

Business Paper
Council Meeting
13 August 2024



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



Affirmation of Office

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Bland Shire and the Bland Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Meeting Dates	Time	Meeting	Location
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August 2024			
Friday, 9	TBA	Country Mayors	Sydney
Tuesday, 13	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Council Chambers
Friday, 23	TBA	REROC Board Meeting	Wagga

September 2024			
Tuesday, 10	6.30pm	Extraordinary Council Meeting	Council Chambers

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. RECORDING OF MEETING STATEMENT
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
3. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE
4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST
5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
 - 5.1 Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 16 July 2024
 - 5.2 Matters arising from Minutes
6. REPORTS FROM STAFF
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7. NOTICES OF MOTION

- 7.1 Audio/Visual System - Crs Lord, McGlynn and Keatley
- 7.2 Strengthening Communities Grant Policy - Crs McGlynn and Clark

8. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

- 8.1 General Manager Annual Performance Review for period ending 30 June 2024

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A(2))

The matters and information are the following:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Section 1 – Executive Services

6.1 Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions: August 2024



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Executive Assistant

Introduction

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council's policies, decisions and priorities are implemented in a timely and efficient manner, consistent with the goals and objectives of Council. The General Manager provides the management oversight in relation to all information progressing from appropriate staff to Council for consideration via the Business Paper.

After a Council meeting, each resolution is allocated to the General Manager or responsible officer to action in accordance with the intent of the Council decision. Directors then provide feedback to the General Manager as to the progress of these resolutions on a monthly basis through the Manex meeting.

Financial Implications

Nil

Summary

The Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions includes Council Resolutions up to and including the previous Council Meeting. A note in the status section has been completed by the relevant responsible officer with a reason if available.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions: August 2024.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
OCTOBER 2023		
<p>Renovation Costs - Community Care Building 09102023 RESOLVED that Council:</p> <p>a) Notes the information contained within the report on Renovation Costs for the Community Care Building.</p> <p>b) Approve those unexpended funds for completion of landscaping works identified as part of the initial project remain until such time as the work is undertaken.</p>	<p>Director Corporate & Community Services</p>	<p>15/11: Landscaping work will commence in the New Year following the return of Council's Building Maintenance Officer who has carriage of site works.</p> <p>28/3/24 - Discussions held with new contractor to undertake the works. Date for completing yet to be finalised.</p> <p>29/7/24 - Drainage works completed to clear blockages at western end of the building. Installation of irrigation system and plantings to be scheduled with contractor.</p>
<p>Additional Permitted Use, West Wyalong Airport Planning Proposal - Drag Strip Project 15102023 RESOLVED that Council:</p> <p>1) endorse the Additional Permitted Use, West Wyalong Airport Planning Proposal for referral to the Department of Planning and Environment for Gateway Determination;</p> <p>2) delegate the General Manager to make changes to the Planning Proposal if required by the Department of Planning and Environment so long as the objectives of the proposal are achieved; and</p> <p>3) delegate the General Manager to commence public exhibition of the Planning Proposal if required by the Department of Planning and Environment.</p>	<p>Director Technical Services</p>	<p>7/11: Planning Proposal has received a gateway determination from Dept of Planning. Council is working through the next steps</p> <p>31/7/2024 Planning Proposal currently with Department of Planning – Biodiversity, Conservation and Science for comment. Expected completion end of July. This will enable Exhibition of proposal to both the public and statutory authorities. Planning advice indicates with the successful modification to the LEP through the Planning Proposal, the works can undertaken as exempt development meaning that a Development Application will not be required. This means that Council will need to develop a detailed REF, which is underway. To support the REF noise studies were undertaken as well as the Biodiversity studies. These are completed and will be incorporated into the document along with the Contamination study which was required for the Planning Proposal. In the background, Council staff will commence preparation of tender documentation to go to market enabling construction to begin in early 2025.</p>
DECEMBER 2023		
<p>Property Purchase – 20 Calleen Street West Wyalong 31122023 RESOLVED that Council reject the offer received and authorise the General Manager to continue negotiations for the sale of 20 Calleen St (Lot 3 DP 1101248) West Wyalong.</p>	<p>Director Technical Services</p>	<p>31/1: Party advised of Council's position, negotiations continuing</p> <p>31/7/2024 COMPLETED - Advised by interested party that they will not be proceeding with purchase at this stage</p>

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
FEBRUARY 2024		
Bland/Temora Family Day Care 22022024 That Council explore options for the Bland/Temora Family Day Care scheme to transition the provision of support services by 31 December 2024.	Director Corporate & Community Services	28/3: Following Council resolution, discussions underway with alternate providers. Decision communicated to Temora Shire Council representatives. 19/4: Letters sent to FDC clients advising of impending closure in December 2024.
MARCH 2024		
Proposed Road Closure – Gordons Lane RESOLVED that Council: 1. endorse the closure of the public road known as Gordons Lane between Clear Ridge Road and Blands Lane 2. that the closure be subject to all parties along the road agreeing to the closure and funding Council’s road closure application fees and all other associated fees including, advertising, survey, legal and land purchasing costs 3. receive a further report to consider any submissions lodged during the notification period to determine the approval for the proposal 4. receive a further report to consider the property valuers report and determination of any sale price.	Director Technical Services	Letters sent to adjoining landowners.
APRIL 2024		
Barmedman Community Committee 06042024 RESOLVED that Council: a) Receive and note the minutes of the Barmedman Community Committee, held on Tuesday, 26 March 2024. b) Supports the Barmedman Community Committee recommendation to place the Section 355 Committee into hiatus for a period of three months. c) Be provided with a report following the hiatus period to decide on the future of the Barmedman Community Committee and the funds associated with the Committee.1.	Director Corporate & Community Services	1/7/24: Report to go to July 2024 Council meeting. COMPLETED – see further commentary for July 2024.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
MAY 2024		
<p>Bland Shire Australia Day Awards Committee 04052024 RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the minutes of the Australia Day Awards Committee meeting held on 23 April 2024, be received, and noted. 2. That Council:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. make available Citizen of the Year citations prior to future Australia Day events. b. hold a Mayoral Reception on the evening prior to Australia Day 2025 at Wyalong Hall. c. make application for Australia Day Council funding for the undertaking of the Australia Day Breakfast and pool activities. d. continue to be involved in the Australia Day Ambassador Program. 	General Manager	Noted for 2025 event planning
<p>Draft NSW Heavy Vehicle Access Policy 13052024 RESOLVED that Council make a submission to the draft NSW Heavy Vehicle Access Policy</p>	Director Technical Services	COMPLETED
<p>Request For Fee Relief 14052024 RESOLVED that request for a fee reduction for the West Wyalong Basketball Association for the 2023 / 2024 basketball season lay on the table and be considered at the June 2024 Council meeting.</p>	Director Technical Services	COMPLETED
<p>Notice Of Motion 17052024 RESOLVED that until a full review and the passing by Council of an updated and amended LEP (Local Environmental Plan) and DCP all development applications for two or more dwellings on one lot in any R1, R5, RU1 and RU5 zones be referred for discussion at a Council Workshop prior to full council for determination.</p>	Director Technical Services	COMPLETED – included as agenda item for Workshop
JUNE 2024		
<p>Riverina Electorate Redistribution 05062024 RESOLVED that Council consider as a matter of urgency the preparation and lodgment of a formal objection to the Australian Electoral Commission's proposal to remove Bland Shire from the Federal Electorate of Riverina.</p>	General Manager	1/7/24: Letter submitted to Australian Electoral Commission's Boundary Review.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
Request for Donation – Southern Sports Academy 09062024 RESOLVED that Council approve a donation of \$200 per athlete to the Southern Sports Academy in support of the 2 athletes selected for 2024 in Bland Shire LGA. This payment is to be made in July 2024 from the 24/25 budget allocation.	Director Corporate & Community Services	29/7/24: Applicants advised of successful outcome. Awaiting invoices for payment of funds.
Request for Fee Relief 13062024 RESOLVED that Council provide a fee reduction to the value of \$3,444 for the West Wyalong Basketball Association for the 2023 / 2024 basketball season.	Director Technical Services	COMPLETED
JULY 2024		
Barmedman Community Section 355 Committee 06072024 RESOLVED that Council: a) Disband the Barmedman Community Committee – a Section 355 Committee of Council. b) Endorse the negotiations with the Barmedman Community Centre Incorporated. c) Determine that the Funds remaining within the Barmedman Community Committee account be utilised to undertake improvement works within the village of Barmedman.	Director Corporate & Community Services	29/7/24: Committee members advised of Council decision to disband Section 355 Committee. Meeting held with Barmedman Community Centre Inc on maintenance and funding options with Memorandum of Understanding to be finalised for signing.
Tender – Supply Road Sweeper 08072024 RESOLVED that Council: 1. Award Bucher Municipal the tender for the supply of (one) 1 Road Sweeper at a cost of \$411,240.99. ex GST. 2. Declines Bucher Municipal's trade offer, and Council sell the trade vehicle at public auction.	Director Technical Services	COMPLETED
Draft Contaminated Land Policy 09072024 RESOLVED: 1. That Council endorse the Draft Contaminated Land Policy and place the policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 17 July 2024. 2. Should there be comments received from the community on the draft Contaminated Land Policy, a further report be prepared and presented to Council. 3. Should there be no comment from the community within the 42-day commentary period, Council formally adopt the Draft Contaminated Land Policy	Director Technical Services	31/7/2024 - On display

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
<p>Audio/Visual System 12072024 RESOLVED that the Council source, fund and install a new Audio/Visual system in the Council Chambers.</p> <p>a) As a minimum the system has one microphone per Councillor. One on the lectern, and one each for the Mayor, General Manager and Directors.</p> <p>b) That cameras be installed that will facilitate a visual recording of the meeting, along with the ability to livestream the meeting.</p> <p>c) That after this equipment is installed, a full and complete recording be given to local media so that accurate reporting can occur.</p> <p>d) That Council source a software program or independent body, that can transcribe the audio as required/needed.</p>	<p>Director Corporate & Community Services</p>	<p>29/7: Preliminary investigations undertaken to determine existing equipment for use in the audio-visual recording and streaming of Council meetings, including testing of quality. Trial to be undertaken at Councillor workshop on 30/7/24.</p>

6.2 Disclosure of Interest Returns



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Executive Assistant

Introduction

There is a statutory requirement for Councillors and Designated Persons who held office at 30 June 2024 to lodge a written return of interest with the General Manager. The register of returns is tabled at the first meeting of the Council after the last day for the lodgement of returns.

Disclosure of Interest Returns for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 have been issued and returned to Council for Councillors and Designated Persons who held office at 30 June 2024.

The due date for returns was August 2 2024 and all returns have now been completed. The Disclosure of Interest Register is tabled at this meeting for Council's information.

Financial Implications

Nil

Summary

In accordance with Clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct 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.

Recommendation:

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

6.3 Christmas 2024 – Council Closure



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.2 Councillors are encouraged to take ownership and a strong leadership role.

Author: Executive Assistant

Introduction

The normal meeting cycle for the monthly Council Workshops and the Ordinary Council meetings will be set at the October 2024 Council meeting following the declaration of poll for the upcoming Local Government Election.

Council's services typically close over the Christmas and New Year period with a skeleton crew available for essential services. The purpose of this report is to set the closure period for 2024/25 year. The council offices, depot, library, Visitor Information Centre, Community Care Centre and Youth Centre will close at 3.00pm on Friday 20 December 2024, for the purposes of a staff gathering and reopen on Monday 6 January 2025. Considering the work program ahead, Council's operational staff will have the same closure period except for essential on-call staff, who will be available for emergency response.

Other Council services will operate under the following schedule:-

- Childrens Services Unit – Closed with the last day of classes being 20 December, returning 30 January 2025.
- Landfill – The West Wyalong landfill will be closed on 25, 26 December and 1 January. Ordinary operating hours on other days.
- Garbage collection services – As per normal.
- Community Care – Continue to work (excluding public holidays) with a skeleton crew, with staff available on call.
- Swimming Pools – Closed Christmas Day, contractor will do media around Pool schedules closer to Christmas

The Visitor Information Centre will make available visitor bags and monitor supply during the closure period.

Financial Implications

There are funds allocated within the existing budget for this purpose.

Council staff will take annual leave and rostered days off during the closure period, in accordance with their leave entitlements.

Summary

The above information is for the information and endorsement of councillors.

It is also common practice to delegate authority to the Mayor and General Manager to deal with any urgent matters during this period.

Recommendation:

1. That Council note the closure of council offices from 3.00pm on Friday 20 December 2024 and reopen on Monday 6 January 2025.
 2. That the Mayor and General Manager are delegated authority to deal with any urgent matters during the Christmas and New Year period for 2024 – 2025.
-

Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

6.4 Finance And Investment Report For July 2024



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community.

DP10.4 Ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author Manager Customer & Financial Services

Introduction

The Finance and Investment Report is provided to Council for information and prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Financial Implications

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 31ST JULY 2024

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$6,667,968.50
Business Card	\$40,000.00
	\$6,707,968.50
<i>Invested Funds</i>	
Fixed Deposits	\$79,700,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$4,187,165.54
	\$83,887,165.54
Net Balance	\$90,595,134.04
Percentage of Invested Funds to Net Balance	92.6%

**STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31.07.2024
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING AUGUST 13, 2024**

BALANCE as at 01.07.24 **\$14,065,341.02**

Add Receipts

Receipts Over \$150,000

17/07/24 Heritage & Peoples Choice Invest	1,000,000.00
25/07/24 Macquarie Bank TD Redemption	1,000,000.00
26/07/24 Preschool Operation Grant	250,865.22

Receipts Under \$150,000 1,304,766.13

Total Receipts for July 2024 **\$3,555,631.35**

Less Payments

Payments over \$150,000

08/07/24 ING Bank	-3,000,000.00
08/07/24 NAB Term Deposit	-3,000,000.00
11/07/24 Statewide Mutual	-756,159.54
11/07/24 Temora Shire Council	-171,798.97
17/07/24 ING Bank	-1,000,000.00
18/07/24 Westrac Pty Ltd	-394,420.86
25/07/24 Westrac Pty Ltd	-394,420.86

Payments under \$150,000 -1,947,090.01

Aged Care	\$2,119.24
Bank Fees	\$1,708.76
Cemetery	\$4,357.73
Children's Services	\$18,508.18
Community	\$5,878.14
Construction	\$19,343.37
Corporate	\$447,039.80
Donation	\$301.84
Development Services	\$7,005.00
Direct Debits	\$1,140.59
Employee	\$794,285.74
Governance	\$70,730.00
Insurance	\$768,593.30
Investments	\$7,000,000.00
Library	\$1,693.90
Maintenance	\$269,167.62
Plant/Fuel	\$984,090.03
Roads	\$215,018.35
Sewer	\$1,071.75
Utilities	\$30,298.91
VIC	\$12,973.80
Weeds	\$8,564.19

Total Payments for July 2024 **- \$10,663,890.24**

Adjustment for August Transactions in July -289,113.63

CASH BALANCE **\$6,667,968.50**

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$ 350,000.00

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY AND CERTIFICATION

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period 01 July 2024 to 31 July 2024.

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

Payment Type		Voucher No's	Total
Cheques		026454-026460	\$43,082.94
Auto-pay	Creditors	E036131 – E036386	\$9,832,471.04
Auto-pay	Payroll	30/06/24 – 28/07/24	\$785,486.91
Bank Charges & Commissions		July 2024	\$1,708.76
Direct Debits	Repayments & Vehicle Lease		1,140.59
			\$10,663,890.24

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 preceding monthly period.

.....
Manager Customer and Financial
Services Responsible Accounting Officer

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 13th August 2024, 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 **\$10,663,890.24** was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 13th August 2024 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 31st July 2024. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

DATE INVESTED	INVESTED WITH WHOM	INVESTED AMOUNT	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
30/09/2020	Northern Territory Treasury	2,000,000.00	1902 days	1.20%	15/12/2025
16/08/2023	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	358 days	4.95%	8/08/2024
23/08/2023	AMP	2,500,000.00	364 days	5.40%	21/08/2024
4/09/2023	Great Southern Bank	1,000,000.00	360 days	5.22%	29/08/2024
8/09/2023	Bendigo Bank	400,000.00	365 days	4.90%	8/09/2024
8/09/2023	Bendigo Bank	400,000.00	365 days	4.90%	8/09/2024
8/09/2023	Bendigo Bank	400,000.00	365 days	4.90%	8/09/2024
14/09/2023	NAB	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.15%	12/09/2024
20/09/2023	NAB	1,000,000.00	330 days	5.15%	15/08/2024
21/09/2023	NAB	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.30%	20/09/2024
28/09/2023	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.20%	26/09/2024
5/10/2023	NAB	1,500,000.00	364 days	5.25%	3/10/2024
11/10/2023	NAB	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.15%	9/10/2024
19/10/2023	NAB	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.20%	17/10/2024
25/10/2023	Police Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	5.05%	24/10/2024
9/11/2023	AMP	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.35%	7/11/2024
16/11/2023	BankVic	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.45%	14/11/2024
23/11/2023	Auswide Bank	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.45%	21/11/2024
30/11/2023	MyState Bank	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.40%	28/11/2024
30/11/2023	Australian Unity	2,000,000.00	329 days	5.45%	24/10/2024
7/12/2023	Commonwealth Bank	2,000,000.00	314 days	5.09%	16/10/2024
12/12/2023	Beyond Bank	1,000,000.00	233 days	5.30%	1/8/2024
12/12/2023	Beyond Bank	1,000,000.00	323 days	5.35%	30/10/2024
14/12/2023	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	278 days	5.15%	17/09/2024
20/12/2023	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.15%	18/12/2024
9/01/2024	Judo Bank	1,000,000.00	329 days	5.10%	3/12/2024
10/01/2024	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	565 days	5.10%	9/01/2025
19/01/2024	AMP	1,000,000.00	368 days	5.15%	21/1/2025
31/01/2024	Great Southern Bank	2,500,000.00	365 days	5.05%	30/01/2025
1/02/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	350 days	5.13%	16/01/2025
8/02/2024	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.00%	6/02/2025
15/02/2024	NAB	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.15%	12/02/2025
16/02/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	368 days	5.18%	18/02/2025
28/02/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.08%	26/02/2025
5/03/2024	Australian Unity	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.10%	5/03/2025
6/03/2024	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.10%	6/03/2025
13/03/2024	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	183 days	5.12%	12/09/2024
20/03/2024	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.00%	20/03/2025
28/03/2024	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.20%	26/03/2025
3/04/2024	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.05%	2/04/2025
10/04/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.09%	10/04/2025
30/04/2024	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	358 days	5.10%	23/04/2025
16/05/2024	Judo Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.30%	14/05/2025
22/05/2024	Great Southern Bank	1,000,000.00	343 days	5.17%	30/04/2025
27/05/2024	ING Bank	2,000,000.00	359 days	5.27%	21/05/2025
29/05/2024	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.25%	27/05/2025
13/06/2024	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.30%	11/06/2025
20/06/2024	Defence Bank	2,000,000.00	363 days	5.20%	18/06/2025
26/06/2024	ING Bank	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.25%	25/06/2025
26/06/2024	Beyond Bank	1,000,000.00	167 days	5.20%	10/12/2024
26/06/2024	Beyond Bank	1,000,000.00	293 days	5.20%	15/04/2025
2/07/2024	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	252 days	5.30%	11/03/2025
5/07/2024	Australian Unity	1,000,000.00	300 days	5.30%	1/05/2025
8/07/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	302 days	5.27%	6/05/2025
8/07/2024	ING Bank	2,000,000.00	359 days	5.37%	2/07/2025
8/07/2024	NAB	1,000,000.00	331 days	5.30%	4/06/2025

8/07/2024	NAB	2,000,000.00	365 days	5.35%	8/07/2025
11/07/2024	AMP	1,000,000.00	306 days	5.20%	13/05/2025
17/07/2024	ING Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	5.33%	15/07/2025
31/07/2024	Police Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	5.25%	31/07/2025
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,964.77	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	4,136,200.77	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	\$83,887,165.54			

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

GENERAL MANAGER

RATES REPORT

Below is a summary of outstanding rates

Total rates income levied (2023/24)	\$ 11,944,036.15
Rates received as at 30/06/2024	\$ 653,531.27
% of rates received to date	5.47%

The total rates income includes rates in arrears and accumulated interest.

Summary

The information provided within this Finance and Investment Report has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as well as Council's financial management policies and procedures. Further, the financial position of Council is satisfactory and the external investments are held in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government act 1993.

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of July 2024
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 July to 31 July 2024, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$10,663,890.24

6.5 Endorsement of Revised Revenue Policy 2024/25 - Stadium Fees



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: Manager Customer and Financial Services

Introduction

At the Council meeting held on the 18 June 2024, Councillors resolved to adopt the 2024/25 Revenue Policy including the fees and charges. During this meeting, a representative from the West Wyalong Basketball Association addressed the Council regarding invoices relating to previous years, along with requesting the 2024/25 fees and charges relating to the use of the West Wyalong Basketball Stadium be reviewed.

