



Bourke Shire Council Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council held at the Council Chambers at Bourke
Shire Council Offices
at 29 Mitchell Street, Bourke,

Monday, 19th January 2015

General Manager:

Ross Earl

PRESENT

C12.1

Councillors	19/01	16/02	23/03	27/04	25/05	22/06	27/07	24/08	28/09	26/10	23/11
Cr Andrew Lewis	√										
Cr Robert Stutsel	AP										
Cr Victor Bartley	√										
Cr Sally Davis	√										
Cr Cec Dorrington	√										
Cr Lachlan Ford	AP										
Cr Barry Hollman	AP										
Cr Jack Bennett	AP										
Cr Sarah Brown	√										
Cr Stuart Johnson	√										

Staff

Ross Earl	General Manager
Leonie Brown	Manager Corporate Services
Phil Johnston	Manager Tourism Development
Peter Brown	Manager Works
Dwayne Willoughby	Manager Environmental Services
Kai Howard-Oakman	Executive Assistant/Minutes

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Lewis opened the meeting with a prayer.

REMEMBRANCE

Council stood in silence in the memory of the following:-

Douglas Francis
Neil James Smith
Therese Anne (Terri) Bennett
Judith Ann Dickson
Elizabeth Joyce Kelly

APOLOGIES

The General Manager advised that apologies had been received from Cr Bennett, Cr Ford, Cr Hollman and Cr Stutsel.

Resolution

01/2015 That the apologies received from Cr Bennett, Cr Ford, Cr Hollman and Cr Stutsel be received and that leave of absence be granted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received for the meeting of Monday, 19th January 2015.

MAYORAL MINUTE

Date	Event
24/11/2014	Council Meeting
29/11/2014	Attended the official opening of the Badden Park Athletics Field Dubbo
9/12/2014	Meeting in Bourke with Kevin Humphries, Minister for Western NSW
9/12/2015	Bourke Public School Presentation Night
11/12/2014	Bourke High School Presentation Night
15/12/2014	Council Meeting

On behalf of Councillors and staff I offer our sincere sympathy to Cr Jack Bennett on the loss of his wife Terri.

Resolution

02/2015 That the information in the Mayoral Minute as presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Monday, 19th January 2015 be noted.

Moved Cr Lewis

Carried

STARRING OF ITEMS

A number of items have been starred for discussion.

The Mayor will receive requests to star additional items to be discussed.

The following additional items were identified for discussion.

Report No	Report Name	Responsible Officer
303/2015	Australia Day	General Manager
306/2015	Proposed Community Consultation Meeting	General Manager

Resolution

03/2015 That recommendations as detailed in the un-starred items in the Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 be adopted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Resolution

04/2015 That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 24th November 2014 and the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 15th December 2014 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of those meetings.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month/Year	Meeting Date	Time	Event	Location
2015				
January	16 th		Meeting of Western Council GM's	Sydney
	19 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 3 rd Monday - 4 th is a Public Holiday for Australia Day	Council Chambers
	26 th	8.00am	Australia Day – Breakfast at the Wharf	Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct
	26 th	9.30am	Australia Day – Australia Official Ceremony	Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct
February	3 rd	9.30am	LRC	RFS (Airport)
	3 rd	10.30am	LEMC	RFS (Airport)
	9 th		Annual Meeting of Far West Academy of Sport	
	16 th	9.00am	<i>Council Meeting (to be confirmed)</i>	<i>Council Chambers</i>
	18 th	10.00am	WH&S Committee Meeting	Council Chambers
	18 th	11.00am	Consultative Committee Meeting	Council Chambers
	20 th		OROC Board Meeting	TBA
	23 rd	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
	22 nd / 24 th		Western Division Conference	Lachlan Shire Condobolin
	25 th	2.00pm	Traffic Committee Meeting	Conference Room
March	3 rd		Community Consultation Meeting Louth Morning – Wanaaring Afternoon	
	4 th		Community Consultation Meeting Enngonia	
	11 th		Welcome to Bourke	
	23 rd	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
April	3 rd – 6 th		Back to Bourke Weekend	
	25 th		ANZAC Day Centenary	
	27 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
May	25 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
June	22 nd	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
July	27 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
August	24 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
September	28 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday Mayoral Elections	Council Chambers
October	26 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
November	23 rd	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION LIST

Information which has been sent out to Councillors since the last meeting of Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015.

