything, is far greater in regional Australia than urban areas. Mobile phones and internet provide the connections and infrastructure highways we need to compete in a modern society. Telecommunications requirements are the same in that today's business and social worlds are dependent upon high speed broadband internet and mobile telephony. The differences are in that provision of second rate, minimal GB plans severely impede regional and remote Australia to operate in an economically driven environment. Our businesses need to have the same infrastructure support as an urban business. Those of us in the agricultural sector need mobile phone coverage across our properties in order to provide safe working environments and businesses that can operate in a 24/7 business world. High speed broadband internet allows remote services through health and education to be provided to rural and remote communities, for agricultural business to operate in a productive manner and for families who educate through Distance Education it is a mandatory requirement for the current curriculum.



Running a business without quality telecommunications and mobile phone coverage is near on impossible as increasingly other parties require electronic interactions, invoicing, video conference, training and file transfers etc.

**Q10. What communication functions (e.g. speed, mobility, reliability, data, etc) would best suit your needs, noting the limitations of each technology (e.g. mobile, wireless, satellite, fibre)?**

The Bland Shire is seeking an effective telecommunications environment that will permit our businesses, farmers, residents, ratepayers, motorists and visitors to enjoy a reasonable quality of life, safety in times of risk and to conduct their businesses on a competitive basis.

**Q11. Do we need to continue to guarantee the standard telephone service for all (or only some) consumers, and if so, to what extent?**

Traditionally, analogue phone services to regional Australia were funded via the Universal Service Obligation levy, however, these traditional policy responses need to be updated so that internet connectivity can be funded as an essential service.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone and internet coverage.

**Q12. Are there new or other services, the availability of which should be underpinned by consumer safeguards?**

Traditionally, analogue phone services to regional Australia were funded via the Universal Service Obligation levy, however, these traditional policy responses need to be updated so that internet connectivity can be funded as an essential service.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone coverage.

**Q13. What standards should apply to your services? How might they best be enforced?**

Traditionally, analogue phone services to regional Australia were funded via the Universal Service Obligation levy, however, these traditional policy responses need to be updated so that internet connectivity can be funded as an essential service.

The development of a Universal Service Obligation, in regard to mobile phone and broadband coverage must become of the highest priority for Government to ensure everyone in Australia, no matter their location, has access to mobile phone coverage.

Once again, Bland Shire Council welcomes the Australian Governments Regional Telecommunication Review and please do not hesitate to contact either Ray Smith on (02) 6972 2266 or [rsmith@blandshire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rsmith@blandshire.nsw.gov.au) or Jeff Stien on (02) 6979 0244 or [jstien@blandshire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jstien@blandshire.nsw.gov.au) should you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely



Ray Smith  
General Manager



Jeff Stien  
Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor



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PO Box 21  
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7 July 2015

Alex O'Mara  
The Executive Director  
Resources & Industry Policy  
NSW Department of Planning & Environment  
GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr O'Mara

Bland Shire Council (BSC) welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Integrated Mining Policy (IMP) as the mining industry makes a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of NSW, particularly in regional areas. BSC supports the following IMP aims and objectives:

- The IMP aims to reduce duplication and improve the efficiency of assessment and regulation of State significant mining developments.
- The policies and guidelines developed as part of the IMP will improve transparency, consistency and accountability for assessment decisions.
- Document and clarify Government requirements for the mining assessment process.
- Improve coordination and cooperation between government agencies so that matters can be considered at the same time.
- Reduce duplication between the three key mining approvals (development approvals, mining leases and environment protection licences).
- For the community, the IMP will provide clearer and more consistent rules governing the assessment and regulation of mining.
- For industry, it will reduce duplication and unnecessary red tape by clarifying regulatory obligations and approval requirements.

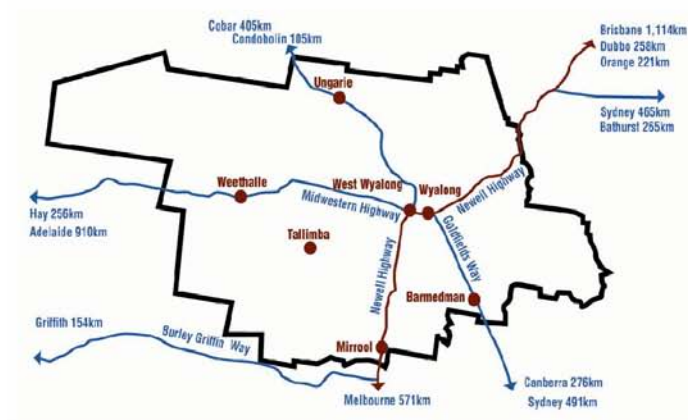
Bland Shire Council would like to see the appropriate balance of economic, environmental and community factors taken into account during the assessment process.