Financial Implications

There are no major financial implications for Council as there has been no change made to the adopted Operational Plan Budget nor is there a requirement to undertake a community engagement process or advertise the document. The minor difference in fees will, however, assist a very small committee in continuing to promote the sport of basketball in our small community. Based on last year's invoices the committee will pay around \$16,000 for the year, instead of around \$20,000.

Summary

The Revenue Policy was adopted at the June 2024 Council meeting, with the intention of reviewing these fees and charges. This has now happened, and the following amendments are proposed;

ACTIVITY	ADOPTED CHARGE	PROPOSED CHARGE
Domestic Competition		
Basketball - Junior (including Aussie Hoops)	\$425.00 per session	\$75 per hour
Basketball - Senior	\$425.00 per session	\$75 per hour
Basketball - Ladies Day	\$425.00 per session	\$75 per hour
Stadium - Regular Casual Users		
Lifeball	\$5 per person per session	no change
Indoor Tennis	\$5 per person per session	no change
Stadium - Casual Hire		
Casual Stadium hire including private events & functions	\$155 per hour up to a maximum of \$465 per day	\$120 per hour up to a maximum of \$480 per day
Casual Stadium hire - schools	\$72 per hour, maximum charge of \$260 per day	\$75 per hour, maximum charge of \$275 per day
Casual hire of meeting rooms/foyer area	\$40 per booking	no change
Training - Basketball team	\$295 per team per session	no change
Training - AFL, Soccer, Netball etc	\$150 per booking	no change
Daily or weekly hire by non-ball sports	POA	no change

Recommendation:

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the amended fees and charges as part of the Revenue Policy 2024/25 and place it on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing 14 August 2024.
 - (2) should there be comments received from the community on the proposed amendment to the Bland Shire Council Revenue Policy 2024/25, a further report be prepared and presented to Council
 - (3) Should there be no comment from the community within the 42-day commentary period, Council formally adopt the amendment to the Bland Shire Council Revenue Policy 2024/25
-

6.6 Community Benefit Fund Endorsement



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3 - Provide cultural activities and community programs that foster social development and community wellbeing.

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

Council staff, as part of their due diligence in the reviewing of development documentation, identified a potential, time-limited funding stream to benefit the local community as part of a State Significant Development. The result of this is the development of a planning agreement and the creation of the Community Benefit Fund (CBF).

Financial Implications

The Community Benefit Fund will see an amount of \$30,000 made available to local community organisations and Council on an annual basis for a period of nine (9) years.

Summary

As part of the global shift toward clean, sustainable energy, and approved State Significant Development 9564, Mytilneos (now Metlen Energy and Minerals) constructed and is managing the Wyalong Solar Farm that will produce about 75 Megawatts (MW), enough electricity to power 27,000 average Australian homes, whilst also creating 150 jobs during construction and full and part-time positions during operation.

Prior to the issuing of a Final Occupation Certificate, Council received an enquiry from the certifier for the Wyalong Solar Farm requesting if there were any outstanding items.

The Planning team identified within the “Response to Submissions” document dated January 2019, under Voluntary Planning Agreement/Proposed Community Fund of Wyalong Solar Farm – the following response from the Proponent which said:

“ESCO Pacific will prepare a Community Benefit Fund and will provide it to Bland Shire Council in the first instance for feedback. The plan will set up a procedure to offer a fund of money towards community projects. The fund will be jointly administered by representatives of Council, elected members of the community and a representative of the project. It is intended to favour initiatives which benefit the broadest number of local members of the community and neighbours closer to the solar farm, as opposed to groups further away.”

Council advised the certifier of the above, and that at that point in time it had no record of a Community Fund submitted to Council for feedback.

Discussions between the Manager of Development and Regulatory services and Mytilneos Community Liaison Manager Oceania delivered the Draft Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) for feedback.

The proposed VPA

The Wyalong Community Benefit Fund can provide support in the form of sponsorships, donations, and grants with the following criteria to all applicants:

- Funding of \$30,000 or less.
- Consideration for small, one-time donations and sponsorships.
- Support for events, programs, or initiatives that directly benefit the local community.

Such contributions may be provided in cash or in-kind.

The Primary focus of the program is to address various community needs, including:

- Education
- Youth
- Environment
- Health, safety, and well-being
- Community infrastructure
- Arts and culture
- Economic development
- Social welfare

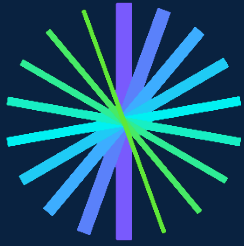
Metlen provided documentation outlining the framework for managing the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund associated with the project. This documentation forms the basis of the Fund guidelines and is attached for information. Also attached is the agreement documentation which stipulates the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Recent media coverage has indicated that the Solar Farm at Wyalong was being offered for sale after Metlen had placed its Australian renewable assets on the market. Confirmation was sought from the company's Community Liaison Manager as to the impact the sale would have on the future of the Fund and they advised that the commitments for contributions is being made by the Wyalong SPV (Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd as trustee for the Wyalong Solar Farm Unit Trust). As such, in the event of a change of ownership of the Wyalong project, the buyer would be responsible for the CBF commitments as the owner of the Wyalong SPV.

Recommendation:

That Council

- 1) Endorse the Community Benefit Fund guidelines, and;
 - 2) Authorise the General Manager to sign the agreement between Council and the Developer of the Wyalong Solar Farm.
-



Metlen
Energy & Metals

Wyalong Community Benefit Fund

July 2024

About the Wyalong Solar Farm

As part of the global shift toward clean, sustainable energy, Metlen has constructed and is managing a solar farm that will produce about 75 Megawatts (MW) of power by converting energy from the sun to electricity through the use of photovoltaic modules (solar panels). Situated 7.5 km northeast of West Wyalong in New South Wales and occupying approximately 160 hectares of land, the Wyalong Solar Farm will generate enough electricity to power 27,000 average Australian homes, whilst also creating 150 jobs during construction and full and part-time positions during operation.

The Wyalong Solar Farm reflects our commitment to providing sustainable energy solutions and has now been completed.

Purpose of this Document

This document outlines the framework for managing the Community Benefit Fund associated with the Project, in accordance with the Planning Approval Requirements outlined in sections 7.11 and 7.12.

Planning Approval Requirements

Under Voluntary Planning Agreement/Proposed Community Fund of Wyalong Solar Farm – Response to Submissions dated January 2019 the response from the Proponent says:

“ESCO Pacific will prepare a community Benefit Fund and will provide it to Bland Shire Council in the first instance for feedback. The plan will set up a procedure to offer a fund of money towards community projects. The fund will be jointly administered by representatives of Council, elected members of the community and a representative of the project. It is intended to favour initiatives which benefit the broadest number of local members of the community and neighbours closer to the solar farm, as opposed to groups further away.”

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About Metlen Energy & Metals

Metlen Energy & Metals (M Renewables) is a leading international energy company that successfully delivers Renewables and Storage development across the five continents. With decades of experience, Metlen has

expertise across the full range of solar power applications, ranging from stand-alone solar parks and storage applications to complex hybrid projects.

The decades of experience of the Metlen group in the thermal power sector also make us an ideal partner for hybrid applications, which combine the advantages of renewable energy sources with conventional power generation. Within the domain of electrical infrastructure, we have considerable experience and engineering capability essential for the successful integration of solar power to the grid. In addition to EPC activity, we are also experienced project developers and plant operators. We have the experience and capacity to support solar PV and energy storage projects from inception, through the development and construction stages and for the complete lifetime of the project.

Sustainability

Metlen's strategic line to be an active member of its local communities and to make a positive difference where it operates.



The 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are on the UN agenda for a more sustainable future for all, until 2030. Metlen has aligned its policy with the SDGs, which are used by the company as a common basis for dialogue and cooperation with its key Stakeholder groups, defining, at the same time, its Corporate Responsibility priorities for the next years.



About Wyalong Community Benefit Fund

Metlen is dedicated to fostering positive impacts within local communities by actively participating in and endorsing various community initiatives, projects, and events. Our goal is to strengthen local communities through lasting impact within the communities we operate in.

That means contributing to building community resilience, supporting issues of significance, and cultivating relationships with the people and organisations within the community.

The establishment of the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund demonstrates Metlen's commitment to supporting the communities where we are actively engaged in. This support takes the form of sponsorships and donations for initiatives that align with Metlen's values and contribute to strengthening local communities.

Management of Wyalong Community Benefit Fund

The development contribution payment schedule to Bland Shire council for the management of Wyalong Community Benefit Fund paid by Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd (ACN 629 132 958) as trustee for the Wyalong Solar Farm Unit Trust (ABN 71 608 734 848) (the Wyalong SPV).

- \$30,000 per year for 9 (nine) years (\$270,000 total) commencing 1 July 2024.

A "year" for the purposes of Wyalong Community Benefit Fund will be a 30 June financial year.

At the beginning of each year, Council will invoice the Wyalong SPV for \$30,000 for that year's payment to the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund.

Any unused funds at the end of each year will either be set off from the next year's payment to the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund or returned to the Wyalong SPV.

What can the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund support?

The Wyalong Community Benefit Fund can provide support in the form of sponsorships, donations, and grants with the following criteria to all applicants:

- Funding of \$30,000 or less.
- Consideration for small, one-time donations and sponsorships.
- Support for events, programs, or initiatives that directly benefit the local community.
- Co-contributions may be provided in cash or in-kind.

Applications to the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund will be held on an annual basis.

In the event that a project to the full value of any given year's funding is approved, that organisation will be ineligible for further funding under this program.

Primary Focus Areas

The program aims to address various community needs, including:

- Education
- Youth
- Environment
- Health, safety, and well-being
- Community infrastructure
- Arts and culture
- Economic development
- Social welfare

Metlen Values

Effectiveness with Safety as a Priority



Resilience

We face difficult challenges, and we are committed to achieving our goals while always ensuring safety at work.

Ceaseless effort for Competitiveness by our People



Challenge

Our effort to be competitive is ceaseless and it is based on the know-how, skills, and dedication of our people as well as our continuous investment in adapting and updating our processes.

Respect and important Role for every Employee



Respect

We respect our employees, develop their skills, provide them with the communication and all the qualifications they may need to support their role, at all the levels of the Organisation.

Two success factors: Teamwork and Excellence



Excellence

We achieve results that initially seem impossible. working as a team.

At the same time, however, we recognise excellence on an individual level and make the most of it.

Continuous Improvement by All in Everything we do



Change

Continuous progress is an integral part of our role, alongside the execution of running projects. Our employees know their job well, have ideas on how to improve it and receive recognition when sound ideas are implemented.

How to apply



To apply for support from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund, please follow these steps:

- Read the application guidelines carefully to understand the eligibility criteria and requirements.
- Complete the application form provided.
- Sign the completed application form.

Once completed, please submit your application via:

Email

council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Eligibility criteria and guidelines

Organisations seeking support from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a registered entity in Australia with a valid Australian Business Number (ABN).
2. Must be a registered charity, not-for-profit organisation, educational institution, or entity with a demonstrable governance structure.
3. Must be delivering an event, program, or initiative that directly benefits the local community. Priority will be given to initiatives benefiting the Wyalong region.
4. Must possess a current public liability insurance policy.
5. Groups that do not fit the above criteria can apply for funding through an auspice arrangement. An auspice agreement is an agreement where the organisation (the 'Principal Organisation') agrees to apply for funding on behalf of a second organisation (the 'Auspiced Organisation'). The Principal Organisation then receives, holds, and administers the funding for the Auspiced Organisation.

Metlen and the Bland Shire Council do not provide support to:

- Political organisations or campaigns.
- Religious organisations for religious activities.
- Individuals seeking support for personal reasons.
- Organisations or groups whose planned activities pose health and safety risks.
- Private companies or commercial entities seeking funding.
- Activities promoting alcohol or gambling.

Activities directly benefiting Metlen's subsidiaries, employees, or contractors financially.

Programs or activities that may violate Metlen's Code of Conduct or regulatory, licensing, or statutory commitments.

Funding will NOT be provided for:

- Ongoing operational costs (e.g. rent, salaries, maintenance and administration);
- Requests from commercial organisations;
- Requests from individuals or groups for private functions;
- Fundraising purposes;
- Prize money;
- Debutante Balls;
- Events organised by political parties or lobby groups;
- Educational facilities;

- Non purpose cash donations to groups;
- Reimbursement of expenditure already incurred;
- Projects where the purpose is considered the responsibility of state or federal government; or
- Projects that are clearly a duplication of an existing service.

Assessment Process

All applications will undergo review and assessment from representatives from Metlen and the Bland Shire Council.

Applications will be evaluated based on the information provided. The assessment process is as follows:

1. The Bland Shire Council will initially review applications to confirm eligibility criteria adherence. Further information may be requested if necessary.

The Bland Shire Council and Metlen will rank all applications based on:

- Contribution to local community or broader regional benefits through events, programs, or initiatives.
- Alignment with one or more key focus areas.

While meeting the assessment criteria is essential, not every eligible application may receive funding.

All decisions made by Metlen and the Bland Shire Council are conclusive.

2. Successful applicants will be contacted directly to validate application details before entering into a Funding Agreement.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will receive a "Letter of Grant Approval" from the Bland Shire Council and will be asked to enter into a Funding Agreement.

Unsuccessful Applicants

Unsuccessful applicants will receive a "Letter of Grant Decline" from the Bland Shire Council, confirming the outcome. Requests for additional feedback can be made by emailing the Bland Shire Council. We encourage all unsuccessful applicants to consider applying for future funding rounds.

Application process timeline

1. Applicant verifies project eligibility using the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund Guidelines.
2. Applicant submits the application along with supporting materials.
3. The Bland Shire Council acknowledges receipt of the application and may request additional information if necessary.

The Bland Shire Council and Metlen evaluates the applications.

4. Recommendations are presented for review and approval.

5. Successful applicants are notified in writing within six weeks of the closing date.
6. Unsuccessful applicants are also notified in writing.
7. Funding Agreement is signed.
8. Applicants receive funding.
9. Program implementation begins.
10. Funding recipients submit an evaluation report and financial summary within two months after program delivery.

Awarding grant funding and acquittal process

Awarding Grant Funding

All successful applicants will receive approved funding through electronic transfer. Payments will be made exclusively to the nominated organisation. A remittance will be emailed to the contact person identified on the application form. Any grant from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund includes applicable GST.

Use of Funding

Funding provided by the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund must be utilised for the approved project within the agreed timeframe. If, at any point, the intended purpose and use of the funds cannot be fulfilled as described in the application, the recipient must promptly inform Metlen and Bland Shire Council. Funds are non-transferable.

Privacy and Confidentiality

By completing the application form, the applicant and recipient consent to Metlen and the Bland Shire Council using the provided information for the purposes of assessing the application and, if successful, granting funds. Applicants also agree to Metlen and the Bland Shire Council disclosing details of successful projects and the granted amounts to each successful applicant.

Evaluation and acquittal process

Recipients must submit an evaluation report to Metlen and the Bland Shire Council within two months of completing the program. The evaluation report should include:

- A summary of program activities.
- Description of benefits and beneficiaries.
- Evidence of funds usage for the program (e.g., invoices).
- Copies of photos and promotional materials where available.

It is the organisation's responsibility to maintain comprehensive records for acquittal purposes. Recipients must also provide photos and/or videos as part of the acquittal process. By submitting images, recipients agree to allow Metlen and the Bland Shire Council to use them for promoting the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund, including all forms of press and media channels. Written consent from any individuals in the photos and videos must be provided to Metlen and the Bland Shire Council as part of the acquittal process.

Recipients who fail to complete the acquittal report will not be eligible for future rounds of funding from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund. Metlen and the Bland Shire Council reserve the right to request the return of any unused funds as part of the acquittal process.

Furthermore, Metlen and the Bland Shire Council reserve the right to conduct quality assurance checks on all implementing partners to ensure that funding is used in accordance with the Funding Agreement.

Links

[Bland shire Council Website](#)

[Email us](#)

[Wyalong Solar – Wyalong Solar Farm](#)

[Metlen - Metlen Website](#)

[Contact Us – Wyalong Solar \(\[wyalongsolarfarm.com.au\]\(http://wyalongsolarfarm.com.au\)\)](#)



Agreement

Draft 3
27 June 2024

Wyalong Solar Farm SSD 9564

Planning Agreement

Under s 7.4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
(NSW)

Bland Shire Council

Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd as trustee for the
Wyalong Solar Farm Unit Trust



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Planning Agreement

Date ►

Between the parties

Bland Shire Council ABN 13 251 814 087 of 6 Shire Street,
West Wyalong, NSW, 2671
(**Council**)

and

Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd (ACN 629 132 958) as trustee
for the Wyalong Solar Farm Unit Trust (ABN 71 608 734 848) of
Level 5, 461 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(**Developer**)

Recitals

- 1 The Developer proposes to develop the Wyalong Solar Farm which is State significant development and is approved under the EP&A Act by the Development Consent.
 - 2 The Wyalong Solar Farm is on land within the Bland local government area.
 - 3 The parties have agreed to enter into this Agreement to set out the terms upon which the Developer will make the Development Contributions to the Council in relation to the Wyalong Solar Farm.
-

The parties agree as follows:



1 Definitions and interpretation

1.1 Definitions

The meanings of the terms used in this agreement are set out below.

Development means the development the subject of the Development Consent.

Development Consent means State significant development consent SSD 9564 granted on 7 May 2019, as modified from time to time.

Development Contribution means the development contributions specified in Schedule 4.

EP&A Act means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW).

Land means the land described in Schedule 3.

Occupation Certificate has the same meaning as in the EP&A Act.

Wyalong Community Benefit Fund means the community benefit fund for the Wyalong community as detailed in Annexure A of this agreement.

Wyalong Solar Farm has the same meaning as Development, being the development the subject of the Development Consent.

1.2 Interpretation

- (a) Clause headings are for convenience only and will be ignored in the interpretation of this agreement.
- (b) References to a party include the successors and permitted assigns of that party.
- (c) Words importing the singular include the plural and words importing the plural include the singular.
- (d) Words importing a person include a corporation, firm or body corporate.
- (e) Nothing contained in this agreement will be deemed or construed as creating the relationship of partnership.
- (f) References to a month mean a calendar month and a reference to a year means a 30 June financial year.
- (g) References to any document include any permitted amendment, supplement to or replacement or novation of the document.
- (h) References to any legislation or to any section or provision of any legislation includes any:
 - (1) statutory modification or re-enactment of or any statutory provision substituted for that legislation, section or provision; or
 - (2) ordinances, by-laws, regulations and other statutory provision substituted for that legislation, section or provision.
- (i) Other grammatical forms of defined words or expressions have corresponding meanings.



- (j) '\$' refers to Australian dollars.
- (k) 'Including' and similar expressions are not words of limitation.

2 Planning agreement commencement and application

2.1 Commencement

This agreement operates and binds the parties from the date of this agreement.

2.2 Planning agreement under the EP&A Act

This agreement is a planning agreement governed by Subdivision 2 of Division 7.1 of Part 7 of the EP&A Act.

2.3 Application

This agreement applies to the Land and the Development.

2.4 Application of sections 7.11 and 7.12 of the EP&A Act

- (a) This agreement does not exclude the application of sections 7.11, 7.12 or Division 7.1, Subdivision 4 of the EP&A Act.
- (b) The parties acknowledge that in granting the Development Consent, the Minister (via their delegate), as consent authority, did not impose conditions in relation to development contributions.
- (c) The Development Contribution fully satisfies any requirement for development contributions under the EP&A Act in respect of the Development.

2.5 Registration

The parties agree that this agreement will not be registered on the title of the Land pursuant to section 7.6 of the EP&A Act.

3 Development Contribution

3.1 Payment of Development Contribution

- (a) The Developer agrees to provide the Development Contribution to the Council in accordance with Schedule 4.
- (b) Council will provide a tax invoice for each Development Contribution payment at least 30 calendar days prior to the relevant payment date.

3.2 Public recognition

- (a) The Council must publicly and positively acknowledge the Development Contribution made by the Developer into the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund.

- (b) The form of public acknowledgement is to be agreed by the Council and the Developer but must include:
 - (1) the prominent inclusion of the Developer's logo in any public request nominations as to the allocation of funds from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund; and
 - (2) where appropriate for each particular target activity, a permanent sign recognising that the target activity was funded by the Developer via the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund.
- (c) On request from the Developer, public recognition of the targeted activity funded by the Developer through the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund to be included across all relevant Council digital and offline content distribution channels.

3.3 Reporting

Within 30 days after the end of each financial year, Council will provide the Developer with a summary report detailing the allocation of funds from the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund for the relevant financial year including the balance of the funds at 30 June of the relevant financial year.

4 Disposal by the Developer of its interest in the Development

- (a) Subject to clause 4(b), the Developer must not without the consent of the Council (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) assign, transfer or otherwise deal with the Developer's rights, duties or obligations under this agreement.
- (b) The Developer may assign, transfer or otherwise deal with its rights, duties or obligations under this agreement, without the consent of the Council, to:
 - (1) a related body corporate (within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)) or a partnership comprised of related bodies corporate;
 - (2) a joint venturer or partner of the Developer in respect of the Development or
 - (3) any third party, subject to the Developer proving to the reasonable satisfaction of the Council that such party is able to comply with the Developer's obligations under this agreement (and to avoid any doubt the consent of the Council is not required if the third party has, or is a related body corporate of a company (within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)) which has experience with wind farm projects or other similar infrastructure projects),
- (c) The Developer shall be released and discharged from any obligations under this agreement on and from the date of the assignment and the performance of the terms of this agreement from the date of the assignment and from all claims and demands in connection with this agreement that arise after the date of the assignment in the event of the Developer assigning its rights and obligations under this agreement provided always that the Developer is responsible for any action claim or demand with respect of the performance of this agreement for any period prior to and including the date of the assignment.