DATE	INFORMATION SENT	Author	Email/Fax	Post	Précis
01/12/2014	GM's Movements	GM	Councillors MANEX		
08/12/2014	Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards	Cr Keith Rhoades President Local Government NSW	Councillors MANEX		
08/12/2014	Media Release – REX Commends Government's Action on Aviation Safety Regulation Review Report	Regional Express	Councillors		
08/12/2014	Invitation to the Mayor's Christmas Party	EA	Councillors MANEX		
08/12/2014	Agenda for the Extraordinary Council Meeting	GM	Councillors MANEX		
10/12/2014	"From the GM's Desk"	GM	Councillors All Staff		
10/12/2014	Town & Village Meeting Agenda	GM	Councillors MANEX		
12/12/2014	LG Weekly 48/14	Local Government NSW	Councillors All Staff		
12/12/2014	Business paper for the Extraordinary Meeting	MANEX	Councillors MANEX	Councillors	
15/12/2014	Container Deposit Scheme Information	Cr Keith Rhoades President Local Government NSW	Councillors MANEX		
16/12/2014	Media Release - LGNSW launches State Election Priorities 2015	Cr Keith Rhoades President Local Government NSW	Councillors	Cr Bennett	
16/12/2014	"From the GM's Desk"	GM	Councillors All Staff	Cr Bennett	
18/12/2014	Notes from Far West Local Government Forum	Ruth Fagan – Western Division Councils of NSW	Councillors	Cr Bennett	
18/12/2014	Media Release: Surplus budget yet still no drought recognition	Farmers NSW	Councillors	Cr Bennett	

BUSINESS ARISING FROM 24TH NOVEMBER 2014

KEY: Action still pending Action

GM	General Manager	MRS	Manager of Road Services
MCS	Manager Corporate Services	MES	Manager Environmental Services
MTD	Manager Tourism & Development	MW	Manager of Works

206/2013 - Review of Organisational Structure

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
1. That the Council obtain advice from Brewarrina Shire as to their willingness to continue negotiations in relation to a shared appointment of a qualified Engineer in the capacity of a Group Leader or similar.	1. In progress
2. That the recommendations in relation to the realignment of any positions be considered prior to the advertising of any vacancies.	2. Ongoing
3. The positions descriptions of positions identified within the report from Local Government Management Solutions as requiring review be undertaken in consultation with both the employee and any union involved.	3. In progress
4. That the position descriptions of all employees be updated to reflect current duties performed and requirements of the organisation.	4. In progress

350/2013 – Proposed Amendment of LEP

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
1. Prepare a planning proposal to have the Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012 (BLEP 2012) amended to rezone IN2 Light Industrial land located in the western end of Bourke encompassing that land between Meek, Anson and Church Streets to R1 General Residential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council staff meet with the Department of planning to discuss options • Council seek advice on incorporating the reclassification of any land currently classified as community to operational in the LEP Review Process
2. That a further report be presented to Council to obtain consent to submit that planning proposal to the NSW Department of Planning.	

362/2013 – Enngonia Hall Committee

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
GM formalise an agreement with the Enngonia Progress Association in regards to being the caretaker of the hall	In progress

163/2014 – **CONFIDENTIAL- Enforcement of Fines on Local Roads**

Responsible Officer: MR

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council to continue to investigate methods for enforcing fines on closed roads and continue to ensure that the public are aware that fines may be levied if vehicles are driven on closed roads	Ongoing

179/2014 – Investigation of the Establishment of an Internal Audit Function for Bourke Shire Council in Conjunction with other Members of OROC

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
General Manager continues to liaise with the other members of OROC in relation to the provision of Internal Audit on a joint basis	Held in abeyance pending the outcome of Fit for the Future process

208/2014 – **CONFIDENTIAL – Quotations & Options Relating to the Repair of the Davidson Oval Grandstand**