#### **Background**

The Bland Shire was proclaimed on 6 March 1906. The Bland Shire, West Wyalong is centrally located in regional New South Wales and has a population of 5,865 and covers an area of 8,558 square kilometres. Towns and villages in the Bland Shire include West Wyalong, Wyalong, Barmedman, Mirrool, Naradhan, Tallimba, Kikiora, Ungarie and Weethalle.



**The Bland Shire and West Wyalong central location**



**The Bland Shire**

The Bland Shire is surrounded by the Shires of Lachlan, Forbes, Weddin, Young, Temora, Coolamon, Narrandera and Carrathool.

The Bland Shire's history is deeply engrained in agriculture, mining and gold production which continues through to today. The Barrick Cowl Gold Mine commenced construction in 2004 with gold production in 2006 and in 2014, Barrick Cowl produced 268,000 ounces of gold.

The Bland Shire is one of New South Wales largest cereal-growing areas producing wheat, barley, oats, triticale, cereal rye, chickpeas, field peas, lupins, canola and sorghum.

Eucalyptus oil production started in 1907 and the West Wyalong area has become one of the major world exporters of Eucalyptus oil in Australia.

- ENE of West Wyalong – Newcrest Operations Limited
- SE of West Wyalong – Rimfire Australia Pty Ltd
- N of West Wyalong – Coolan Yard Pty Limited
- W of West Wyalong - Hughes, Christopher John
- NE of West Wyalong – Barrick (Cowel) Limited
- W of West Wyalong – Elliot, John Douglas
- E of West Wyalong – Sandfire Resources NL
- E of West Wyalong – Golden Cross Operation Pty Ltd
- ESE of West Wyalong – Sandfire Resources NL
- E of West Wyalong – St Barbara Limited
- WNW of West Wyalong – Hughes, Christopher John
- ESE of West Wyalong – Sandfire Resources NL
- NE of West Wyalong – Clancy Exploration Limited
- ENE of West Wyalong – Sandfire Resources NL

Source: <http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/miners-and-explorers/applications-and-approvals/current-titles-reports,-applications-and-services/title-status-reports>

Alluvial tin was also worked in the Bland Shire from 1960-1970's.

### **Resources for Regions**

The mining industry makes a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of NSW, particularly in regional areas. Mining activity can place additional stress on local infrastructure, particularly roads, bridges and community related infrastructure. In 2011, the NSW Government commenced the Resources for Regions policy, the first stage of which was to conduct an Economic Assessment of Mining Affected Communities. The 2011 assessment led to allocations of \$10 million to local infrastructure projects in the Muswellbrook and Singleton Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the NSW Government's 2012-13 Budget.

The 2011 Economic Assessment of Mining Affected Communities assessment table on page five indicated that the Bland Shire was in Tier 2 and the 2012-13 Economic Assessment of Mining Affected Communities assessment table on page six had the Bland Shire slipping to Tier 3.

With the amount of mining activity that has, is and may occur in the Bland Shire, the Bland Shire Council would like to see the Resources for Regions policy continued and enhanced and to include the Bland Shire.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**LIST OF LGAs BY CATEGORISATION**

LGAs listed Alphabetically by divisions of mining royalties paid (Tiers 1, 2 & 3) and by position within Greater Sydney or otherwise.