5 Notice of change of beneficiary of the Development Consent

If the Developer intends to cease to be the person entitled to carry out the Development, it must give no less than 21 days advance notice to the Council of the identity of the person who will carry out the Development, including by providing contact details for the new person, and, if required by the Council (acting reasonably), evidence of the new person's capacity to make the Development Contribution.

6 No fetter

Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as requiring the Council to do anything that would cause it to be in breach of any of its obligations at law, and without limitation, nothing shall be construed as limiting or fettering in any way the exercise of any statutory discretion or duty.

7 Dispute resolution

7.1 Notice of dispute

If a party claims that a dispute has arisen under this agreement (**Claimant**), it must give written notice to the other party (**Respondent**) stating the matters in dispute and designating as its representative a person to negotiate the dispute (**Claim Notice**).

7.2 Response to notice

Within 20 business days of receiving the Claim Notice, the Respondent must notify the Claimant of its representative to negotiate the dispute.

7.3 Negotiation

The nominated representatives must:

- (a) meet to discuss the matter in good faith within 10 business days after service by the Respondent of notice of its representative; and
- (b) use reasonable endeavours to settle or resolve the dispute within 15 business days after they have met.

7.4 Further notice if not settled

If the dispute is not resolved within 15 business days after the nominated representatives have met, either party may give to the other a written notice calling for determination of the dispute (**Dispute Notice**).

7.5 Mediation

The parties agree that a dispute shall be mediated if it is the subject of a Dispute Notice, in which case:

- (a) the parties must agree the terms of reference of the mediation within 5 business days of the receipt of the Dispute Notice (the terms shall include a requirement



- that the mediation rules of the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia (NSW Chapter) apply);
- (b) the appointment of a Mediator will be agreed between the parties, or failing agreement within 5 business days of receipt of the Dispute Notice, either party may request the President of the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia (NSW Chapter) apply to appoint a mediator;
 - (c) the Mediator appointed pursuant to this clause 7.5 must:
 - (1) have reasonable qualifications and practical experience in the area of the dispute; and
 - (2) have no interest or duty which conflicts or may conflict with her function as mediator, she being required to fully disclose any such interest or duty before her appointment;
 - (d) the Mediator shall be required to undertake to keep confidential all matters coming to her knowledge by reason of her appointment and performance of her duties;
 - (e) the parties must within 5 business days of receipt of the Dispute Notice notify each other of their representatives who will be involved in the mediation;
 - (f) the parties agree to be bound by any mediation settlement and may only initiate judicial proceedings in respect of a dispute which is the subject of a mediation settlement for the purpose of enforcing that mediation settlement;
 - (g) in relation to costs and expenses:
 - (1) each party will bear their own professional and expert costs incurred in connection with the mediation;
 - (2) the costs of the Mediator will be shared equally by the parties unless the Mediator determines a party has engaged in vexatious or unconscionable behaviour in which case the Mediator may require the full costs of the mediation to be borne by that party.

7.6 Litigation

If the dispute is not finally resolved in accordance with clause 7.5, either party is at liberty to litigate the dispute.

7.7 Exchange of information

The parties acknowledge that the purpose of any exchange of information or documents or the making of any offer of settlement pursuant to this clause is to attempt to settle the dispute between the parties. No party may use any information or documents obtained through the dispute resolution process established by this clause 7 for any purpose other than an attempt to settle a dispute between the parties.

7.8 Continue to perform obligations

Each party must continue to perform its obligations under this agreement, notwithstanding the existence of a dispute.



8 GST

8.1 Interpretation

- (a) Except where the context suggests otherwise, terms used in this clause 13 have the meanings given to those terms by the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* (as amended from time to time).
- (b) In this clause 8, "**monetary consideration**" means any consideration expressed as an amount of money.
- (c) Any part of a supply that is treated as a separate supply for GST purposes (including attributing GST payable to tax periods) will be treated as a separate supply for the purposes of this clause.
- (d) A reference to something done (including a supply made) by a party includes a reference to something done by any entity through which that party acts.

8.2 Reimbursements

Any payment or reimbursement required to be made under this agreement that is calculated by reference to a cost, expense, or other amount paid or incurred will be limited to the total cost, expense or amount less the amount of any input tax credit to which an entity is entitled for the acquisition to which the cost, expense or amount relates.

8.3 Additional amount of GST payable

If GST becomes payable on any supply made by a party (**Supplier**) under or in connection with this agreement:

- (a) any amount payable or monetary consideration to be provided under any provision of this agreement (other than this clause), for that supply is exclusive of GST;
- (b) any party (**Recipient**) that is required to provide monetary consideration to the Supplier for that supply must pay an additional amount to the Supplier equal to the amount of the GST payable on that supply (**GST Amount**) at the same time as any other monetary consideration is to be first provided for that supply; and
- (c) the Supplier must provide a tax invoice to the Recipient for that supply, no later than the time at which the GST Amount for that supply is to be paid in accordance with this clause.

8.4 Variation

- (a) If the GST Amount properly payable in relation to a supply (as determined in accordance with clause 8.3), varies from the additional amount paid by the Recipient under clause 8.3, then the Supplier will provide a corresponding refund or credit to, or will be entitled to receive the amount of that variation from, the Recipient.
- (b) The Supplier must issue an adjustment note to the Recipient in respect of any adjustment event occurring in relation to a supply made under or in connection with this agreement as soon as reasonably practicable after the Supplier becomes aware of the adjustment event.

9 General

9.1 Costs

- (a) The parties agree to meet their own Costs in connection with:
- (1) the negotiation, preparation and execution of this agreement;
 - (2) performing its obligations under this agreement; and
 - (3) the advertising and exhibiting of this planning agreement in accordance with the EP&A Act.

9.2 Notices

- (a) A party notifying or giving notice under this agreement must do so in writing addressed to that party in accordance with the details nominated in Schedule 1 (or any alternative details nominated to the sending party by notice).
- (b) A notice given in accordance with clause 9.2(a) will be deemed to have been given and received:
- (1) if delivered, on receipt;
 - (2) if posted via registered post, three business days after posting;
 - (3) if sent by email on confirmation of the correct transmission of the email; and
 - (4) any notice received after 5.00 pm or on a day not a business day shall be deemed to have been received at 9.00 am on the next business day.

9.3 Waiver

- (a) The fact that a party fails to do, or delays in doing, something the party is entitled to do under this agreement, does not amount to a waiver of any obligation of, or a breach of obligation by, another party.
- (b) A waiver by a party is only effective if it is in writing and signed by the party against whom the waiver is claimed.
- (c) A written waiver by a party is only effective in relation to the particular obligation or breach in respect of which it is given. It is not to be taken as an implied waiver of any other obligation or breach or as an implied waiver of that obligation or breach in relation to any other occasion.

9.4 Governing law

This agreement is governed by the laws of New South Wales and each party irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of courts exercising jurisdiction in New South Wales and courts of appeal from them in respect of any proceedings arising out of or in connection with this agreement.



9.5 Prior agreements superseded

This agreement:

- (a) wholly replaces and excludes all prior agreements, correspondence, negotiations, representations, explanations and statements between the parties covering or in connection with the matters covered by this agreement; and
- (b) is the entire agreement between the parties in respect of the matters covered by this agreement.

9.6 Representations and warranties

The parties represent and warrant that they have power to enter into this agreement and comply with their obligations under the agreement and that entry into this agreement will not result in the breach of any law.

9.7 Severability

- (a) If any provision of this agreement is invalid under the law of any jurisdiction the provision is enforceable in that jurisdiction to the extent that it is not invalid, whether it is in severable terms or not.
- (b) Clause 9.8(a) does not apply where the provision to be severed would materially adversely affect the nature or extent of a party's obligations under this agreement.

9.8 Confidentiality, media releases and enquiries

- (a) The parties agree that the terms of this executed agreement are not confidential and this agreement may be treated as a public document and exhibited or reported without restriction by any party.
- (b) If requested by a party, the other party must not issue, publish or authorise any media release or advertisement concerning this agreement, without obtaining the other party's prior written approval (which approval may not be unreasonably withheld).

9.9 Counterparts

This agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts that together will constitute one instrument. A party may execute this agreement by signing any counterpart.

9.10 No fiduciary relationship

Nothing in this agreement will be construed or interpreted as constituting the relationship between the parties as that of a partnership, joint venture or any form of fiduciary relationship.

9.11 Further acts

Each party must promptly execute all documents and do all things reasonably required to effect, perfect or complete this agreement and all transactions incidental to it.



9.12 Enforcement

Subject to compliance with clause 7, this agreement may be enforced by any party in any court of competent jurisdiction.



Schedule 1

Notice details

Bland Shire Council

Address 6 Shire Street, West Wyalong, NSW, 2671
Attention Grant Baker, General Manager
Phone (02) 6972 2266
Email council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd

Address Level 5, 461 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
Attention Lluvia Murillo
Phone 0458-012-491
Email lluvia.murillo@metlengroup.com and
warren.woo@metlengroup.com with a copy to
_legalapac@metlengroup.com



Schedule 2

Requirements under s 7.4 of the EP&A Act

The parties acknowledge and agree that the table set out below provides for certain terms, conditions and procedures for the purpose of the Agreement complying with the Act.

Requirement under the Act	This Agreement
<p>Planning instrument and/or development application – (s 7.4(2))</p> <p>The Corporation and/or the Developer have:</p> <p>(a) sought a change to an environmental planning instrument.</p> <p>(b) made, or propose to make, a Development Application.</p> <p>(c) entered into an agreement with, or is otherwise associated with, a person, to whom paragraph (a) or (b) applies.</p>	<p>(a) No</p> <p>(b) Yes</p> <p>(c) Yes</p>
Description of land to which this Agreement applies – (s 7.4(3)(a))	See Schedule 3.
Description of development to which this Agreement applies – (s 7.4(3)(b))	See definition of Development in clause 1.1.
Description of change to the environmental planning instrument to which this Agreement applies – (s 7.4(3)(b))	N/A
The scope, timing and manner of delivery of contribution required by this Agreement – (s 7.4(3)(c))	See Schedule 4.
Applicability of sections 7.11 and 7.12 of the Act – (s 7.4(3)(d))	The application of sections 7.11 and 7.12 of the Act is not excluded in respect of the Development.
Applicability of section 7.24 of the Act – (s 7.4(3)(d))	The application of section 7.24 of the Act is not excluded in respect of the Development.
Consideration of benefits under this Agreement if section 7.11 applies – (s 7.4(3)(e))	See clause 3
Mechanism for Dispute Resolution – (s 7.4 (3)(f))	See clause 7
Enforcement of this Agreement – (s 7.4(3)(g))	See clause 9.12
No obligation to grant consent or exercise functions – (s 7.4(10))	See clause 6



Schedule 3

Land

The table below describes the Land for the purpose of this Agreement and includes any crown land and road reserves contained within the Site as described in the Development Consent.

Lot	Deposited Plan	Registered Proprietor
16	1282227	TREVOR JOHN TULLOCH DEBORAH ELIZABETH TULLOCH



Schedule 4

Development Contribution

The Development Contribution comprises a total payment of AUD \$270,000 to be paid in accordance with the table below and the terms of this Agreement:

Number	Type	Specifications	Value	Timing
1	Monetary contribution	Contribution to the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund to be used in accordance with the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund Policy at Annexure A of this Agreement	\$30,000	1 July 2024 for the financial year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.
2	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2025 for the financial year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.
3	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2026 for the financial year 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
4	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2027 for the financial year 1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028.
5	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2028 for the financial year 1 July 2028 to 30 June 2029
6	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July



				2029 for the financial year 1 July 2029 to 30 June 2030
7	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2030 for the financial year 1 July 2030 to 30 June 2031
8	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2031 for the financial year 1 July 2031 to 30 June 2032
9	Monetary contribution	As above.	\$30,000	So long as the Wyalong Solar Farm has not been permanently closed or decommissioned, 1 July 2032 for the financial year 1 July 2032 to 30 June 2033

Any unused funds at the end of each financial year will either be set off from the next year's payment to the Wyalong Community Benefit Fund or returned to the Developer.



Signing page

Executed as an agreement

Council

Signed for
Bland Shire Council
by its authorised representative

in the presence of

sign here ► _____
Representative

sign here ► _____
Witness

print name _____

print name _____

date _____

Developer

Signed by
Wyalong Solar Farm Pty Ltd
(ACN 629 132 958) as trustee for
the Wyalong Solar Farm Unit Trust
(ABN 71 608 734 848) by

sign here ► _____
Director

sign here ► _____
Director

print name _____

print name _____

date _____

date _____



Annexure A – Wyalong Community Benefit Fund Policy

6.7 NSW Agency Reporting for Bland Shire Council



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP13.2 - Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

Council has a statutory obligation to regularly inform State Government agencies within certain time frames in relation to relevant activities under various pieces of legislation. This report serves to advise Councillors of the information supplied to assist Council in meeting this obligation.

Financial Implications

Nil

Summary

Under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) Council is required to lodge annual reports about its GIPA activities with the Minister for Local Government within 4 months of the end of each reporting year. The required information was electronically lodged with the Office of Local Government (OLG) via email on 5 August, 2024. The information was also provided to the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) utilising its online reporting tool.

The report (**Attachment One**) advises Councillors on the number of formal applications received. In addition to formal applications, which must be managed in accordance with the legislation, Bland Shire Council processed 33 Informal Applications for information in accordance with the GIPA requirements. This is an increase from the previous year when 22 informal applications were processed. Most cases related to requests for real property details and associated development and building information. These statistics are not recorded by the IPC and are provided for the information of Councillors only.

Council is also required to report to the NSW Ombudsman and the OLG on an annual basis following changes to the Public Interest Disclosures (PID) Act. This report, for the period 1 October 2023 to 30 June 2024, was also submitted to the OLG via email on 5 August, 2024 having been submitted to the Ombudsman via the online reporting tool on 23 July, 2024.

The report to the Ombudsman not only provides details on the number of PIDs received but also any staff awareness actions undertaken by the Council organisation. A copy of this report (**Attachment Two**) is provided for the information of Councillors.

Recommendation:

That Council notes the submission of the Annual Agency Report on the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and Public Interest Disclosures was made to the relevant agencies within the statutory time frames.

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review

Reviews carried out by the agency	Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes	Yes

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total number of applications received
0

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	

Schedule 2 Statistical information about access applications to be included in annual report

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0.00%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0.00%

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0.00%
Cabinet information	0	0.00%
Executive Council information	0	0.00%
Contempt	0	0.00%
Legal professional privilege	0	0.00%
Excluded information	0	0.00%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0.00%
Transport safety	0	0.00%
Adoption	0	0.00%
Care and protection of children	0	0.00%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0.00%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0.00%
Privilege generally - Sch 1(5A)	0	0.00%
Information provided to High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0.00%
Total	0	

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0.00%
Law enforcement and security	0	0.00%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0.00%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0.00%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0.00%
Secrecy provisions	0	0.00%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications*	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0.00%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0.00%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0.00%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by NCAT	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%		

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0.00%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies.

	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Total	0	



PID Portal > Submitted ... > Alison Balind



1. Name of the reporting agency for this return *

Bland Shire Council



2. Is the reporting agency completing this annual return or is it made on behalf of the reporting agency? *

By the reporting agency



3. Agency submitting this annual return *

Bland Shire Council



4. Has your agency entered into an arrangement with the reporting agency under s 81 of the PID Act to submit this annual return on their behalf?

Yes



5. Select which agency type best describes the reporting agency *

A local government authority



6. What is the total number of full time equivalent employees of the reporting agency at the time this annual return is submitted? *

116



7. Name of person completing this annual return *

Alison Balind



8. Position *

Director, Corporate and Community Services



9. Email *

ABalind@blandshire.nsw.gov.au



10. Contact Number

0269722266



11. How does the reporting agency ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022? *

Internal newsletters/bulletins

Discussion at "all staff" meetings

Content on agency intranet

Posters/pamphlets

Discussion at branch/division/team me



12. If you selected other, outline any additional awareness activities the reporting agency undertakes to ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022

Enter value here



13. Does the reporting agency include content on the PID Act 2022 in its induction program? *

No



14. Has the head of the agency received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022? *

Yes



15. If training has not been received by the head of agency, provide reasons for this

N/A



16. Have all disclosure officers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022? *

No



17. If training has not been received by all disclosure officers, provide reasons for this

There have been a number of staff changes in recent months which made it difficult to undertake training. However, training is being scheduled for completion within the first month of the new financial year.



18. Have all managers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?

*

No

≡

19. If training has not been received by managers, provide reasons for this

There have been a number of staff changes in recent months which made it difficult to undertake training. However, training is being scheduled for completion within the first month of the new financial year.

≡

20. What measures has the agency taken to promote a 'speak up' culture among public officials associated with the agency? *

Briefing sessions with staff, posters in staff areas, information in staff newsletters, policies and procedures.

①

21. Total number of purported PIDs made by public officials to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures *

0

①

22. Total number of purported PIDs that were made by other persons (not public officials) to the reporting agency that were not public interest disclosures *

0

①

23. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not made by a public official?

0

①

24. How many purported PIDs (that we not in fact PIDs) did the agency not deal with or cease to deal with as a PID because it was not a report of serious wrongdoing?

0

≡

25. Provide additional reasons the reporting agency did not deal with, or ceased to deal with, each of these disclosures as a public interest disclosure

N/A

①

26. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency finalise during this return period? *

0

①

27. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency receive during the return period? *

0



Status

Submitted



SubmittedId

134



Attachments

Add or remove attachments

6.8 Strengthening Communities Application – Barmedman Community Centre Incorporated



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3 -Provide cultural activities and community programs that foster social development and community wellbeing.

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

Council has received a request for a donation from the Barmedman Community Centre Incorporated (BCCI) for funds to assist in the purchase and installation of items to assist with the Back to Barmedman 150-year celebrations in October.

Financial Implications

The BCCI is seeking a grant donation of \$8,995 from Council. The current balance of the Fund is \$40,000, dependent upon determinations of other applications at this meeting. The funds will be used to purchase and install a projection screen and audio equipment for the Community Centre.

The installation will facilitate the screening of The Barmedman Story during the weekend celebrations as well as creating a mechanism for the Centre to generate revenue into the future through the screening of movies, audio-visual presentations for events and the like. Attached to this report is the application form and associated quotation for the installation of equipment.

Summary

The Strengthening Communities Grant Program provides funding to increase community participation and access to information, services or facilities that strengthen the social fabric of communities within the Bland Shire.

Funding is also offered to assist with undertaking new or to build upon existing projects and events. All Strengthening Communities Funding must be as part of a specific project, initiative, or activity.

The Barmedman Community Centre has not previously sought funding from Council's Strengthening Communities program.

The Centre's committee was recently donated an Epsom data projector following an interview by television tech guru and podcaster Trevor Long with a member of the committee. Due to this, the amount for the projector in the attached quote has been deducted to reach the amount being requested.

This application meets the criteria under the Strengthening Communities Funding Guidelines and for this reason, funding for the project from this program is recommended to be approved.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the application for funding of the Barmedman Community Centre Incorporated under the Strengthening Communities Fund in the amount of \$8,995 to go towards the purchase and installation of a projection screen and audio equipment at the Centre.

Bland Shire Council Grant Application Form

Submitted on	30 July 2024, 10:53AM
Receipt number	31
Related form version	0

Type of Application

Strengthening Communities Grant

Applicant Information

Organisation/Applicant Name	Barmedman Community Centre Incorporated
Contact Person	John Minogue
Position in Organisation	Chair
Organisation/Applicant Address	44 Queen Street Barmedman c/o "Wilga" Barmedman NSW 2668
Contact Phone Number	0428763023
Email	jminogue@bigpond.com
Are you registered for GST	No
Does your organisation have ABN? (If you do not have an ABN you must be auspiced by another organisation)	Yes
If Yes, please provide your ABN below	40106952232
Is your organisation not for profit	Yes
Does your organisation have insurance, including public liability cover?	Yes
Is your organisation incorporated?	Yes

Project/Event Information

Project/Event Title	Barmedman Community Centre Inc - Back to Barmedman 150 year celebrations
Provide a General Description of the Project/Event	A weekend celebrating Barmedman that will leave a lasting legacy for the community. For the weekend celebrations we plan to install a projection system in the hall which will host the first screening of the movie The

Barmedman Story, as well a gala dinner and a weekend full of activities within and around Barmedman. We seek assistance through this grant to assist with the screen purchase and installation (we have been fortunate to receive assistance from Epsom for the projector) as well as installing the necessary traffic warning signage that will be necessary for compliance and safety in our community.

Grant Funding Sought

8995

Where and when will the Project/Event take place (please provide location, date and time)

October 4 - 7 2024 The event will occur at various locations all around Barmedman and district.