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council pursue further information in regards to Option 3 (removal of grandstand and rebuilding the change room/canteen facilities) for an additional report be brought back to Council detailing firm estimates for the options identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information being sought from our Insurers • Meeting with insurers scheduled 16th January

216/2014 – Tidy Towns Competition

Responsible Officer: GM/MT&D

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Review the participation criteria and commence the collation of appropriate material to support a possible entry in the 2015 Tidy Towns Competition	Will convene meeting early in the New Year

263/2014 – Cenotaph/Rotunda Heritage Listing

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Heritage Advisor to prepare a report detailing the potential for applying for a heritage listing on both the Cenotaph and Rotunda located in Central Park detailing the benefits and potential implications of such listings	Ongoing

290/2014 – Australian Energy Regulator

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Council await the receipt of the report from OROC prior to taking any further action	Awaiting final report of AER

306/2014 – CONFIDENTIAL - Proposal to Undertake Accommodation Project

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
The General Manager be authorised to further investigate the proposal of development of accommodation in conjunction with Government Departments	Ongoing - Awaiting Consultant report

308/2014 – Solar Energy

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Council bring a report back detailing the options available and financial impact relating the installation of solar panels at the Council Depot	See MES Report Resolution 390/2014 considered in conjunction with Budget Review

319/2014 – Delivery Plan Fourth Quarter Review

Responsible Officer: MT&D

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
That Council refer the items that were not achieved to the Town Committee for further discussion in regards to their priority and refinement.	Town & Villages Committee Meeting held in December 2014 – Refer to Minutes

324/2014 – Financial Assistance Grant

Responsible Officer: MCS

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
A determination as to the utilisation of the additional funds take place in conjunction with the September Quarterly Review	Completed

338/2014 – Tourism & Development Activity Report

Responsible Officer: MT&D

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council investigate the potential to be an RV friendly town	Ongoing

395/2014 – Potential Loss of Jury Trials from Bourke Court House

Responsible Officer: GM/Mayor

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seek clarification of any decision to cease conducting trials requiring a jury at Bourke 2. That if the cessation of trials in Bourke is confirmed that Council seek clarification on what statistical or other information, the decision was based. 3. That Council confirm that if trials were to be transferred to Dubbo that no other District Court Services would be lost, including appeals from the Local Court and Trials by a Judge. 4. That Council ascertain what procedures have been put in place to compensate those involved in the trial cases, for the additional cost of travel and accommodation and loss of wages as result of the transfer of the trials. 5. That the potential loss of these Court Services be highlighted to the State Government as a further erosion of facilities in rural areas. 	Discussion held with Local Clerk of the Court

402/2014 – Local Government Reform -“ Fit For the Future”

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<p>1. That Council endorse the support of the application by the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils to become a Pilot in the development of the role of Joint Organisation of Councils.</p> <p>2. That all available Councillors and staff meet with the representatives of both the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Office of Local Government on the 11th November 2014.</p> <p>3. That Council be represented at the meeting in Cobar scheduled for the 2nd December 2014</p>	<p>1. Letter written</p> <p>2. Meeting held</p> <p>3. Mayor, Deputy and General Manager attended</p>

403/2014 – Approval for the Affixing of the Seal - Funding Agreement with Infrastructure New South Wales (INSW)

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<p>That the Seal of Council be affixed to the Restart NSW Funding Deed in respect of the funding received for the finalisation of the Walkden’s Bore Project</p>	<p>Contract details being finalised</p>

423/2014 – CONFIDENTIAL- RFT/Contract Number 1301160 - Mertin Street Well

Responsible Officer: MW

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<p>Accept the revised Tender of \$1,330,000 (excl GST) from AJ Lucas Engineering and Constructions P/L to complete the upgrade to the Mertin Street Pump Station.</p>	<p>Seal to be fixed when contract finalised</p>

424/2014 – CONFIDENTIAL- Mertin Street Well, Project Management

Responsible Officer: MW

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<p>Appoint the NSW Public Works as the Project Manager for the reconstruction of the Mertin Street Sewer Well with the General Manager to negotiate final details in relation to the contract</p>	<p>Negotiations commenced</p>