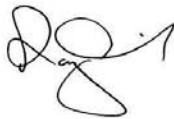
TIER 1 Singleton & Muswellbrook (Mining Royalties > \$10,000 per capita)	TIER 2 Mining Affected LGAs (\$500 per capita < Royalties < \$10,000 per capita)	TIER 3 LGAs With Some Mining (\$10 per capita < Royalties < \$500 per capita)	TIER 4 Non Mining LGAs (Mining Royalties < \$10 per capita)		
SINGLETON	WOLLONDILLY	CAMPBELLTOWN	ASHFIELD	BELLINGEN	LOOKHART
MUSWELLBROOK	BLAND	SUTHERLAND	AUBURN	BERRIGAN	MAITLAND
	BLAYNEY	WYONG	BANKSTOWN	BOMBALA	MOREE PLAINS
	BOGAN	BROKEN HILL	BAULKHAM HILLS	BOOROWA	MURRAY
	CARONNE	GULBURN MUIWAREE	BLACKTOWN	BOURKE	MURRLIBRIDGEE
	CESSNOCK	GREAT LAKES	BLUE MOUNTAINS	BREWARRINA	NAMBUCCA
	COBAR	GUNNEDAH	BOTANY BAY	BYRON	NARRANDERA
	CLOUCESTER	HARDEN	BURWOOD	CARRATHOOL	NARROMINE
	LITHGOW	LAKE MACQUARIE	CAMDEN	CENTRAL DARLING	NEWCASTLE
	LIVERPOOL PLAINS	UNINCORPORATED	CANADA BAY	CLARENCE VALLEY	NORFOLK ISLAND
	MID-WESTERN	WENTWORTH	CANTERBURY	COFFS HARBOUR	OBERON
	NARRABRI	WINGECARRIBEE	FAIRFIELD	CONARIGO	ORANGE
	PARKES	WOLLONGONG	GOSFORD	COOLAMON	PALEBANG
			HAWKESBURY	COOMA-MONARO	FITZWATER
			HOLROYD	COONAMBLE	FORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS
			HORNSEY	COOTAMUNDRA	FORT STEPHENS
			HUNTERS HILL	COROWA	QUEANBEYAN
			HURSTVILLE	COWRA	RICHMOND VALLEY
			KOGARAH	DENILQUIN	SHELLHARBOUR
			KURRING-GAI	DUBEO	SCHOALHAVEN
			LANE COVE	DUNGOG	SNOWY RIVER
			LEICHHARDT	EUROBODALLA	TAMWORTH REGIONAL
			LIVERPOOL	FORBES	TEMORA
			MANLY	GILGANDRA	TENTFIELD
			MARRICKVILLE	GLEN INNES SEVERN	TUMBARUMBA
			MOSMAN	GREATER HUME	TUMUT
			NORTH SYDNEY	GREATER TAREE	TWEED
			PARRAMATTA	GRIFFITH	UPPER HUNTER
			PENRITH	GUNDAGAI	UPPER LACHLAN
			RANDWICK	GUYRA	URALLA
			ROCKDALE	GWYDIR	UFANA
			RYDE	HASTINGS	WAGGA WAGGA
			STRATHFIELD	HAY	WAKOOL
			SYDNEY	HILLS	WALCHA
			WARRINGAH	INVERELL	WALGETT
			WILLOUGHBY	JERILDERIE	WARREN
			WOOLLAHRA	JUNEE	WARRUMBUNGLE
			ALBURY	KEMPSEY	WAVERLEY
			ARMIDALE DUVARESQ	KIAMA	WEDDIN
			BALLINA	KIOGLE	WELLINGTON
			BALFRANALD	LACHLAN	YASS VALLEY
LGAs Within Greater Sydney			BATHURST REGIONAL	LEETON	YOUNG
LGAs Outside Greater Sydney			BEGA VALLEY	LISMORE	

Table 2: Tier 1, 2 and 3 Mining-Affected Communities in NSW 2012-13

Tier 1 (mining royalties >\$10,000 per capita)	Tier 2 (\$2,500 > mining royalties > \$10,000 per capita)	Tier 3 (\$500 > mining royalties > \$2,500 per capita)	Tier 4 (\$10 > mining royalties > \$500 per capita)
Muswellbrook Singleton	Cobar Lithgow	Bland Blayney	Droken Hill Goulburn Mulwaree
	Mid-Western Regions Narrabri	Bogan Cabarne	Great Lakes Lachlan
		Cessnock	Lake Macquarie
		Gloucester	Jrara
		Gunnedah	Wingecarribee
		Liverpool Plains	Wollongong
		Parkes	Wyong
		Wentworth	
		Woolldilly	

Once again Bland Shire Council thanks you for the opportunity to provide comments on the IMP and should you require additional information then please do not hesitate to contact either Ray Smith on (02) 6972 2266 or [rsmith@blandshire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rsmith@blandshire.nsw.gov.au) or Jeff Stien on (02) 6979 0244 or [jstien@blandshire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jstien@blandshire.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



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General Manager



Jeff Stien  
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