Will the Project/Event be completed in the next 12 months

Yes

What benefits will the Project/Event bring to the Bland Shire (please state the expected number of participants if relevant)?

The event is planning on re-establishing the wider community's links back to Barmedman through family and friend connections. It has also received a much wider community focus through the attendance of car clubs from Sydney. It will be a showcase of the strength of the farming background of the district with sponsors coming from both within the Bland Shire as well as from neighbouring shire businesses. Around all the hype that is building for the weekend, a real sense of pride in our community and the Bland Shire is abundantly evident and this has not been the case in recent years. The gala dinner is being planned for over 400 people. The extra visitors that will come for a day trip or for the weekend (and not just to Barmedman but the shire) is not known but early indications are that there will be crowds in the hundreds. This will have a large financial impact on the community of the Bland Shire as we are engaging local suppliers for the weekend activities, encouraging hospitality to overflow to surrounding towns.

Has your organisation previously received any funding from Council?

No

If yes, please specify when you received it and how much?

If yes, have you submitted an acquittal form to Council?

Budget

Project/Event Budget

[Barmedman CH Proj Q9586r1 \(002\).pdf](#)

Applicants Signature

The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge



[Uploaded signature image: JM Signature.png](#)



Sound Fits Pty Ltd
ABN 19 134 790 784

**Barmedman Community Hall
Projection System and Audio System**

Client: Barmedman Community Hall

Contact: John, Lisa and Austen

Phone:

**Email: jlminogue@bigpond.com,
austen1976@gmail.com**

Date: 2nd July 2024

Quote #: Q9586r1

Version: 1.0



Sound Fits Pty Ltd

ABN 19 134 790 784

Barmedman Community Hall
Barmedman
NSW

Dear Lisa John and Austen

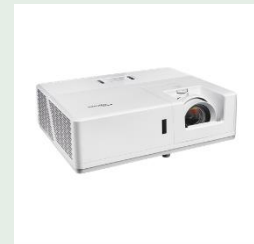
Thank you, for this opportunity to quote on Supply and installation of a projection System for the Community Hall, I have also included the pricing for a supporting Audio System.

I have compiled this quote after the discussions we had during my recent visit to the Barmedman Community Hall.

Projector System

The projection system that I recommend for this space is the Optoma ZU606TU

- Short Throw Projector mount distance 3500-6500mm for the 160" screen'
- 6000Lumen
- 20000Hrs Laser light source
- 300000:1 Contrast ratio
- HDBaset Input, 2 HDMI, 1 VGA



Grandview GRIP160H

- 160" diagonal
- 16:9 scale
- Motorised 12v trigger screen
- Plana R coating on projection surface

Wyrestorm SW-130-TX

- Dual Gang wall plate
- HDMI and USB C input
- HDBaseT output



The price includes Supply and installation and 24 month onsite warranty, the total price is \$11357.73 ExGST.

Optional Basket ball, theft resistant Cage, a custom cage can be constructed to house the projector to protect it on the ceiling, the cage with cost \$500.00 ExGST



Sound Fits Pty Ltd
ABN 19 134 790 784

Audio System

The Audio System will have 4 speakers, time aligned down the hall, two at the front, and 2 half way down the hall face all towards the rear of the hall.

The system will be controlled by a programmed Touch Screen. By using a programmed touch screen we are able to greatly simplify the interface for multiple user and groups to easily be able to run the Audio system, the Panel will also be able to control the projector and the screen.

The system will have 2 cordless Hand held microphones, Mipro Branded.

Inputs from a wall plate for AUX, Corded Microphone as well as audio from the projector will also be include

The price includes Supply and installation and 24 month onsite warranty, the total price is \$13 171.36 ExGST.

The price does not include electrical work, GPO required at the projector and the screen, extra roof reinforcement if required, in this case every part of the construction looks sound, I do not believe this will be required. An Audio System is available at extra cost, not included in this quote

Please find below an itemised quotation.

Hire System

A price to hire a large venue projector, 4m x 3m fast fold screen with the parts required for your event, not including an Audio system, set up the week before the long weekend and pick up after the weekend, use of the system for 2 days

The Price for the Hire including set up, pick up and travel x 2 is \$1680ExGST

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a time to meet to discuss this quote in further details please feel free to contact me on one of the numbers below.

Kind Regards

Stephen McCoy





Sound Fits Pty Ltd
 ABN 19 134 790 784

QUOTATION

Contact:	John Lisa and Austen	Quote No:	Q9586
Project:	Barmedman Community Hall Projection	Date:	2/07/2024
Customer:	Barmedman Community Hall	Pages:	1
Address:	jiminogue@bigpond.com austen1976@gmail.com		
	SF Contact:	Stephen McCoy	

PART No:	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT	PRICE (\$)	AMOUNT (\$)	GST (\$)
ZU606T	Optoma ZU606 Short throw Laser Projector 6000Lm Brightness, 20000 Hrs Laser light source, HDBaset input WUXGA 300000:1contrast ratio	1.00	EA	5999.00	5999.00	545.36
GRIP160H	160" 16:9 motorised projection screen 12 v trigger. PlanaR screen surface	1.00	EA	2739.00	2739.00	249.00
SW-130-TX	SW-130-TX-UK 3-INPUT IN-WALL 2 HDMI, USB-C WITH USB HOST & CEC TRIGGER 2-GANG 4K: 100M	1.00	Ea	1149.00	1149.00	104.45
GVMWC	Universal projector Bracket	1.00	EA	79.00	79.00	7.18
Parts	Parts for installation, not including electrical	1.00	EA	350.00	350.00	31.82
INSTAL	Installation	15.00	EA	125.00	1875.00	170.45
Travel	Travel Barmedman Wagga	#####	Km	1.25	302.50	27.50
	Option				0.00	0.00
xxx	Basket ball resistant (Theft resistant) mounting cage	0.00	EA	550.00	0.00	0.00
					0.00	0.00

	GST	1135.77
	TOTAL: (Including GST)	12493.50
Quotation is valid for 30 days from date of quote inclusive	ExGST	11357.73

Signed: _____ **Accepted:** _____

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 ABN 19 134 790 784

QUOTATION

QUOTATION						
Contact:	John Lisa and Austen			Quote No:	Q9586	
Project:	Barmedman Community Hall Projection			Date:	2/07/2024	
Customer:	Barmedman Community Hall			Pages:	1	
Address:	jiminogue@bigpond.com austen1976@gmail.com					
				SF Contact:	Stephen McCoy	
PART No:	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT	PRICE (\$)	AMOUNT (\$)	GST (\$)
QR1	Xilica QR 1DSP and Control unit	1.00	EA	2699.00	2699.00	245.36
XC-SML	Input cars 2 channel	3.00	EA	219.00	657.00	59.73
XC-SLO	Output cards Xilica	2.00	EA	169.00	338.00	30.73
10PHTS	10" Philips touch Screen with mount	1.00	EA	799.00	799.00	72.64
X Lite12	FBT 12"/1" passive 8 Ohm, 2- way speaker. 12" woofer, 1" HF driver, 400W RMS recommended amplifier. 55Hz - 20kHz frequency response, 126.5dB Peak SPL, Disp 90°H x 60°V	4.00	EA	679.00	2716.00	246.91
AX800	FBT Dual Channel Power Amplifier. 2 x 250W at 8 Ohms, 2 x 400W at 4 Ohms, 800W	2.00	EA	839.00	1678.00	152.55
ACT312	MIPRO Dual Channel Diversity Receiver. 1/2 RU metal rack mountable receiver. 961 selectable frequencies, detachable antenna, independent XLR	1.00	EA	676.00	676.00	61.45
ACT32H	Hand Held Mipro Microphones	2.00	Ea	289.00	578.00	52.55
Project660	FBT 6.5"/1" two- way bass reflex loudspeaker cabinet in ABS, NOM/MAX power 60W/120W,	2.00	EA	435.00	870.00	79.09
XXX	Parts, brackets, cabling fixings and fittings	1.00	EA	675.00	675.00	61.36
INSTAL	Installation	20.00	EA	125.00	2500.00	227.27
Travel	Travel Barmedman Wagga	#####	Km	1.25	302.50	27.50
					0.00	0.00
				GST		1317.14
				TOTAL: (Including GST)		14488.50
	Quotation is valid for 30 days from date of quote inclusive			ExGST		13171.36
Signed:				Accepted:		
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Sound Fits Pty Ltd
ABN 19 134 790 784

Terms and Conditions

Terms are:

1. Progress payment as per agreed terms on final pricing

Progress payment will apply to non equipment works (labour) on a weekly basis.

All prices quoted are valid for 30 days and may be subject to cost variations from supplier.

All items are exclusive of GST.

Transfer of Ownership:

Ownership will transfer at the point of payment in full for the goods supplied once the funds have been cleared.

Service Warranties and Guarantees:

Sound Fits Pty Ltd warrants all of its works for a period of 24 months from installation.

All goods supplied carry a manufacturer's warranty and will be honored by the manufacturer.

Warranty on installation and products are voided if misused other than practices covered in our instructions.

Warranty is voided if maintenance is performed by individuals or companies not authorized by Sound Fits Pty Ltd

Items not covered by Warranty include consumable items, such as batteries, lamps, fuses etc.

Sound Fits Pty Ltd does not accept liability nor will cover any loss or damage or any equipment directly or indirectly connected with the system.

Operator's misuse requiring attendance to site and servicing is chargeable by Sound Fits Pty Ltd to the operator.

6.9 Request for Financial Assistance – West Wyalong Charity Campdraft Committee



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP 3.1.5 Administer Council's Strengthening Communities Grant

Author: Manager Customer & Financial Services

Introduction

The West Wyalong Charity Campdraft Committee is seeking financial support from Council to assist with the costs of transporting the stock for their upcoming charity campdraft event. The event will be held in West Wyalong, from September 13th to September 15th, 2024.

This event will run over three days and is expected to attract over 400 competitors and their families. The quote received for transporting stock was \$16,000. The Committee is asking Council to assist with contributing to this amount.

Visitors to the Bland Shire will support local businesses by accommodation bookings, purchasing food, drinks, fuel, and horse supplies.

Council provided financial assistance in 2022 (which was used in 2023 due to the 2022 event being cancelled) for \$4,000.

This amount has been acquitted by the Committee.

Financial Implications

There is currently \$40,000 remaining in the Strengthening Communities Program budget dependent upon determinations of other applications at this meeting.

Summary

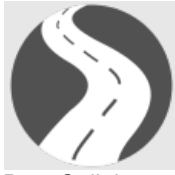
The West Wyalong Charity Campdraft will contribute to increased tourism and provide a welcome financial boost to the West Wyalong and wider Bland Shire community, with the event providing a source of social interaction and entertainment for the local and extended community. Furthermore, local businesses and the economy will greatly benefit from the influx of visitors expected to attend the event. This request meets the objectives set out in Council's Community Strategic Plan.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the application for funding of the West Wyalong Charity Campdraft Committee under the Strengthening Communities Fund in the amount of \$4,000 to assist with the stock transport costs for the 2024 event.

Section 3 – Technical Services

6.10 Sealing Central Road – Funding Contribution



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

DP8.3 Collaborate with transport providers to facilitate access within the shire and regional centres.

Author: Director Technical Services

Introduction

In December 2022 Council was approached by Graincorp in relation to heavy vehicle access from the Graincorp sampling stand North of Compton Road to the storage site South of Compton Road via Boundary Street. Graincorp had been informed by several of their clients that Transport for NSW had given warnings that this route was not approved for High Productivity vehicles ie AB Triples or other High Productivity Vehicles and that there would be potential enforcement.

This section of Boundary Street is a natural formed road with no gravel surface and is currently not suitable for continual usage by heavy vehicles.

In recognition of the late notice regarding the issue a temporary permit for AB Triples was granted for vehicles exiting the Graincorp sampling stand site on the basis that Graincorp understood that this was not going to be a long-term solution.

Graincorp and Council's Director of Technical Services have been in negotiation since, to determine a long-term solution to address the road surface to accommodate regular heavy vehicle movements that enables a permanent heavy vehicle access permit to be issued. Graincorp claim that without access for Higher Productivity Vehicles to the site, the Graincorp receival in West Wyalong is not viable and would influence some of their business.

The negotiations centred around Graincorp making a financial contribution to Council to recognise their need for the road upgrade to support their ongoing business arrangement. It should be noted that there are other users on this section of road that would also benefit from the improved access.



[Location Map](#)

Council at its February 2024 meeting considered a confidential report on the sealing of the entire length of Boundary Street. Council determined that the sealing of the entire length was not feasible due to the cost, however Council did consider that the sealing of the section from Compton Road to the Graincorp site exit was a potential project that could be considered in a future Roads to Recovery program allocation. Council considered that this part of Boundary Street was a logical link to existing lots as well as potential future development lots from the already existing Heavy Vehicle approved route along Compton Road.

At the February meeting Council was advised that negotiations with Graincorp regarding funding opportunities for the construction of this section of Boundary Street were underway.

Following this meeting negotiations have progressed and on 2 August Graincorp notified Council of its commitment to contribute up to \$100,000 (inc GST) (or for the purposes of this report \$90,908 ex GST) to the sealing of this section of Boundary Street. The agreement is based on a contribution of \$45,454 (ex GST) up front and \$45,454 (ex GST) on completion of the project.

Based on the current Roads Program, Council does not have the capacity to undertake the works in this financial year. However, if Council wishes to accept the offer and undertake the sealing of the section of Boundary Street from the Graincorp site exit to Compton Road, a permanent Heavy Vehicle permit could be issued immediately with the works commencing in the 2025/26 financial year with the rest of the project being funded via the Roads to Recovery allocation.

A desktop estimate, which remains subject to final design, puts the cost of sealing this section of road with a heavy-duty pavement in the order of \$250,000. With the contribution from Graincorp Council would be looking at a contribution from the Roads to Recovery Program. It should be noted that a detailed design would need to be undertaken to enable the development of an accurate costing.

Financial Implications

Council has received an offer to contribute towards the sealing of the Southern section of Boundary Street from the Graincorp exit to Compton Road. Graincorp has committed \$90,908 (Ex GST) with the estimated cost of the project being \$250,000.

This leaves an amount in the order of \$160,000 that Council would be required to fund. Council's annual Roads to Recovery program is \$3.25m, it is suggested that this program is the most appropriate source to fund Council's contribution.

Risk Implications

To construct a new pavement that will accommodate Heavy Vehicles will support the development of future access into Industrial blocks from Compton Road. This will support economic growth within the Township of West Wyalong and Bland Shire. The existing GrainCorp facility relies heavily on Higher Productivity Vehicles including AB Triples to make the majority of the deliveries to this site. GrainCorp have recognised this necessity and as such have shown their willingness to assist Council through the financial contribution.

Summary

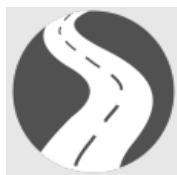
Council has received advice from Graincorp that they will commit \$90,908 (ex GST) towards the sealing of Boundary Street. This will enable Higher Productivity Vehicles access to the Graincorp site.

Recommendation:

That Council

- 1) Accept the contribution of \$100,000 (inc GST) from Graincorp towards the sealing of Boundary Street from the Graincorp exit to Compton Road.
 - 2) That Council fund the remainder of the works from the Roads to Recover allocation in the 2025/2025 financial year.
-

6.11 Endorsement of Revised Revenue Policy 2024/25 - Gravel Pit Royalties



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

DP9.1.3 Review Technical Services Policies and Strategies

Author: Director Technical Services

Introduction

Council currently sources the majority of its gravel from gravel pits located on private properties across the shire. There are currently agreements in place with the majority of the landowners, however they haven't been reviewed since 2017. Council is currently in the process of reviewing these agreements at the request of several of the property owners. The major point of contention from the owners' side is the royalty paid by Council for the extraction. The royalty paid is to compensate the landowner for the inconvenience caused by Council's operations.

Sourcing decent quality gravel across the shire to undertake roadworks can be problematic for many reasons. These can relate to landowners granting consent, environmental conditions, gravel quality, access roads and haulage distance.

In determining the compensation paid by Council, there needs to be consideration of the market as well as the value of this material to maintaining our extensive road network.

Currently the Royalty payment to the landowners as set out in Council's Revenue Policy 2024/25 is \$0.56938 /m³.

By comparison neighbouring shires use the following rates:

Lachlan - \$0.74 / m³

Temora \$1.10 / m³

Wagga - \$0.92 / m³

It is suggested that Council look to increasing the current royalty to \$0.80 / m³ to recognise the current market while also showing some restraint for budgetary purposes.

As this will require an amendment to Councils Revenue Policy 2024/25, this change will need to be placed on public exhibition.

Financial Implications

It is anticipated in the 2024/25 Financial year Council will use 60,000 m³ of Gravel across the road network, the royalty component applicable to this would have been \$34,000. Based on a similar figure for the current financial year raising the royalty to \$0.8 /m³ would cost Council in the order of \$48,000 out of its roads program, an increase of approximately \$14,000. The absorption of this increase will have minimal impact on Council's Roads Program funding and would have the positive impact of maintaining the relationship with the landowners.

Summary

A review of Council's gravel pit royalty has been undertaken based on a request from several landowners. Council relies on the good will of property owners to obtain access to the resource and maintaining the relationship by way of appropriate compensation for the inconvenience of having the gravel pit on the property is appropriate.

The alternative to Council operated pits throughout the shire is to source our road making materials from commercial quarries at commercial rates. The utilisation of commercial quarries does have negative consequences both operationally and financially in that they are generally located at an inconvenient distance from the roadwork site, requiring longer haulage distances and added expense to the operation.

Comparing with other neighbouring Councils, an increase in the royalty paid for extraction is recommended. This will require an amendment to Council's revenue policy.

Recommendation:

That Council

- (1) propose an amended royalty payment for gravel pit extraction of \$0.80 per cubic metre within Council's Revenue Policy and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing 14 August 2024.
 - (2) should there be comments received from the community on the proposed amendment to the Bland Shire Council Revenue Policy 2024/25, a further report be prepared and presented to Council
 - (3) Should there be no comment from the community within the 42-day commentary period, Council formally adopt the amendment to the Bland Shire Council Revenue Policy 2024/25
-

6.12 Four Shires Roads Safety Action Plan



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

2.1.1 Work in partnership with TfNSW on Road Safety Campaigns to implement programs

Author: Director Technical Services

Introduction

As partners in the NSW Governments Local Government Road Safety Program, Bland Shire has joined with Coolamon, Junee and Temora to employ a Road Safety Officer to assist in developing, planning, delivering and evaluation of local road safety projects.

These road safety projects are required as part of the funding arrangement with the NSW State Government to align with the NSW State Road Safety Plan 2026. The State Road Safety Action Plan has 5 key principals being:

- Creating safer country roads and urban places
- Enhancing road safety in local communities
- Increasing the safety of light vehicles, heavy vehicles and protective equipment
- Making safer choices on our roads
- Ensuring the safety of vulnerable and other at risk road users

To do this the 4 Shires have developed a Road Safety Action Plan (**See Attachment 1**) which uses data from the crash histories for each community as well as partnering with the individual Councils, Transport for NSW, NSW Police, Schools, disability and health groups, local bus operators etc to develop a program that meets the objectives of the State Plan.

As the State Plan has recently been reviewed, this has required a review and update of the 4 Shires Road Safety Action Plan.

The updated plan develops the road safety programs which are currently being funded and run by the Road Safety Officer for the 4 Shires which conform with the guidelines set by Transport for NSW under the State Plan:

- Alcohol – Plan B
- Learner Driver workshops
- Older Drivers & Pedestrians
- Speed (October Long Weekend)
- Speed & Fatigue (Easter Long Weekend)
- Caravan Weigh day
- Off the field Road Safety
- Farmers – Pre- cropping Sessions

Each of these programs required a business case to be presented to Transport for NSW with the evidence on how they meet the State Plan. This will include a budget which Transport for NSW must approve which is then funded via road safety camera detected offences.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to the Action Plan. All programs adopted within this program are subject to grant funding through Transport for NSW.

Summary

Council, through the Road Safety Officer as part of the 4 Shires Road Safety Program, has updated the 4 Shires Road Safety Action Plan for endorsement by Council.

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the updated Bland Coolamon Junee and Temora Shires Action Plan 2021-2025

BLAND COOLAMON JUNEE AND TEMORA SHIRES

Action Plan 2021 - 2025



TEMORA
The Friendly Shire



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Introduction

This document is the plan for delivering road safety outcomes in Temora, Bland, Coolamon and Junee shires over the financial years 2021 – 2025.

As partners in the NSW Government’s Local Government Road Safety Program the four councils will continue to employ a Road Safety Officer (RSO) to assist in developing, planning, implementing, and evaluating local road safety projects.



In line with the NSW Road Safety Plan 2026, the Safe System approach to road safety will continue to be used to address road safety issues within the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, and Temora shires. Safer Roads, Safer Speeds, Safer Vehicles and Safer People will be at the centre of strategies to address local road safety concerns.

- **Section One:** This section will outline relevant local government information, crash analysis, other supporting data, and stakeholder information.
- **Section Two:** Will provide details on council’s road safety projects for the period 2024 – 2025, Council Strategic Plans, and key objectives for application of the Safe System.