428/2014 – CONFIDENTIAL – Electricity Supply North Bourke Residential

Responsible Officer: MT&D

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Country Powerline Constructions be awarded the contract to supply the backbone power infrastructure required for the residential development at North Bourke. The supply price is \$62,579.00 (ex GST) based on the plans supplied by Energy Serve labelled 10768A issue C.	Confirmed

429/2014 – Obstetrics/Birthing Unit and other issues

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council approach the Local Member, Kevin Humphries and The Hon. Jillian Skinner, Minister for Health regarding the reestablishment of the Birthing Unit at Bourke District Hospital and other issues	Discussed with Minister for Western NSW Letter sent to Minister for Health

437/2014 – Operation of Bourke Swimming Pool

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council call for tenders for the management and operation of the Bourke War Memorial Pool Complex from 1 st July 2015 for an initial three (3) year period finishing on the 30 th June 2018 with two (2) one (1) year options	Tender Specifications being developed

438/2014 – Wanaaring Waste Depot Licence

Responsible Officer: MES/GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
The Council seal be affixed to the licence and other documentation relating to this transaction	Completed

439/2014 – Affixing of the Seal of Council to the Contract to Murray Construction for the Cuttaburra No. 3 Bridge

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
The Council seal be affixed to the contact documentation involving Bourke Shire Council and Murray Constructions in relation to the construction of the Cuttaburra No.3 Bridge.	Pending

440/2014 – Affixing of the Seal of Council to the Contact with AJ Lucas Engineering and Construction Pty. Ltd. in relation to the refurbishment of Mertin Street Pump Station
Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
The Council seal be affixed to the contact documentation involving Bourke Shire Council and Lucas Engineering in relation to the refurbishment of the Mertin Street Pump Station.	Pending

441/2014 – Affixing of the Seal of Council to the Contact with Countrywide Powerline for the Construction of Electrical Infrastructure at North Bourke
Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
The Council seal be affixed to the contact documentation involving Bourke Shire Council and Countrywide Powerline Constructions in relation to the construction of the electricity infrastructure at the North Bourke Residential Subdivision.	Ongoing

442/2014 – Extraordinary Meeting of Council
Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Extraordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council be held on the 15 th December 2014 at 4.30pm	Completed – See minutes

446/2014 – Local Government Reform Process-Request for Consultation by the United Services Union
Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council continue to keep the workforce informed of all developments. 2. That should the need for consultation take place that this be done through the established Consultative Committee 	Ongoing

452/2014 – Operational Plan Review to 30th September 2014

Responsible Officer: MCS

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
1. That Council allocate the additional \$520,000 Financial Assistance Grant funding received in 2014-2015 as outlined within the report. 2. That Council contribute the remaining Financial Assistance Grant funding to a surplus with in the General Fund	Completed

456/2014 – Community Contribution – Missionaries of Charity

Responsible Officer: MCS

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Council donate an amount of \$276.48 to the Missionaries of Charity for excess water usage	Completed

458/2014 – Proposed Local Land Services (Feral Dromedary Camel)

Pest Control Order – Consultation Draft

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
Council support the Pest Control Order of Feral Dromedary Camel proposed by the Local Land Services.	Completed

470/2014 – North Bourke Oval

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
General Manager to develop the conditions of maintenance and use of the North Bourke Oval by the Two Water Holes Cricket Team.	Ongoing

Resolution

05/2015 That the information in the Business Arising as amended on Monday, 19th January 2015 be received and noted.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Bartley	Carried

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File No:	L8.5-S1.1.2
Report: 301/2015	2015 Western Division Conference
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The 2015 Annual Conference of the Western Division Shire will be held in Condobolin on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th February 2015, and will be hosted by Lachlan Shire.

Current Situation:

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager will be attending and the opportunity also exists for other Councillors to attend.