Other documents which relate to this plan:

- [Bland Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024](#)
- [Coolamon Shire Council Community Strategic Plan](#)
- [Junee Shire Council Community Strategic Plan](#)
- [Temora Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2030](#)
- [NSW Road Safety Plan - 2026](#)
- [Local Government Road Safety Program](#)
- [Future Transport 2056](#)
- [Murray-Murrumbidgee Regional Transport Plan](#)
- [Central West Regional Transport Plan](#)

Executive Summary

This document builds on each shires' community strategic, operational and delivery plan to continue addressing road safety issues in the Local Government Areas (LGA).

Key issues impacting on local road safety include aging populations, long distances travelled, and the presence of agricultural machinery on local roads, heavy vehicles, and tourists passing through the region.

An analysis of the four LGAs was conducted using the most recent ratified crash data for the five-year period 2018 - 2022 and identifies the trends and local road safety issues as:

- crashes predominately involve a single vehicle.
- are non-intersection crashes occurring in 100 km/h speed zones.
- crashes predominately involve the crash movements, 'off road on straight, hit object' and 'Off road on a curve, hit an object.
- key age groups involved in crashes.
- involvement of the behavioural factors of speed, fatigue, alcohol, and non-restraint use

Other road safety concerns include:

- the long distances residents need to travel to access work, shopping centres, medical services, schools, universities, sports, and other facilities.
- ageing communities and a lack of public transport.
- agriculture is a key industry in all four shires, and farm machinery is often driven on rural roads leading to potential conflict with other road users.
- school zones are in wider than normal streets, and drivers do not always slow to the required 40 km/h speed limit.
- main streets are often a thoroughfare for heavy vehicle engaged in road transportation.
- three main highways increasing traffic on the network.
- prevalence of heavy vehicles and light trucks on roads in the area
- lack of defined rest areas for long haul truck drivers
- conflict between heavy vehicles and other road users on rural roads with narrow sealed pavement
- risk of collision with animals and wildlife
- drivers with limited experience in sharing rural roads with large road transport, or when towing a vehicle.

2026 Road Safety Action Plan

The 2026 Road Safety Action Plan features new targets to halve deaths and reduce serious injuries by 30% on NSW roads by 2030.

This will be achieved by building on the success of the Road Safety Plan 2021 and will focus on stronger local government action, engagement and education programs and using technology in the fight to end road trauma.

NSW Road Safety Strategy

The NSW Government is committed to improving road safety for the community and plans to make our roads the safest in the country. The [NSW Road Safety Action Plan](#) explains how to achieve this by 2030.

The 2026 Road Safety Action Plan seeks to continue the accomplishments of the Road Safety Plan 2021 and focuses on enhancing education and local engagement, transforming the safety of the road network and accelerating safety features in vehicles. The Plan also aligns with Future Transport 2056, the NSW Government's transport planning strategy, which aims to ensure safety is designed into the transport network as NSW grows.

The Plan was developed following extensive engagement and community consultation, as well as analysis of trauma trends, best practice approaches and research evidence. The Plan adopts the Safe System approach to achieving a safe transport system, which in combination could cut NSW deaths by 90 per cent and serious injuries by 80 per cent by 2050 based on Australian-first, in-depth road trauma modelling.

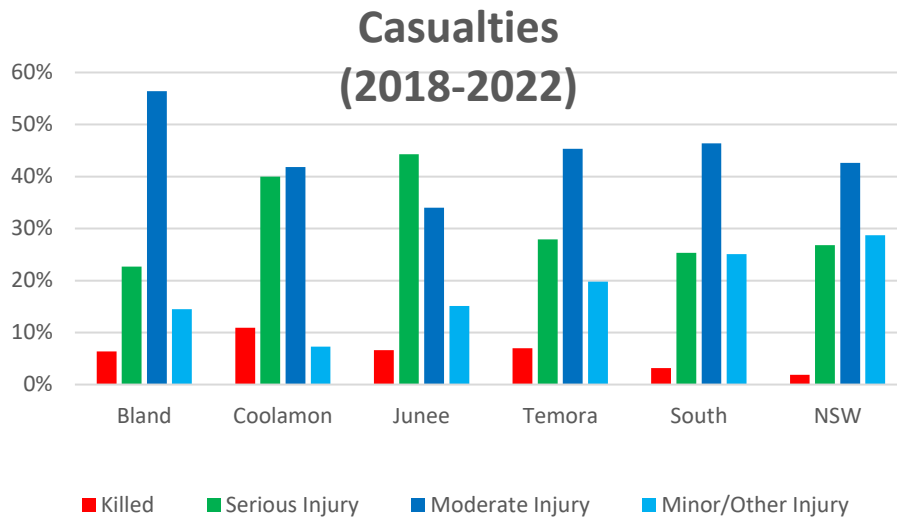
The Plan includes specific actions to move towards new road trauma reduction targets for 2030. Actions in the Plan will continue to be delivered through the Community Road Safety Fund, which directs every dollar from road safety camera detected offences back into the funding of road safety initiatives.

The Road safety's delivery framework has 5 key principles:

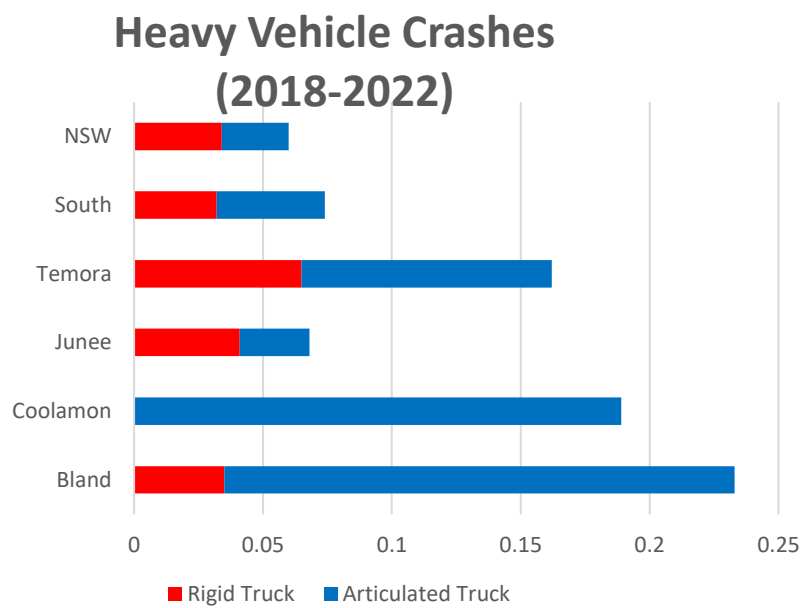
- Creating safer country roads and urban places
- Enhancing road safety in local communities
- Increasing the safety of light vehicles, heavy vehicles and protective equipment
- Making safer choices on our roads
- Ensuring the safety of vulnerable and other at-risk road users.

Combined crash data analysis

Crash data analysis for the four shires reveals serious outcomes for road crashes with serious injuries being the predominant type of injury across all four LGAs.



The rate of fatalities for road users across the four shires of Bland (6.4%), Coolamon (10.9%), Junee (6.6%) and Temora (7.0%) are higher than South precinct (3.2%) and NSW (1.9%).



Heavy vehicle crashes for Bland Shire (24.4%) are significantly higher than heavy vehicle crashes in South precinct (7.8%) and NSW (6.7%).

INSERT CONTRIBUTING BEHAVIOURAL FACTORS GRAPH

Speed is the highest contributing behavioural factor across all 3 of the 4 LGA’s, South Precinct, Riverina Murray and NSW, followed by fatigue.

**Crashes by Road Classification and Speed
(2018-2022)**



The dominant crash movement across the four LGAs is ‘off road on straight, hit object’ in 100km/h speed zone.

When reviewing crashes by road classification the majority of crashes in Coolamon, Junee and Temora shires were on classified roads. Both Bland and Coolamon had a significant number of crashes on state highways

Addressing these issues is ongoing and involves the cooperation and active participation of council’s Road Safety Officer, councillors, and council management, TfNSW, NSW Police, NSW Community Health, schools, service organisations, the media, and the wider community. Strategies to address road safety issues using the Safe Systems Model are detailed in Section 2 of this plan.

Safe Systems

A Safe System is central to moving Towards Zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roads. The underlying principles of the Safe System approach are that:

- road safety is a shared responsibility.
- the human body can only withstand limited forces in a crash before this results in a fatality or serious injury.
- continuous improvements in vehicles, roads and behaviour will reduce fatalities and serious injuries.

The four elements of the Safe System approach, first used in Scandinavia, are safer people, safer roads, safer speeds and safer vehicles. We need to improve the safety of all parts of the system, so that if one part fails, the other parts will protect people from being killed or seriously injured. With all of these elements working together as a whole, the system is more forgiving of human or mechanical error and the impact of a mistake made on the road does not result in a fatality or serious injury.



SECTION ONE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Temora Shire

Temora Shire is in southern New South Wales and is located 418km south west of Sydney, with Canberra a two-and-a-half-hour drive to the east, Griffith a one-and-a-half to two hour drive to the west and Wagga Wagga 88km to the south. Melbourne is 541km to the south. Temora is positioned on the most direct east-west route between Sydney and Adelaide. The Temora Shire includes the town of Temora and villages of Ariah Park, Springdale.

The shire covers an area of 2802km² and is boarded by Bland LGA to the north, Coolamon to the west, Cootamundra and Young to the east, and Junee to the south.



Temora Shire boundary

Temora Shire Council maintains a road infrastructure of 92.39kms of regional roads, 74.01kms of urban roads, and 304.45kms of rural sealed roads, 763.48kms of rural unsealed roads and 130.65kms of state sealed roads. Two state roads run through the shire: Burley Griffin Way and Goldfields Way. Burley Griffin Way carries inland link traffic through to Newell Highway and Hume Highway. Goldfields Way provides an inland link to Wagga Wagga and the Olympic and Sturt highways. Two regional roads also cross the shire: Mary Gilmore Way and Milvale Road.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021 census) notes the population as 6033 persons 3085 females (51.1%) and 2948 (48.9%) males. The median age is 47 years. Children aged 0-14 years are 18.1 % the population and people aged from 65 years to 85 years of age is 23.3 %. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is 3.4 % of the population and 88.8 % were born in Australia.

The most common other countries of birth are England (1.5%), Philippines (0.6%), New Zealand (0.3%), India and Germany (0.4%). There are 2764 people in the labour force and 57.6 % are employed full-time, 33.4 % part-time and 2.9 % unemployed.

The most common methods of travel to work for employed people are car, as driver (63.7%), work from home (11.6%) and walked (6.9%). Most private dwellings have two registered motor vehicles (34.4 %) followed by one registered motor vehicle (33.3%).

The Temora Shire area has a variety of agricultural industries including wheat, canola, and sheep. Of the employed people in Temora Local Government Areas, 11% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Supermarket and Grocery Stores 3.5%, Local Government Administration 3.4 %, and Aged Care Residential Services 3.6 %.

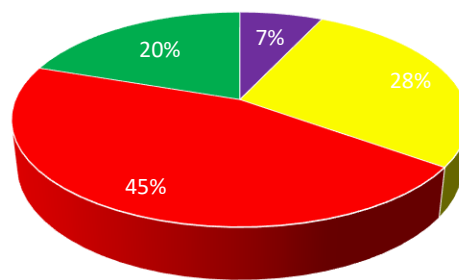
Crash data analysis

Sixty-Two crashes that occurred in the Temora shire from 2018 - 2022 resulting in 86 casualties (six fatalities and 57 injured persons).

The 62 crashes involved the crash movements: 'off path, straight on (23), off path, on curve (16).

11 crashes involved fatigue, 7 involved alcohol and 15 involved speed.

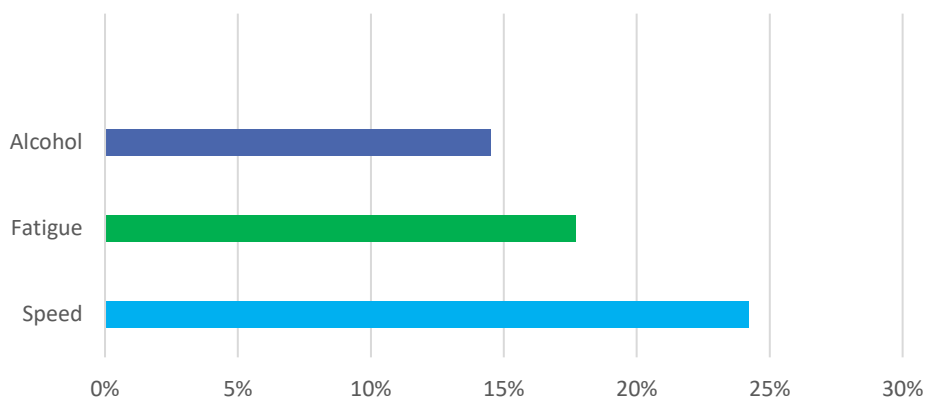
Casualties (2018 -2022)



■ Killed ■ Serious Injury ■ Moderate Injury ■ Minor/Other Injury

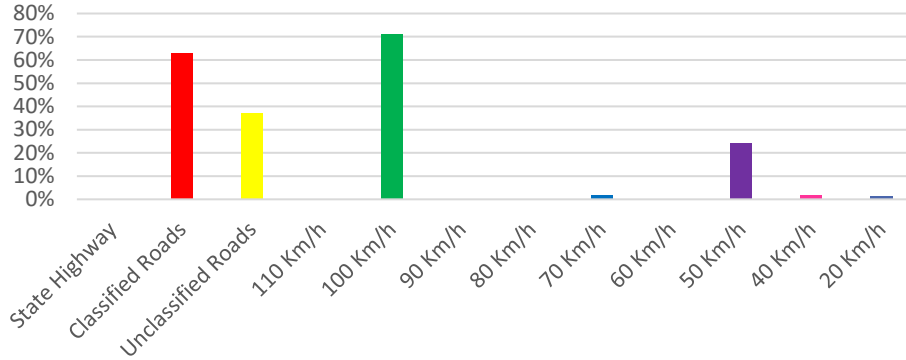
Fatigue and speed were the number one contributing factors involved in crashes within the Temora LGA at a combined 42.0%. Alcohol was a factor in 14.5% of crashes.

Behavioural Factors Involved in Crashes (2018-2022)



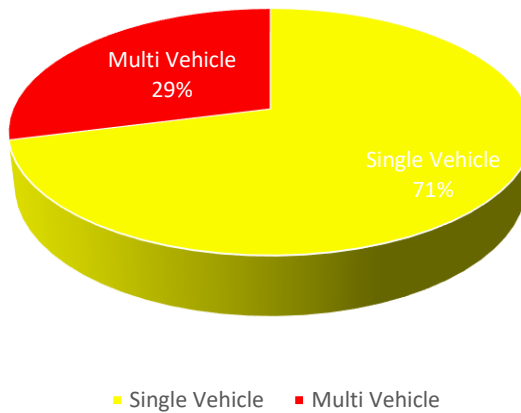
Road classification and speed limits involved in crashes:

Road Classification and Speed (2018-2022)



The most common collision type is single 71% and the vehicles involved in crashes are cars 53.2% (33), (light truck 33.9% (21), heavy vehicle 16.1% (1), motorcycle 8.1% (5) and pedal cycle 3.2% (2).

Collision Type (2018-2022)



The crash movements involved in crashes were (2018-2022):

Pedestrian	3
From Adjacent Direction	3
From Opposing Direction	1
From Same Direction	7
Manoeuvring	6
On Path	1
Off Path, straight on	23
Off Path, on curve	16
Miscellaneous	1

When considering weather, road surfaces, natural lighting, and days of the week on crashes:

- Fifty-Five (88.7%) of the crashes occurred on a dry surface.
- Thirty-Nine (62.9%) happened during daylight.
- Forty-Four (71.0%) of the crashes happened on a weekday.
- Friday & Wednesday were the two days that had the most crashes, 11 (17.7%).
- Eighteen (29%) occurred on the weekend.

School holiday periods involving the most crashes was over the June/July period with 9.7%.

Combined crashes during December and January school holidays is 9.6%.

Bland Shire

Bland Shire is located on the northern fringes of the Riverina region of New South Wales. West Wyalong is the major centre and is situated on the intersection of the Newell and Mid-Western Highways and within a 160-kilometre radius of Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Forbes, Parkes, and Cowra, while Canberra is within 300 kilometres. The villages of Ungarie, Barmedman, Weethalle, Tallimba, Naradhan, and Mirrool are in the shire.



Bland Shire boundary

The shire covers 8560km² and is bordered to the west Carrathool, to north by Lachlan and Forbes, to the east by Weddin and Young,

and to the south by Temora, Coolamon, and Narrandera. Bland Shire is located 593 kilometres north of Melbourne, 483 kilometres west of Sydney, 256 kilometres from Canberra and 163 kilometres from Wagga Wagga. There is a total of 3249.1kms of local, regional and state roads within the shire which is made up of 878.51km of sealed roads, 2370.54km of unsealed roads, and 23.94km of urban roads. Two state highways run through Bland Shire; the Newell Highway which carries inland link traffic to Queensland, Victoria and South Australia, and the Mid-Western Highway which carries inland link traffic from the Sturt Highway between South Australia and Queensland.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021 census) notes the population as 5547 persons with 50.3% male and 49.1 % female. The median age is 43 years. Children aged 0- 14 years are 19.5 % of the population and people aged from 65 years to 85% is 19.7 %. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is 5.7 % of the population. Some 84.3 % of people were born in Australia and most common other countries of birth were England (1.1%), New Zealand (0.7%), Papua New Guinea (0.4%), India (0.3%), Philippines (0.7%) and South Africa (0.5%).

There were 2623 people in the labour force with 61.3 % are employed full-time, 29.4 % employed part-time and 2.9 % unemployed. Of the employed people, 14.6 % work in sheep, beef, cattle and grain farming. Other major industries of employment include metal ore mining (10.6%), local government administration (4.0%), and sheep farming specialist (2.9 %). Pace Farm, AWB and Bland Shire Council are the shire's other major employers.

The most common methods of travel to work for employed people are car, as driver (54.3%) worked from home (15.2%) and walked (6.6%). Most private dwellings have two registered motor vehicles (35.8%) followed by one registered motor vehicle (30.8%).

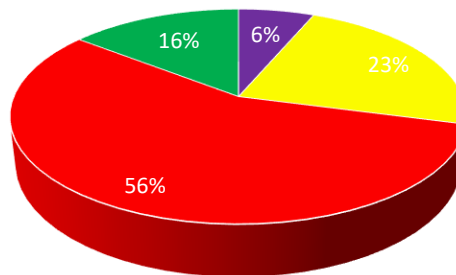
Crash data analysis

Eighty-Six crashes occurred in the Bland local LGA over the five period 2018 - 2022 resulting in 110 casualties including seven fatalities and 79 injured persons.

The 86 crashes involved the crash movements: 'off path, straight on (38), off path, on curve (23).

20 crashes involved fatigue, 7 involved alcohol and 31 involved speed.

Casualties (2018 -2022)



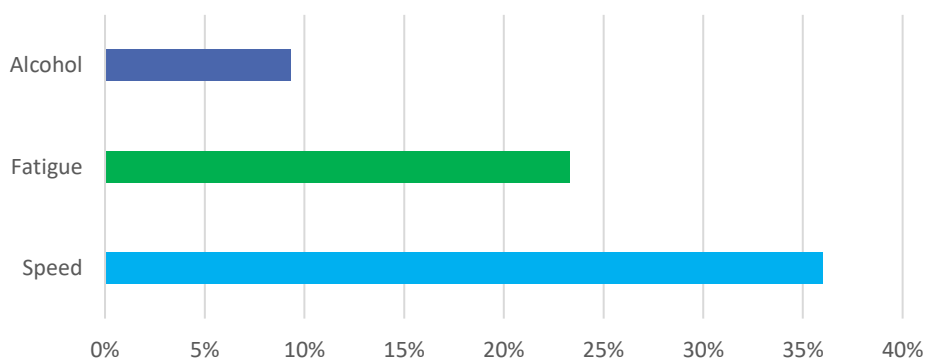
■ Killed ■ Serious Injury ■ Moderate Injury ■ Minor/Other Injury

The behavioural factors involved in the fatal crashes included speed, fatigue, and alcohol.

41 of the crashes occurred on state highways, 19 in 110km/h speed zone and 44 in 100 km/h speed zone.

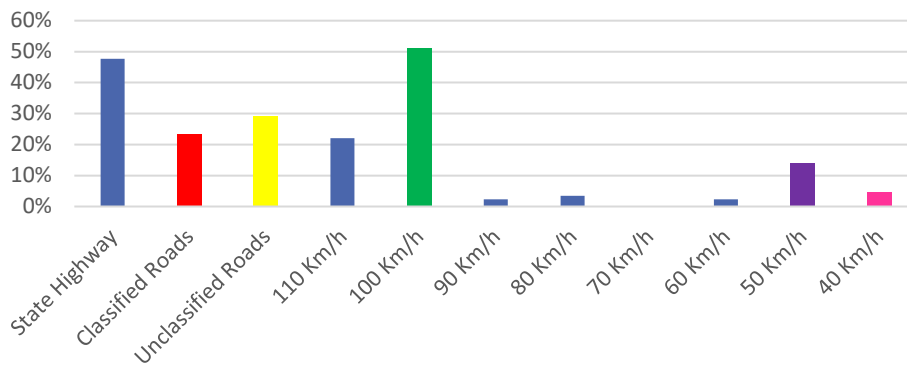
Speed accounted for 36.0% (31) of casualty crashes, fatigue 23.3% (20). Alcohol was a factor in 9.3% (8) of crashes.

Behavioural Factors Involved in Crashes (2018-2022)



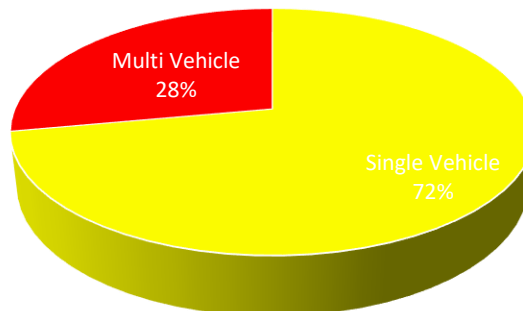
Road classification and speed limits involved in crashes:

Road Classification and Speed (2018-2022)



The most common collision type is single (72%) and the vehicles involved in crashes are cars (48.8%), light truck (32.6%), heavy vehicle (24.4%), motorcycle (9.3%) and pedal cycle (1.2%).

Collision Type (2018-2022)



■ Single Vehicle ■ Multi Vehicle

The crash movements involved in crashes were:

Pedestrian	0
From Adjacent Direction	1
From Opposing Direction	2
From Same Direction	11
Manoeuvring	4
On Path	6
Off Path, straight on	38
Off Path, on curve	23
Miscellaneous	0

When considering weather, road surfaces, natural lighting, and days of the week on crashes:

- 79.1% of the crashes occurred in fine weather.
- 84.9% occurred on a dry surface.
- 58.1% happened during daylight.
- 66.3% of the crashes happened on a weekday.
- 33.7% occurred on the weekend.

Combined crashes during December and January school holidays is eight (9.3%)

Coolamon Shire

Coolamon Shire is in south-western New South Wales and is located adjacent to the Newell Highway and the Burley Griffin Way. Coolamon is situated on the railway line between Junee and Narrandera.

Coolamon shire is located 480 kilometres north of Melbourne, 506 kilometres south-west of Sydney, 264 kilometres west of Canberra, and 40 kilometres north-west from Wagga Wagga.

Coolamon shire consists of the townships of Coolamon, Ganmain and Ardlethan, and the villages of Marrar, Matong, and Beckom. The town's economy is based on a combination of agriculture, tourism, boutique shopping, and events and festivals.



Coolamon Shire boundary

The shire covers an area of 2433km² and is bordered to the west by the LGA of Narrandera, to the north by Bland and Temora, to the east by Junee, and to the south by Wagga Wagga.

Coolamon Shire Council maintains a road infrastructure of 146.26kms of regional roads, 98.13kms of urban roads, 251.07km of rural sealed roads, 748.40kms of rural unsealed roads and 9.98kms of state sealed roads. There is only a small section of a state highway (9.98km) running through Coolamon, however its proximity to Wagga Wagga means that regular traffic between the two towns is increased as Coolamon residents travel to Wagga Wagga daily for employment. The closest state road is Goldfields Way.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021 Census) notes the population as 4393 persons with 49.3% male and 50.7 % female. The median age is 44 years. Children aged 0-14 years are 19.7 % of the population and people aged from 65 years to 85 years of age is 20.6 %. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population comprises of 5.6 % of the population. 88.4 % of people are born in Australia and the most common other countries of birth are England (1.3%), New Zealand (0.6%), Netherlands (0.3%), South Africa (0.2%) and Northern Ireland (0.1%).

There were 2052 people in the labour force and 58.3 % were employed full-time, 29.7 % part-time and 3.5 % were unemployed. The most common occupations are managers (23.1%), professionals (13.4%), technicians and trades workers (13.0%), labourers (9.7%), and community and personal service workers (13.7%).

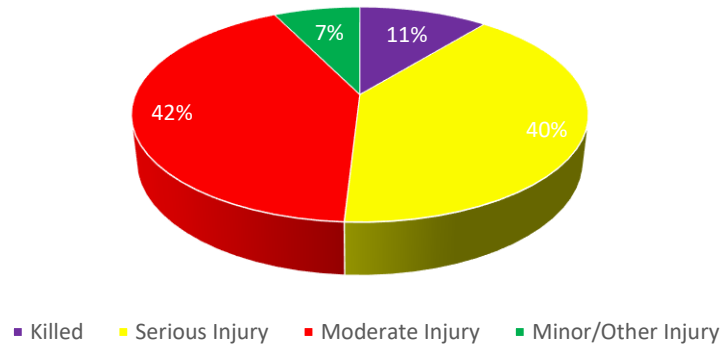
The most common methods of travel to work for employed people are car, as driver (63.5%), worked from home (13.5%) and walked (5.3%). Most private dwellings have two registered motor vehicles (35.9%) followed by one registered motor vehicle (29.1%).

Crash data analysis

Thirty-seven crashes occurred in the Coolamon LGA over the five period 2018 - 2022 resulting in 55 casualties including four fatalities.

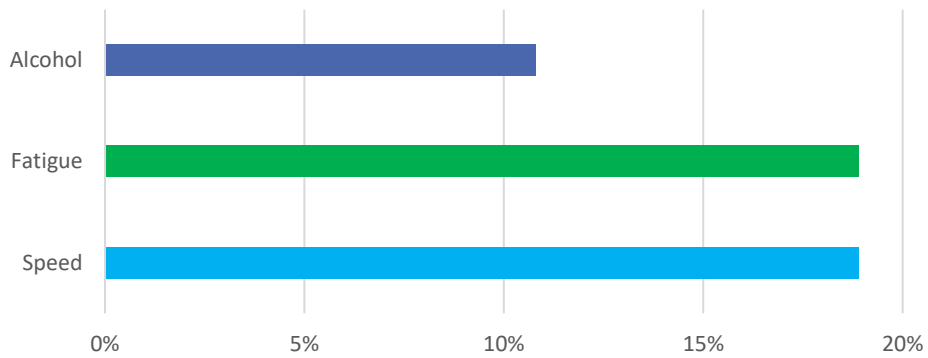
The 37 crashes involved the crash movements: 'off path, straight on (15), off path, on curve (6).

Casualties (2018 -2022)



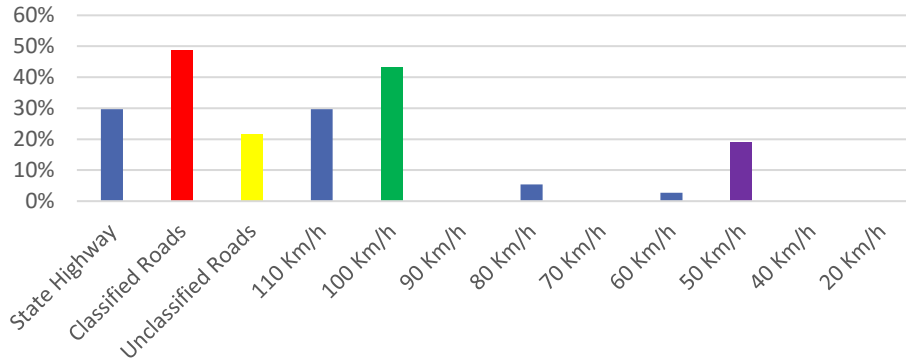
Speed was involved in 18.9% (seven) of crashes, fatigue 18.9% (seven) and alcohol 10.8% (4).

Behavioural Factors Involved in Crashes (2018-2022)



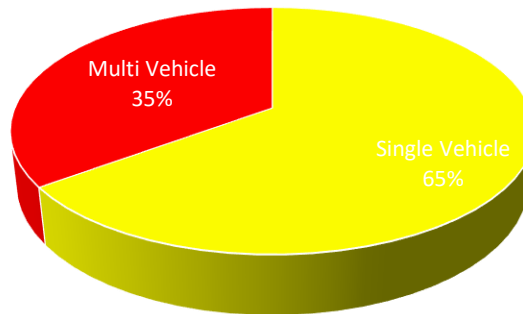
Road classification and speed limits involved in crashes:

Road Classification and Speed (2018-2022)



The most common collision type is single 24 and the vehicles involved in crashes are cars (23), light truck (8), heavy vehicle (7), motorcycle (3) pedestrian crash (1) and pedal cycle (2).

Collision Type (2018-2022)



■ Single Vehicle ■ Multi Vehicle

The crash movements involved in crashes were:

Pedestrian	1
From Adjacent Direction	3
From Opposing Direction	1
From Same Direction	3
Manoeuvring	5
On Path	1
Off Path, straight on	15
Off Path, on curve	6
Miscellaneous	2

When considering weather, road surfaces, natural lighting and days of the week on crashes:

- 81.1% of the crashes occurred in fine weather.
- 94.6% occurred on a dry surface.
- 59.5% happened during daylight.
- 70.3% crashes happened on a weekday.
- 29.7% occurred on the weekend.

January school holiday periods had the most crashes, 8 (21.6%) each.



Junee Shire

Junee Shire is in southern New South Wales and is located adjacent to the Olympic Way and the main south railway line. It is located 491 kilometres north of Melbourne, 438 kilometres south-west of Sydney, 222 kilometres west of Canberra, and 38 kilometres from Wagga Wagga. Junee consists of the township of Junee and the villages of Bethungra, Illabo, Wantabadgery, Harefield, Old Junee, Junee Reefs and Dirnaseer.

The shire covers an area of 2030km² and is bordered to the west by Coolamon Shire, to the north by Temora Shire, to the north east and south east by Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, and to the south by the City of Wagga Wagga.



Junee Shire boundary

Junee Shire Council maintains a road infrastructure of 44kms of regional roads, 81kms of urban roads, 471kms of rural sealed roads, 328kms of rural unsealed roads and 84kms of State sealed roads. The Olympic Highway runs through Junee and the Goldfields Way runs near Junee Shire carrying inland link traffic to Wagga Wagga and links to the Hume Highway for traffic to Sydney and Melbourne.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021 census) notes the population as 6415 persons. Of these 57.1 % are male and 42.9 % female. The median age is 41 years. Children aged 0-14 years are 16.5 % of the population and people aged from 65 years to 85 years of age is 28.7%. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is of 4.5 % and 85.0% of people were born in Australia.

The most common other countries of birth are England (1.4%), New Zealand (0.9%), Fiji (0.6%), China (1.4%) and Malaysia (0.6%).

There were 2629 people in the labour force and 61.2 % are employed full-time, 27.4 % employed part-time and 4.3 % unemployed. Most common occupations include, managers (18.7%), labourers (17.3%), community and personal service workers (14.0%), technicians and trades workers (12.3%), clerical and administrative workers (9.9%), and machinery operators and drivers (9.0%).

The most common methods of travel to work for employed people are car, as driver (64.4%), worked from home (12.7%) and car, as passenger (7.0%).

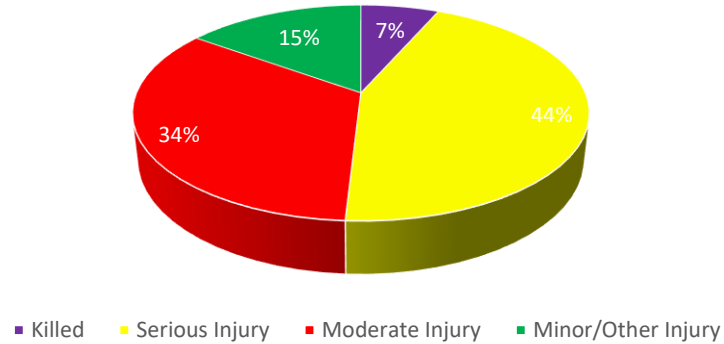
Most private dwellings have two registered motor vehicles (34.9%) followed by one registered motor vehicle (31.3%).

Crash data analysis

Seventy-three crashes occurred in the Junee LGA over the five period 2018 - 2022 resulting in 106 casualties including seven fatalities and sixty-six injured persons.

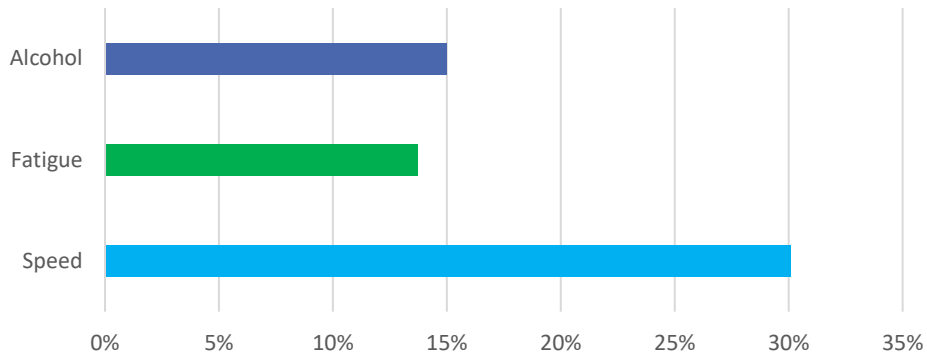
The 73 crashes involved the crash movements: 'off path, straight on (30), off path, on curve (23).

Casualties (2018 -2022)



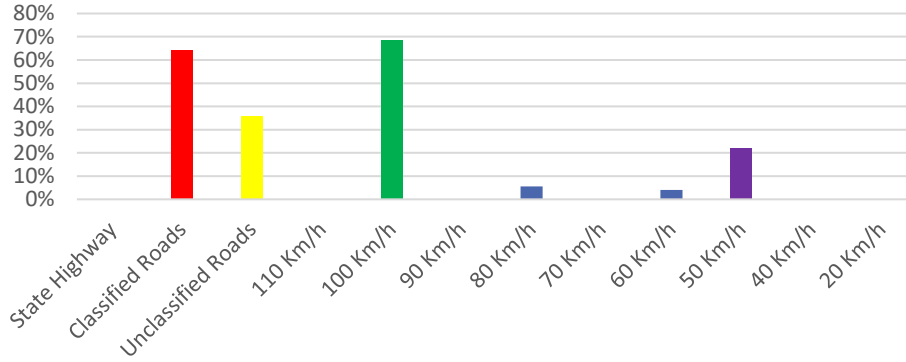
Speed was involved in 30.1% (22) of crashes, followed by fatigue at 13.7% (10) and alcohol 15.0% (11).

Behavioural Factors Involved in Crashes (2018-2022)



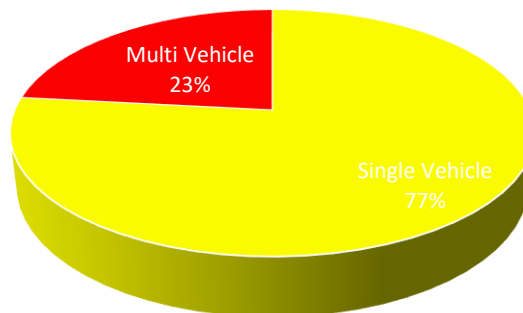
Road classification and speed limits involved in crashes.

Road Classification and Speed (2018-2022)



The most common collision type is single (56), and the vehicles involved in crashes are cars (44), light truck (18), motorcycle (11), pedestrian (3), heavy vehicle (5).

Collision Type (2018-2022)



■ Single Vehicle ■ Multi Vehicle

The crash movements involved in crashes were:

Pedestrian	3
From Adjacent Direction	4
From Opposing Direction	3
From Same Direction	4
Manoeuvring	0
On Path	3
Off Path, straight on	30
Off Path, on curve	23
Miscellaneous	2

When considering weather, road surfaces, natural lighting and days of the week on crashes:

- 83.6% of crashes occurred in fine weather.
- 86.3% of crashes occurred on a dry surface.
- 71.2% of crashes happened during daylight.
- 52.1% of crashes happened on a weekday.
- 47.9% of crashes occurred on the weekend.

The September/October school holiday period had the most crashes, 8 (11.0%), followed by the Easter school holiday period, six (8.2%).

Road Safety Information from Local Stakeholders

NSW Police

Highway Patrol indicated its concern for speeding, fatigue and drink driving and are willing to be consulted and incorporated into projects designed to tackle these local issues.

Police noted that state highways, particularly the Newell Highway, Goldfields Way/Olympic Highway and Burley Griffin Way remain a concern for the number of road crashes

Non-compliance with seatbelt wearing has also been noted as an emerging trend, along with driver distraction (mobile phone usage) and driver drug detection.

Schools

Schools within Temora, Bland, Coolamon, and Junee shires actively work with the Road Safety Officer to promote:

- safe school zones
- safe behaviour by parents and students travelling to and from school.
- safe road use behaviours by students outside school hours

Schools and school bus operators liaise with the Road Safety Officer to advise road safety problems, to seek assistance in conjunction with support from the NSW Department of Education Road Safety Education Consultant with road safety programs they are delivering, and also to promote road safety through their newsletters. REROC and local government work in conjunction with TfNSW and each school to provide safety around school information and Kindy Kits.

Partners and stakeholders

The Road Safety Officer will partner with a range of partners and stakeholders to implement and promote road safety initiatives across the shires including:

- delivery mobility scooter and road rules refresher workshops in each shire in conjunction with service providers such as the Allied Health Stepping on Programs, local government Home And Community Care (HACC), and Murrumbidgee Local Health District community nurses
- attend community meetings including the Temora Police and Community Committee (TPCC), Temora Business & Enterprise Group (TBEG), Newell Highway Taskforce (NHTF), Traffic Committee Meetings and West Wyalong Community Police Safety Precinct Committee (WWCPSPC)
- provide current information about correct use of child restraints to family day care and preschools within each shire
- meet annually with bus operators in all shires to identify and address their road safety issues and liaising as needed to address issues of concern to them.

Additional stakeholders include:

- Local bus operators
- Local schools and their parent's groups
- Cycling groups and other cycling enthusiasts
- Community organisations such as Progress Associations, Lions Club, Rotary, Probus, SES
- Town committees and Village 355 committees
- Community Transport
- Community Health nurses and occupational therapists
- Local driving instructors and local organisations
- Local clubs and pubs
- NSW Health

- Council Youth Officer
- Men's Sheds
- Country Women's Associations (CWA)

SECTION TWO: Council Strategic Plans

All four councils have a Community Strategic Plan that identifies as a priority the need for a safe and accessible shire in which to travel.

- [Temora Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2030](#)
- [Bland Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024](#)
- [Coolamon Shire Council Community Strategic Plan](#)
- [Junee Shire Council Community Strategic Plan](#)

Items of action within strategic plans include:

- work in partnership with key stakeholders to improve road infrastructure for vehicle and pedestrian access.
- maintain and improve general vehicle and pedestrian access within the shire.
- maintain major roads and highways to facilitate safe travel throughout the shire.
- facilitate the maintenance of rural road networks that support the agricultural sector.
- prioritise the sealing and maintenance of roads with support being given to school bus routes, high traffic routes and major truck routes.
- support safe and accessible travel to and from school for children and their families.
- continue to plan, improve, and extend the walking and bicycle paths, particularly to sites of community and tourist interest.
- plan expansion of road network to support heavy vehicle access including road trains.
- review future infrastructure requirements to facilitate community and public transport, and access to health services in consideration of ageing demographics.
- ensure that speed limits are enforced, especially in our rural communities as well as the heavy traffic areas.
- develop and implement of a Road Strategic Plan that contributes to making travel throughout the shire(s) easier and safer; contributing to address road trauma on shire roads by participating in road safety education and efficient use and planning of the road network as part of its strategic objective to improve the safety of people on shire roads.
- implement road safety programs in cooperation with TfNSW to encourage and educate safe and responsible practices - particularly across the four main contributing behavioural factors.
- ensure employment of RSO in the four shires
- enhance our reputation as a place to live and work through improving our transport network.

In addition, the Road Safety Strategic Plan – Temora, Bland, Coolamon, and Junee (2021 - 2025) Mission Statement is: *“Reduce the number and severity of crashes in our shires by addressing local road safety issues and community concerns”*.

Road Safety Officer Projects – 2024 - 2025

After reviewing all operational, delivery and community strategic plans, the Road Safety Officer will deliver the following road safety programs in partnership with the Local Government Road Safety Program over the 2024 -2025 financial years.

Alcohol – What’s Your Plan B?

Support TfNSW drink driving Plan B campaigns with media releases, social media, and promotional material including brochures, banners, and promotional giveaways. Continue to promote the message that drink driving is not acceptable and drivers need to plan their night out and have a Plan B in place. This project includes the Win A Swag Campaign, which aims to promote conversations around making safe choices in getting home after consuming alcohol, other than driving.

From 2018-2022, alcohol related crashes affected all four shires including Temora (15%), Junee (15%), Bland (9%) and Coolamon (11%). Continuing to promote the 'Don't Drink and Drive' message is essential to keep the conversation going about making safer choices when out and about consuming alcohol, highlighting the dangers of drink driving, as there are still some who choose to get behind the wheel and drive after drinking. The aim of the project is to educate the community to make safer choices to get home after consuming alcohol, through positive messaging and conversation.

Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers

Conduct learner supervisor workshops targeted at providing supervising drivers with strategies to create safer drivers through education. Provide teaching strategies to supervisors and increase the awareness of the importance of them as ‘teacher’ in the process. Support campaigns with media releases, social media, school newsletters, youth community groups, advertising, and promotional material including brochures and promotional giveaways.

The first year of solo driving (Provisional licence 1 and 2) is the highest risk phase of a driver’s life. With their relative inexperience, they also face a higher risk of being involved in a crash. Despite making up only about 15 per cent of all NSW licence holders, the crashes that involve younger drivers (aged under 26 years) account for almost a quarter of annual road fatalities. Please find attached the graph for 17 - 25 years involved in crashes in the four LGA's. The goal of this project is to provide the supervisors of learner drivers the knowledge, skills and confidence necessary to guide learner drivers to become safer drivers and reduce the likelihood of them becoming a statistic.

Older Drivers & Pedestrians

Collaborate with stakeholder groups to deliver 65+ presentation creating a discussion around road rules, license changes, safe driving, and mobility scooter safety. Identify transport options other than driving and provide information on pedestrian safety. Provide information and discussion on ANCAP ratings and the value of selecting the highest ANCAP vehicle affordable. Promote safer vehicle choices. These workshops will provide information regarding Top Ten Misunderstood Road Rules, pedestrian safety for the 65+, safe use of mobility scooters and road rules associated with mobility scooter use. The workshop will provide advice and safety tips for the people in our community aged 65 or over to help them make safer choices when out and about on our road and footpath network.

Speed - Speeding on Local Roads (October Long Weekend)

This project aims to educate residents and visitors from surrounding LGA's via VMS, supported by social media campaigns and print media releases and promote the message 'Speeding is never Okay'. This campaign will also reinforce the Towards Zero message that any death or serious injury on our roads is one too many and that we all need to work together towards achieving a zero road toll through 65+ and HLDBSD presentations and any Toolbox Talks given across the four LGA's and utilise resources such as social media, council websites, newsletters, traffic counts, police enforcement for support, focussing on

identified speed related crash site, including state highways, regional and local roads, double demerit point periods.

Speed & Fatigue – Don't Trust Your Tired Self (Easter Long Weekend)

This project aims to educate residents and visitors from surrounding LGA's via VMS, supported by social media campaigns and print media releases and promote the message 'Don't Trust Your Tired Self'. This campaign will also reinforce the Towards Zero message that any death or serious injury on our roads is one too many and that we all need to work together towards achieving a zero road toll through 65+ and HLDBSD presentations and any Toolbox Talks given across the four LGA's and utilise resources such as social media, council websites, newsletters, traffic counts, police enforcement for support, focussing on identified fatigue related crash site, including state highways, regional and local roads, double demerit point periods.

Conduct fatigue campaigns (Don't Trust Your Tired Self). Expand delivery of fatigue messages to strategic community groups, council staff, local businesses and local government information sites. Support existing Driver Reviver sites with media releases and Variable Messaging Signs (VMS). Support campaigns with media releases, social media, and promotional material including brochures, banners.

Caravan Weigh Day

Caravanning is more popular than ever in Australia, and we are seeing emerging trends through crash statistics that there is a need to address these safety concerns through education and collaboration with key stakeholders to ensure a decrease in death and serious crash incidences.

As of 2021, there are now 772,598 RV registrations in Australia. There are now nearly 182,674 caravans registered in NSW. This is an increase from the 154,000 registered in 2019, a 18.6% increase. In 2021, there were 3.6 million domestic trips and 13.1 million nights in NSW. The state received the most caravan and camping visitors in Australia - 80% of these trips to NSW were intrastate.

From 2018 to 2022, Caravanners made up 28% (88 / 315) of all crash's involving a light vehicle towing a trailer. Please note breakdown of number of crashes for each towing type:

- o Smaller Trailer – 123 (39%)
- o Caravans – 88 (28%)
- o Box trailer – 63 (20%)
- o Boat trailer – 27 (9%)
- o Horse floats – 15 (5%)
- o Large trailers – 3 (1%)

Of those 88 crashes (2018-2022) involving caravanners there were 42 casualties. Those casualty injuries are graded as per the following:

- o Killed – 0 (0%)
- o Seriously Injured – 11 (25%)
- o Moderately Injured – 23 (53%)

- o Minor / Other – 18 (43%)

Caravan towing casualty rate ranks 2nd on the list of light vehicles towing type where a crash has occurred:

- o Smaller Trailer – 46 (35%)
- o Caravans – 42 (32%)
- o Box trailer – 27 (20%)
- o Boat trailer – 9 (7%)
- o Horse floats – 7 (5%)
- o Large trailers – 1 (0.75%)

As noted above, with an increase to caravan purchases, we have also seen an increase in crashes involving caravans since 2020:

- o 2020 - 9
- o 2021 - 16
- o 2022 - 20

In one of the four shires councils, a weighing day is designed to provide education and practical advice around how to correctly load a trailer or caravan, tyre safety, safe towing speeds, braking and stopping distances.

Off the Field Road Safety

Many sporting athletes in regional NSW must travel long distances to each game and sometimes training. When either training or playing, their bodies become very tired, and their decision making can be affected. This project would aim to ensure athletes are educated on the importance of fatigue management and to encourage all athletes to plan a head when travelling long distances. We'd also look to encourage sporting clubs to have buses available for players to reduce risk.

Sporting clubs also host a number of social events each season that involve drinking. This project would discourage drink driving and educate the athletes against driving after drinking. Many may still be dehydrated from their game or training so it's important they understand the dangers of drinking when in this state. Each town has one of the following team sports:

- o Rugby League/League Tag
- o AFL/Netball
- o Rugby Union
- o Soccer

Farmers – Pre-Cropping Sessions

All Four Shires are heavily reliant on agriculture. The goal of this project is to better educate our farming community to the dangers of a heavy vehicles. Many farmers may only drive these types of vehicles during sowing and harvest time. Our local farmers may not be across all the rules & regulations when driving these vehicles. In each Shire Council, agriculture businesses hold "pre-cropping" sessions with their clients. These sessions are held at a local venue where agronomists discuss the upcoming cropping season and the support their business can provide. Some of these sessions will see 40 - 50 farmers attend. RSO to attend each pre-cropping session to discuss speeding, fatigue, drink driving and the dangers of driving a heavy vehicle during peak periods such as sowing and harvest. RSO to engage with National Heavy Vehicle Regulators to also attend to provide information such as licensing, road rules, registration, servicing, and expectations from the NHVR.

Additional Projects

The following is a list of additional projects that can be/are supported by the RSO for local council in conjunction with NSW Centre for Road Safety and TfNSW.

- Fatality Free Friday Campaign
- Road Rules Awareness Week
- Bus Safety Awareness Week
- National Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Week
- TfNSW Heavy Vehicle Forum
- Rural Road Safety Month
- Stepping On Program
- Maintain RSO Facebook page.

Traffic Committee Meetings

Assist local traffic committees for each council as determined by each council. This may include minute taking, report preparation, follow up activities, crash analysis, and site inspections.

6.13 Access Incentive Scheme Grant – 194 Main Street, West Wyalong



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DPS 5.1.2 Manage and administer Councils Access Incentive Scheme to improve accessibility to local buildings and business premises across the Shire.

Author: Manager of Development & Regulatory Services

Introduction

Micson Constructions Pty Ltd are a well established construction company in West Wyalong. They have recently acquired 194 Main Street, West Wyalong to operate their business from.

Micson Constructions have applied to Council for an Access Incentive Scheme Grant of \$5,000 to assist with costs associated with the provision of an accessible toilet and ramps to increase accessibility to and within the premises.

The applicant has submitted a development application (DA2024/0066) for change of use from vehicle repairs station to business premises, with internal office fit out.

The proposed alterations and change of use are subject to approved development consent and construction certificate.

As the applicant intends on altering and changing the use of the building, the newest standards apply including:

- Australian Standard 1428.1 – 2009: Design for Access and Mobility
- Disability (Access to Premises — Buildings) Standards 2010
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* requires businesses to make reasonable adjustments to their premises to enable a person with a disability to access goods, services or facilities.

Eligibility

Council's Access Incentive Scheme Grant Funding Guidelines state:

Applicants are eligible to apply for the Access Incentive Scheme Grant if:

- *The building and works are carried out within the Bland Shire;*
- *The applicant is a business, not for profit community organisation, or a community service provider.*

The applicant operates a business in West Wyalong and the building and works are carried out in the Bland Shire Local Government Area.

Assessment Criteria

The Assessment Criteria for Access Incentive Scheme Grant applications are:

The project/applicant must:

- *Have a high level of usage by the Bland Shire community and visitors*
- *Conform to Australian Standard 1428.1 Design for Access and Mobility, and Australian Premises Standard;*
- *Be located in the local government area of the Bland Shire;*
- *Obtain development approval from Council if required; and*
- *Financially contribute to the project on a minimum of \$1:\$1 basis*

The application from Micson Constructions to install an accessible toilet and ramp at their new business premises located on Main Street, West Wyalong, satisfies the above assessment criteria for the Access Incentive Scheme Grant.

The works will be subject to an approved development application and construction certificate to ensure compliance with Australian standards and the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

Summary

The project is consistent with item 9.1.2.4 of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021, as noted below:

Promotion and administration of Councils Access Incentive Scheme to improve access to local businesses and community organisation premises with Main Street hospitality outlets prioritised.

Financial Implications

Project costs have been quoted at \$12,700 including GST. The applicant is seeking a grant of \$5,000.00, which is the maximum level of funding per project, with the applicant funding the remaining balance.

There is currently \$8,000 available in Council's Access Incentive Scheme Grant budget allocation.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Access Incentive Scheme Grant application for Micson Constructions Pty Ltd at 194 Main Street, West Wyalong for \$5,000 to install accessible toilet and ramps to increase accessibility to and within the premises.

6.14 RFT Tender Girral Road Surface Upgrade



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

DP 9.1 Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance for current and future generations

Author: Manager Operations

Introduction

Under the Local Government (General) Regulation, where a contract is over \$250,000 a Request for Tender (RFT) must be conducted and be considered by Council.

Consequently, a Request for Tender (RFT) process was undertaken for works pertaining to the Girral Road Surface Upgrade Project.

Tenderers were requested to provide pricing for the major reconstruction upgrade of Girral Road, within the Bland Shire LGA. This project will upgrade Girral Road, from an unsealed, gravel surface to an improved sealed road.

Council sought tenders for a full-service arrangement whereby the contractor will undertake all works, including establishment, clearing, bulk earthworks, installation of pipes and culverts (note pre-cast and cast in situ elements), grading, minor realignment, infill and seal.

Works will include traffic management, supply of binder and final double/double coat seal being a 14mm with a 7mm coat.

Council sought submissions for a Lump Sum Contract (not subject to rise or fall), with additional Schedules of Rates for any additions to the scope of work.

In response to the advertised tender, submissions were received from one (1) Contractor, being Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd.

Due to several risk-related factors, the recommendation from staff is for Council to reject the tender and enter negotiations with the preferred tenderer. In so doing, Council will mitigate potential issues relating to commercial risks and grant funding deadlines.

Financial Implications

Council had a budget allowance of \$5,000,000 for the Girral Road Surface Upgrade, as a component of the Fixing Local Roads – Round 4 2024/25 Budget. Following the purchase of concrete drainage structures for the project a budget amount of \$4,784,775 remains. The tendered price, based on the submitted Schedule of Rates, was for \$5,270,374.90 (excl. GST) and is in excess of the current allocation.

Furthermore, the Contractor's submission articulates several assumptions for which provisions have not been made. An initial cost estimate, based on an analysis of the potential cost of these assumptions, along with a budget contingency could require an additional amount of up to \$1,000,000 see the project to completion. Council would need to investigate further options to meet this funding.

A few alternate funding sources could be considered to address the shortfall, including Council's current Roads to Recovery (RTR) Allocation, Council's Internal Reserves or the Federal Financial Assistance Grant (FAG) Roads component.

Council's RTR for the 2024/25 Financial year is \$3.25 million with \$1.9 million allocated as part of its annual roads program. This would indicate that sufficient funds exist with the RTR allocation to cover potential over expenditure based on the assumptions proposed by Fulton Hogan.

The Local Roads component of the FAG advanced payment announced in June for 2024/25 is in the vicinity of \$3.3 million. These funds could also be accessed should Council determine that way.

While Council does have a reasonable reserve allocation, these funds have either external or internal restrictions and can only be spent in accordance with the purpose of the reserve.

Alternatively, Council could consider a budget allocation through the quarterly budget review processes or in the preparation of the 2025/2026 Budget.

Risk

Apart from the financial risk which has been discussed, other potential risk issues are considered relevant to this project. Specifically, this project is grant funded and to not undertake the works would have a reputational risk to Council with the Grant funding body. There is also the potential for other programmed roads works to be impacted by the reallocation of project funding and material resources which have been committed to other works.

Delays in project completion and delivery also negatively impact Council's strategic planning and programming. This may also be considered as reputational risk, as Council may not fulfill its undertaking to meet community and funding authority expectations.

Another factor for consideration is that the funds currently held by Council to undertake this project are required to be fully expended by 1 September 2025. Any delays in commencing the project will have a direct impact on meeting this deadline.

Summary

The criteria listed below was used for the assessment of the tender:

- Company Experience - 5%
- Methodology -10%
- Skills and Qualifications – 10%
- Availability – 15%
- Tender price - 60%
- WHS compliance – Mandatory

Council Officers who conducted the tender assessment are as follows:

- Manager, Operations
- Senior Assets and Design Engineer
- Director, Technical Services

The assessment panel noted that the responding tenderer did conform and presented a submission that met the brief and adhered to the construction timeframes.

Recommendation:

That Council

1. Reject current offers based on the significant, additional costs associated with likely variations and additions to scope.
 2. Not invite fresh tenders.
 3. Pursuant to Clause 178 (3) (e) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* enter negotiations with suitable contractors for the Girral Road Surface Upgrade.
 4. Authorises the General Manager to award the contract after the completion of the negotiation process.
 5. That any extra funds required to complete the project be sourced from a suitable external funding option.
-

Section 4 – Reports for Information

Recommendation:

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

6.15 - Youth Services Report

6.16 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update

6.17 - Children Services July Update

6.18 - Community Care Services – July 2024

6.19 - Technical Services Report

6.20 - Development Services Activity Report – July 2024

6.15 Youth Services Report



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

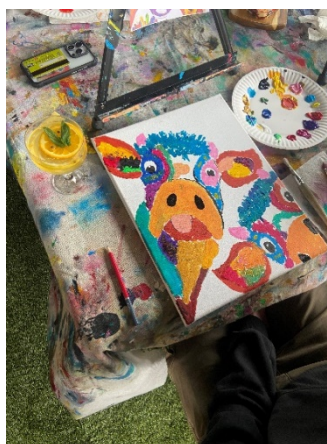
DP3- Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Youth Services Officer

Bland Shire Youth Services Officer attended the Centre for Community Welfare Training (CCWT) accidental counselling training in Sydney at the beginning of July. This training provided the essential skills on how to handle conversations when put into a counsellor's position. Through the attendance at this training, it also provided an environment to network with likeminded people in similar roles to create a more impactful and relative experience. Within the month of July, the Bland Shire Youth Centre provided various activities and events. With July school holidays starting on the 8th and ending on the 21st the Youth Centre had a number of young people visiting and attending the facility. With activities such as Karaoke, Mario Kart Challenge, escape rooms, fort making and just dance competition, the participants had a variety of activities with which to entertain themselves.



On Friday the 12th of July, Claire Cumming facilitated a 'Mocktails and Masterpieces' afternoon. This afternoon consisted of 15 young people choosing a picture they liked to then be guided through the process of drawing and painting. Whilst they sat in the outdoor area of the Youth Centre, they were offered a variety of mocktails and small snacks.



The Winter school holidays were very successful with 38 young people utilising the space. Bland Shire Youth Centre currently also has 90 registered members, with the first 70 receiving a free movie voucher at the Tivoli Theatre.



6.16 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3.4 Foster a community learning culture optimising our physical and virtual spaces.

Author: Library Services Coordinator

2025 Author Visit Confirmed

Bland Shire Library is pleased to confirm that it will host a visit by internationally acclaimed children's illustrator and author, Gus Gordon, from Monday 10 March to Friday 14 March 2025. Mr Gordon has illustrated and written over 80 books for children and is currently completing his first graphic novel.

All nine schools in the Bland Shire have been informed about the upcoming visit. Unfortunately, unlike previous years when four sessions were held daily, Gus Gordon's visit will be limited to three one-hour sessions per day.

It is important to highlight that the yearly author visit, which Bland Shire Library has been offering for the past 25 years, brings significant advantages, including the improvement of literacy skills and the cultivation of a passion for reading, thereby enhancing the overall reading culture in schools and the broader community.

Author visits also foster creativity in students. Meeting a beloved published author allows children to recognise them as real individuals who have undergone similar writing processes, proving immensely beneficial for the child's writing development.

Successful July School Holiday Program

Bland Shire Library held another fun-packed school holiday program in July with all its activities fully booked and over 100 participants recorded. Activities included boomerang decorating to celebrate NAIDOC Week, biscuit decorating with Dagmar McIntyre, water pistol art, and sweet science featuring easy fun science experiments for kids.



RRL Mobile Library – First Visit to Barmedman and Tallimba

Friday, 19th July, marked the first visit of the Riverina Regional Library’s mobile library to Barmedman and Tallimba. Even though it was school holidays, there was a strong turnout at both locations with plenty of enthusiasm evident. The only downside of the day was at Tallimba, where internet access was unavailable.



LEGO Club

A huge turnout for Lego Club on Wednesday, 3rd July with 36 children and 14 adults in attendance. Participants were free to build whatever they wanted, but as a challenge they had to incorporate a bridge into their build. For additional fun, the library hosted a Lego-in-a-jar guessing competition plus Lolly Guessing Competition. An afternoon tea was also held to celebrate the end of the school term.



As part of the library’s Book Week celebrations in August, a Lego challenge has been created. with participants challenged to build something based on their favourite book. Prizes will be offered as an incentive in four age divisions.

The Lego Club is proving an excellent program, as it not only promotes STEM education, but fosters inclusiveness across different ages and schools.

GOLD Club - Christmas in July

The library's GOLD Club for seniors (GOLD standing for Growing Old & Living Decisively) meets every second Monday at 2 pm in the library. On Monday, 22nd July, the group enjoyed a Christmas in July themed session. Despite a few regular members being absent, there was a good turnout with ten participants. The event featured various Christmas-themed activities followed by a festive afternoon tea.

The GOLD Club is a highly social gathering, yet its primary aim is to keep our seniors' minds active with stimulating activities. These include brainteasers, word and picture puzzles, trivia, tangrams, and a variety of other mind games, plus some jokes, all designed to be enjoyable and filled with laughter.

It is especially heartwarming that many of the participants are aged in their nineties, and all look forward to their fortnightly visit to the library.



Roundup of Other Programs in July

- Day Book Club, held the first Monday of each month, was well attended in July with eight participants. The group discussed their latest read, which was *The Horse* by Geraldine Brooks.
- Tech Savvy Seniors, held every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm, excluding school holidays, attracted 16 participants in July. While most enquiries relate to the general use of smartphones, library staff deal with a diverse range of enquiries.
- Storytime held every Thursday at 10.30am, excluding school holidays, attracted nineteen children and fourteen adults to its two sessions in July. Themes included Giddy-up and Happy Birthday.
- Due to the school holidays, only one session of Baby Bounce was held in July. Eleven adults and eight babies attended the session featuring nursery rhymes, action songs, music, interactive play, books and reading.



6.17 Children Services July Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP4.2 Provide quality, accredited and affordable Education and Care Services within Bland Shire and surrounds (Bland Preschool, Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, It Takes a Village and Toy Library services)

Author: Children Services Coordinator

July rolled around very quickly, and term 3 commenced. All services provided wonderful experiences and activities throughout July, and it is no surprise the children (and staff) were exhausted by the end of Term 2 and enjoyed two weeks of school holidays to rest and recover, ready for Term 3.

Educators spent the first week of the school holidays preparing and planning for the term ahead. A few things we did - Classrooms were tipped upside down and received a thorough clean, the service vehicles received a good wash, parks and gardens gave the outside playground a clean-up, teacher meeting was held, staff meeting took place, Educators completed observations, class meetings were held to plan ahead, and teachers met with Allied health services to plan for Term 3 Early Intervention services. Week two of the school holidays saw most educators take some well-deserved leave.

Professional Development: Educators participated in Neurodiversity Affirming Practice professional development, providing educators a greater insight into the different brain functions and behaviour traits of children (and adults). This professional development sparked great reflection on current practices. Educators participated in active conversation about improvements and adjustments that could benefit daily practices. Educators also acknowledged the service strengths, both individually and combined.

CSU Trainees – CSU's part time Certificate III trainee completed her 0-2 year placement component at Little Wattle during week one of the school holidays. She thoroughly enjoyed her time with the young children and the service. Thanks to Little Wattle who continually support CSU's trainees.

Funding & Budgets – The Coordinator submitted the Family Day Care Sustainability funding report for review to Community Child Care Fund.

The coordinator drafted the Mobile Resource Unit (MRU) 24/25 Budget review and submitted to BSC finance team for review, the final submission due to Community Child Care Fund Restricted on 31/07/2024

Staffing & Recruitment – Staffing at CSU continued to challenge. Two educators finished up at CSU in July. One permanently, and the other taking extended leave for the remainder of 2024. Current Educators picked up extra days to meet ratio needs. Positions were advertised, with three applicants. HR and CSU continue to work through the recruitment process.

Bland Preschool – Senior Early Childhood Teacher

Our preschool students enjoyed a visit to the movies, this experience provided them with opportunities to connect with our community, develop life skills and experience social amusement.

Preschool during July included two weeks of school holidays. During this time the educators engaged in professional development that included understanding and managing behaviours. This was followed by a whole service reflection which led to the implementation of positive behaviour management strategies that foster the holistic needs of children. Further discussions following the Professional Development impacted service practices as we shifted to progressive morning tea and changing our routine to be more child led, and child focused. Our service was sponsored by Armstrong Toyota to participate in National Tree Planting Day. A donation of \$250 was received to purchase plants and trees for CSU. The Preschool will have a 'planting day' closer to spring.



Mobile Resource Unit (MRU) –

Playgroup – West Wyalong playgroup continued to be popular with many families in attendance. Unfortunately, Ungarie playgroup was unable to go ahead due to staff shortages.

Ungarie Preschool – Room Leader

During July, Ungarie Preschool program was based on feelings. The children and educators discussed our feeling, how they are different and created our own colour monsters to describe our feelings. The children also participated in cooking experiences, their favourite was homemade pizzas, and the last day of term 2 was celebrated with a PJ and movie day at the Preschool. During the school holidays, before taking leave, the Ungarie preschool educators reflected on the routine and implemented a few changes due to increased enrolments commencing in Term 3.



Bland/Temora Family Day Care (FDC) – Service Leader

This month, three of our long-standing Educators closed their Bland/Temora Family Day Care business and transferred to another provider. This was a very sad time as these ladies have been with us for many years. The Coordinator and Support Officer went over and visited them on their last day, giving them all a bunch of flowers.

We received some beautiful feedback from the Educators as well as a bunch of flowers. Below is a copy of one of the messages from an Educator.

'Hi

Just letting you know that I am finishing with Bland/Temora FDC as of last working day Friday 05/07/2024. Due to closure of FDC occurring. I will be starting with Intereach FDC on Monday 08/07/2024. Thank you to all involved with my journey over the years especially Shaz , Tracey M, Tracey R. You have all been wonderful in many ways. I hope my next adventure will be as memorable and helpful as I have experienced with Bland/Temora FDC. Thanks again Vicki xx'

FDC Enrolments:

Permanent enrolments – 11 children

Casual enrolments – 3 children

It Takes a Village (ITAV) – Service Leader

Playgroups: In Ungarie, Tallimba and Bland Children Services Unit (CSU Playgroup).

Toy Library: There was an increase in Toy Library this month with 43 toys out on loan. Toy library memberships also increased significantly over the year, going from 18 to 37 members.

Staffing: ITAV assistant who worked alongside the Play Session Leader in ITAV has resigned from Bland Children Services Unit to take a role outside the early learning sector.

Data Exchange (DEX): Data input was completed for the end of financial year commitments. The Data Exchange portal required two standardised six-monthly periods that cover 1st of January to 30 of June and 1 July to 31st of December. The Data Exchange reflected the two-way part partnership of information sharing between funding agencies and service providers which enabled an efficient way of improvement to service delivery and understanding overall outcomes achieved for Bland Shire community members.

6.18 Bland Community Care Services Update – July '24



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected, and inclusive community

DP1- Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community.

Author: Community Care Coordinator

General Update:

Intakes under Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) have slowed down due to staff restraints. The My Aged Care portal is open for Community Packages – Out of Hospital Care (COMPACKS) and Transitional Aged Care Program (TACP) clients.

The My Aged Care portal is closed for Domestic Assistance, Personal Care, Flexible Respite, Social Support Groups, Goods & Equipment and Yard Maintenance due to the large waitlist. Social Support Individual referrals are now being accepted through the portal onto the waitlist.

Staff are currently working their way through the CHSP Yard Maintenance and Social Support Groups waitlists and slowly onboarding new clients. The service waitlist is continually growing as clients are inquiring about services directly to Community Care rather than through the My Aged Care portal. All clients on the waitlist are aware of the situation.

Recruiting for a new Staff member was unsuccessful and the position is being readvertised.

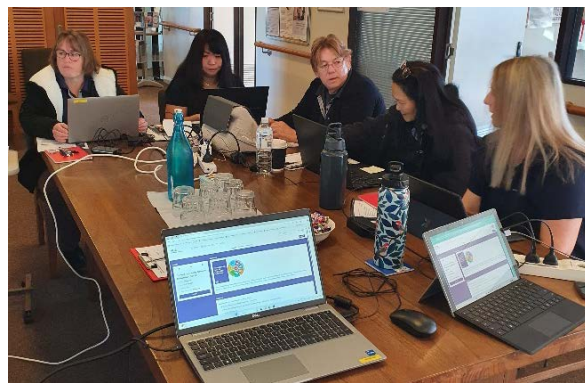
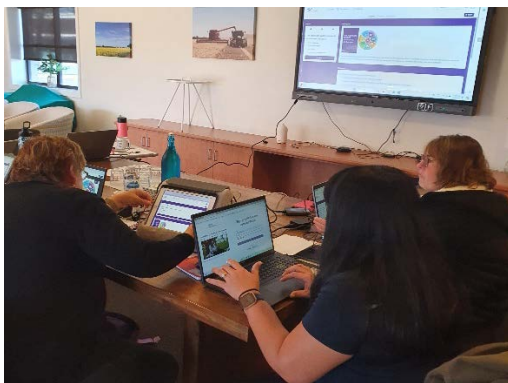
Feedback surveys were distributed to Bland Blokes Group participants this month. Feedback from the clients was all positive.

This month new equipment for the Community Care's kitchen has been purchased – a microwave, an upright pantry cupboard and a bin.

Staff Training

1 x Staff continues her training in the Certificate III in Aged Care.

HCA – Health Care Australia Online Training Platform. 2 days of training held on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th July – Staff completed 20 courses over these 2 days.



Group Updates:

Bland Blokes continue to meet on a weekly basis. New members are welcome to attend and join in for Morning Tea and conversation with like-minded people. The Bland Blokes has five (5) regular attendees. Discussion are currently being held with the Bland Blokes regulars about where they would like to go for upcoming excursions.

On Tuesday 2nd July, two (2) gentlemen went on an outing to the local Library where they listened to author and historian, Pauline Wilson, talk about her novels and her ancestry. The group also enjoyed a lovely Morning Tea provided by the Bland Shire Library.



Wednesday Activity Day continues weekly. Group numbers remain steady at regular eight (8) attendees, one of these attends on a fortnightly basis rather than weekly.

Attendance (excluding our volunteer):

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 – no Activity Day due to Staff Training

Wednesday 10th July 2024 – 10 attendees

Wednesday 17th July 2024 – 7 attendees

Wednesday 24th July 2024 – 9 attendees

Wednesday 31st July 2024 – 7 attendees

This month Community Care farewelled client Joan Payne as she has moved into residential care in Griffith. The group was very sad to see her leave – she will be missed.

Throughout Wednesday Activity Day participants enjoy a mix of cognitive and physical activities – such as trivia, quizzes, ‘The Price is Right’, hooky, bowls, quoits, magnetic darts, crafts etc – excursions, visiting groups – such as entertainers and school/daycare groups, and themed days – such as Valentines Day, Kings Birthday, Easter etc.

Clients are provided with morning/afternoon tea and a “home cooked” meal for lunch. Recent lunch menu has consisted of Beef Casserole & Crusty Bread, Curried Chicken & Rice, Roast Pork, and Lasagne & Potato Gems. All meals served with vegetables or salad. Sweets are also served after the main meal. Recent sweets have consisted of Apple Crumble & Ice-Cream, Steamed Pudding & Custard, Butter Scotch Pudding & Ice-cream and Tiramisu Trifle.



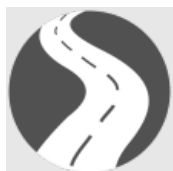
On Wednesday 24th July clients celebrated ‘Christmas in July’. The room was decorated in the Christmas spirit. Clients enjoyed Christmas themed quizzes/trivia and playing ‘Pin the Nose on Rudolph the Reindeer’.



On Wednesday 31st July clients enjoyed a visit from the children of Aspire Daycare Centre. The children sang and danced for the clients. The children enjoyed eating morning tea, and talking, with the clients. No photos at the time of report as we are awaiting them to be emailed to from the Daycare Centre – They will be included in next month's report.

Gentle Exercise Groups are held each Monday at 10am & Thursday has 2 groups – 11am & 1.30pm, with participants enjoying the gentle exercise program followed by Morning or Afternoon Tea and chat. The sessions include both seated and standing exercises. Various equipment is used during these sessions such as floor pedals, small weights, balls and pool noodles. Clients also go for a walk around the courtyard during the session.

6.19 Technical Services Report



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

*DP9.1 Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance for current and future generations
DP9.4 Maintain parks, ovals and recreational facilities to approved standards*

Author: Director – Technical Services

Roads Maintenance Works July 2024

Road maintenance works including pothole patching, gravel patching works and wet grading continue across the network with Fullers Lane, Chanters Lane, Leslies Lane, Langes Lane, Henleys Lane and Youngareen Road

Gravel Resheeting works have continued in the last month on Gibsonvale Lane.

Flood Damage works were undertaken on Koops Lane, Fullers Lane, Wargin Road and Hollands Lane

Works Planned August 2024

For August there are Flood Damage repairs programmed to continue on Hollands Lane and Wargin Road and to commence on Gibsonvale Road and Leslies Lane.

Gravel Resheeting works programmed for August include Paynes Road and Brennans Tank Road

Urban Services

The Urban Services team continues to undertake routine maintenance including mowing, whipper snipping, irrigation system inspections and repairs, and weeding/spraying across Councils sporting fields, parks, and town/village locations.

The Urban Services village maintenance team has been undertaking weekly maintenance activities at the villages including Weethalle, Talimba, Ungarie and Barmedman and a monthly visit to Naradhan. The works undertaken in the villages include mow and whipper snip of parks and sporting fields

Routine inspections continue to be undertaken at West Wyalong Airport, and across the parks, playgrounds and cemeteries.

Biosecurity Weeds February, March, April Report

Biological Control – Biosecurity Staff continue to monitor release sites for cochineal as a biological control agent for Wheel cactus, and Pencil cactus control.

Council's biosecurity officers have undertaken the following inspections

Property Type	Number of Inspections
Travelling Stock Routes	10
High Risk Pathway Inspections	9

Biosecurity staff undertook sucker spraying of roadsides at the following locations being Kolkilbertoo Road, Womboyne Road, Blow Clear Road, Clear Ridge Road, Quandialla Road, West Wyalong to Condobolin Road, Hillston Road, Alleena Road, Brolga Road, Arian Park Road, Paynes Road, Buralyang Road, Bonehams Lane.

Biosecurity staff also undertook mowing at the following locations being Clear Ridge Road, Morangorel Road, Mary Gilmore Road, Euroka Road, Bygoo Road.

The Biosecurity staff undertook weed control of Wild Radish during the period at West Wyalong-Condobolin Road

Projects Update

DC3 Refurbishment

The refurbishment of the DC3 is progressing with the wings being removed and transported to the Council Hanger at the West Wyalong Aerodrome. The fuselage transport is being worked through with Council and the transport company to satisfy the requirements for Transport for NSW to facilitate the NHVR approval permit. When in the hanger, preparation works will begin.

Industrial Estate

The contractor has finalised the civil works for the project with the final seal being placed. Electrical connections are currently being worked through with Essential Energy. Sales contracts are currently being developed by Council's solicitor.

6.20 Development Services Activity Report – July 2024



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community.

DP10.2 Ensure Councillors take ownership and a strong leadership role.

Author: Manager of Development & Regulatory Services

Planning and Building Activities Update

The following Development Applications (DA's) were approved during July 2024:

Application No	Location	Description	Consent Authority	Approval Date
DA2024/0053	12 Wilga Street West Wyalong	Demolition (Demolition of Existing Laundry, WC and Rear Verandah) Residential Alterations & Additions (Ensuite & Walk in Robe to Bedroom 1, Walk in Robe to Bedroom 2, New Laundry and Separate WC and Alfresco Area)	Staff	15/07/2024
DA2024/0054	17 Charles Place West Wyalong	Residential Alterations & Additions – Demolition of Existing Storage Shed – Construction New Storage Shed (with amenities)	Staff	15/07/2024
DA2024/0056	37 Cassin Street Wyalong	Residential Alterations & Additions - Storage Shed (with amenities)	Staff	17/07/2024

Other applications approved during July 2024:

- Two (2) Construction Certificates
- Two (2) Local Government Act Applications
- Three (3) Occupation Certificates

The following inspections were carried out during July 2024:

Type	Number
Swimming Pool Compliance	5
Swimming Pool Public Health	0
Building	25
On-site Sewer Management	1
Public Health	0
Compliance	0
Food	2

Number of enquiries during July 2024

Type	Number
Building and Planning	27
Public Health	1
Compliance	3
Food	1
Swimming Pools	1
Complaints	1
Other	6

Environmental Health Update

The DRS team have successfully appointed an Environmental Health Officer. The EHO will be undertaking inspections of Food Shops, Onsite Sewage Management Systems, Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS), Public Swimming Pools, Skin Penetration Premises and Mortuaries. Council has regulatory and legislative requirements to report to various agencies including NSW Food Authority, Office of Local Government, NSW EPA and NSW Health. The appointment of the EHO will ensure we meet these requirements and Council can reduce the risk to public and environmental health from infectious disease or pollution events.

Regulatory Activities Update

Dog Attacks: 0

Companion Animal Seizure and Impound Activities July 2024

Seizure Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Seized	1	0
Returned to Owner		

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	2	3
Incoming Animals		
Transferred from Seizure Activities	1	
Dumped at Pound	2	
Surrendered	2	
Total Animals in Pound	7	3

Outgoing Animals		
Released to Owner		
Euthanised		
Rehoused (Rescued)	4	3
Sold		
Died at Pound		
Stolen		
Escaped		
Total Animals Leaving Pound		
Animals in Pound at end of Month	3	0

NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Notice of Motion – Audio/Visual System

Author: Crs Lord, McGlynn and Keatley

The following Notice of Motion has been received from Crs Lord, McGlynn and Keatley (attached):

Motion

The motion passed at the Council meeting on July 16 2024 regarding the Audio/Visual system be rescinded.

Replaced with:

That an Audio or Audio/visual system for recording of Council Meetings be reviewed following the submission of full costing of the purchase and installation of a system, and to identify within the current budget, where amendments can be made to maintain the current bottom line, as approved by Council.

General Manager's Comment

At the July 16 Ordinary meeting of Council, the following was resolved:-

That the Council source, fund and install a new Audio/Visual system in the Council Chambers.

- a) *As a minimum the system has one microphone per Councillor. One on the lectern, and one each for the Mayor, General Manager and Directors.*
- b) *That cameras be installed that will facilitate a visual recording of the meeting, along with the ability to livestream the meeting.*
- c) *That after this equipment is installed, a full and complete recording be given to local media so that accurate reporting can occur.*
- d) *That Council source a software program or independent body, that can transcribe the audio as required/needed.*

This matter relates to the Local Government (General) Regulation (Section 236) which states:-

Councils to broadcast meetings online

- (1) Each meeting of a council or council committee is to be recorded by means of an audio or audio visual device.*
- (2) The recording is to be made publicly available on the council's website—*
 - (a) at the same time as the meeting is taking place, or*
 - (b) as soon as practicable after the meeting.*
- (3) The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting.*
- (4) At the start of each meeting of a council or council committee, the chairperson must inform the persons attending the meeting that—*
 - (a) the meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on the council's website, and*
 - (b) persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.*
- (5) This section does not apply to—*
 - (a) any part of a meeting that has been closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act, or*
 - (b) a joint organisation, unless the joint organisation otherwise resolves.*

(6) In this section, council committee means a committee of a council all the members of which are councillors.

And Council's Code of Meeting Practice (clauses 5.33 – 5.38)

5.33 Each meeting of the council or a committee of the council is to be recorded by means of an audio or audiovisual device.

5.34 At the start of each meeting of the council or a committee of the council, the chairperson must inform the persons attending the meeting that:

(a) the meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on the council's website, and

(b) persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

5.35 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website:

(a) at the same time as the meeting is taking place, or

(b) as soon as practicable after the meeting.

5.36 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting.

5.37 Clauses 5.36 and 5.37 do not apply to any part of a meeting that has been closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act.

5.38 Recordings of meetings may be disposed of in accordance with the State Records Act 1998.

Neither the Regulation or Code of Meeting Practice require Council to utilise an audiovisual solution and an audio only solution satisfies the requirements.

Council staff can source systems from suitable suppliers for a variety of solutions that Council may wish to consider.

Council staff have commenced investigations of existing equipment available and have trialled this in the August councillor workshop. Technical issues were identified that require further investigation and consideration of other solutions.

As investigations progress and subject to any budget requirement, further engagement with Council will be undertaken in order to identify the appropriate solution prior to any decision being made and budget implications can be considered by way of the Quarterly Budget Review process.

Council's 2024/25 Property Maintenance Budget provides a Capital allocation of \$50,000 for council administration building works such as painting, carpet, and lighting which may be considered.

MOTION

The motion passed at the Council meeting on July 16 2024 regarding the Audio /Visual system be rescinded.

Replaced with:

That an Audio or an Audio/visual system for recording of Council Meetings be reviewed following the submission of full costing of the purchase and installation of a system, and to identify within the current budget where amendments can be made to maintain the current bottom line, as approved by Council.

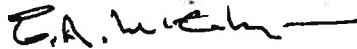
A C Lord


E McGlynn

K Keatley



18th July 2024



File: ...	Gov - CM - NOM	Action
Action Officer:	GM R.K.	
REC'D	25 JUL 2024	
Copy to:	
Bland Shire Council		

7.2 Notice of Motion – Strengthening Communities Grant Policy

Author: Crs McGlynn and Clark

The following Notice of Motion has been received from Crs McGlynn and Clark (attached):

Motion

That Council review the strengthening community grant policy to include a maximum per annum funding of \$5000 per group.

Any in kind support be included in this allocation.

Any joint ventures be approved by a majority of Councillors.

Any funding greater than that allowed in the strengthening community fund must be included in the approved budget set for the year.

General Manager’s Comment

Council currently has a Strengthening Community Grant funding program.

The funding guidelines were approved by Council at the 19 June 2018 Council meeting. The guidelines do not currently provide for a funding cap. The guidelines state:-

Each organisation is limited to one Council Grant or Donation per financial year.

.....

Applicants will usually be required to provide matching funding on a \$1:\$1 basis (this can include volunteer contributions etc).

.....

Funding will be provided for a maximum of four (4) consecutive years reducing on a sliding scale of 25% per annum to assist the project/event to become fully self sustainable.

The guideline assessment criteria state:

..... Council encourages community groups to form partnerships.

The 2024/25 budget allocation to the Strengthening Communities Grant program is \$40,000, as it has been for many years.

In 2023/24 \$15,937 (5 individual grants) was awarded by Council.

The budget allocation has not been fully expended for many years, with the criteria limiting which organisations can apply and the guidelines limiting that an organisation can only apply over four (4) consecutive years with reducing amount each year.

The Pandemic negatively affected many events with some groups not reforming afterward. The following table provides information on historic expenditure.

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$)
2020/2021	6,837
2021/2022	14,664
2022/2023	20,590
2023/2024	15,937

Council should note that at its May 2024 meeting it adopted the following recommendation, and it is imperative upon Council to consider how the notice of motion maybe perceived by the community \ applicants.

That Council approve the application for funding of the West Wyalong Show Society under the Strengthening Communities Fund in the amount of \$6,000 to go towards the provision of free entertainment at the 2024 West Wyalong Show.

It should be noted that Council staff have previously indicated a review of Council's grant funding arrangements should be undertaken and that the appropriate timing for this, is with the commencement of the next term of Council. This is considered a more strategic approach to addressing any concerns with the existing arrangements.

Acknowledging the intent of the Notice of Motion, Council may wish to consider an alternative recommendation (provided below) to review its financial assistance arrangements more holistically.

Alternate Recommendation

That Council establish a Financial Assistance Committee at the commencement of the next term of Council, with Terms of Reference developed, and the Committee provide input into the review of Councils existing grant funding arrangements where the criteria and requirements can be considered.

Proposed Motion

That Council review the strengthening community grant policy to include a maximum per annum funding of \$5000 per group.

Any in kind support be included in this allocation.

Any joint venture be approved by a majority of Councillors

Any funding greater than that allowed in the strengthening community fund must be included in the approved budget set for the year.

E. A. McElynn.
Mona Park