Attendance at the conference provides a good exposure to the major matters impacting on Local Government in New South Wales and in particular the Western Division

The Executive Officer of Western Division, Ruth Fagan, has advised that a number of senior politicians including the Minister for Local Government the Hon. Paul Toole, MP, Minister for Roads the Hon. Duncan Gay MLC and Minister for Lands, Water and Natural Resources and Minister for Western New South Wales, the Hon. Kevin Humphries M.P. have been invited and given the Parliament will be in caretaker mode are likely to be in attendance

No doubt a lot of discussion will centre on the establishment of the Far West Regional Initiative and the "Fit for the Future" process.

Council also has the opportunity to submit motions to the conference so that they can be debated, if necessary, and the support of other member Councils obtained and representations are then able to be made on a joint basis.

It is up to Council to determine the motions to be submitted and I have prepared an initial list of indicative motions that Council might like to consider for submission to the Conference and these are as follows.

- 1. That Western Division seeks an update from the Federal Government in relation to the outcome of the applications lodged in respect of the \$100 million funding promised to improve Mobile Phone Coverage in Australia.***
- 2. That Western Division ask the Federal Government what further action is currently under consideration to improve mobile coverage in those areas within the Western Division that are at this point without coverage or with poor coverage***
- 3. That the Western Division request the State government to consider the economic and social impacts of any decision to relocate permanent positions from rural and remote communities.***
- 4. That the Western Division endorse the introduction of the container deposit scheme and seek an assurance that those communities with small volumes will not be disadvantaged.***

- 5. That The Federal Minister for Agriculture Hon. Barnaby Joyce M.P. be asked to ensure that The Rural Counselling Service continues to be under the control of Local Boards and that the staff of the Rural Counselling Service continue to be based in rural and remote areas**
- 6. That the State Government be asked to develop in conjunction with their new drought policy a definitive mechanism for declaring an area "in drought" so that assistance measures can be instituted immediately thus affording the opportunity for land owners to access available assistance when it is of greatest benefit.**

Financial Implications:

The costs incurred in attending the conference including registration, accommodation and travel provision has been in made in the 2015/2016 Operational Plan for Council to be represented at the Conference

Recommendation:

- 1. That Council the attendance of the Mayor Deputy Mayor and General Manager at the 2015 Western Division Conference be noted.**
- 2. That any other Councillors interested in attending register their interest with the General Manager.**
- 3. That Council determine what motions, if any, they would like to submit to the 2015 Annual Western Division Conference.**
- 4. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager be delegated authority to submit additional motions or amend those motions as submitted, should circumstances so warrant.**

Resolution

06/2015

- 1. That the attendance of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Cr Dorrington at the 2015 Western Division Conference be noted.**
- 2. That any other Councillors interested in attending register their interest with the General Manager.**
- 3. That the motions as listed be submitted to the 2015 Annual Western Division Conference.**
- 4. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager be delegated authority to submit additional motions or amend those motions as submitted, should circumstances so warrant.**
- 5. That the Ordinary Meeting of Council for February be held on the 16th February 2014 to allow for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Cr Dorrington to attend the Western Division Conference on the 23rd February 2014 in Condobolin.**

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

File No:	P4.2.1
Report: 302/2015	Preparation of 2015/2016 Operational Plan
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Work has commenced on the compilation of the 2015/2016 Operational Plan and if any Councillor has a project they wish to have included in the operational Plan or would like to see an amendment to the current level of expenditure or current level of service in any area they are asked to contact the Manager of Corporate Service at their earliest convenience.

Consideration for inclusion in the 2015/2016 Draft Operational Plan will also be made in relation to any requests presented to Council during the rounds of Community Consultation Meetings.

Council gets numerous requests for assistance or for items to be included in the Operational Plan following its completion. To ensure everyone has the opportunity to have input prior to the document being finalised it is again intended to place an advertisement in the Western Herald seeking submission of such requests.

It is proposed, as has been the case in the past few years that the Draft Operational Plan will include provision for the adoption of the maximum general rate increase allowed for by IPART in their annual determination.

It is proposed that Water and Sewer Operational Plans will be structured to allow for a balanced budget, inclusive of depreciation.

Current Situation:

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework Council has been required to develop and adopted an number of documents, including a Community Strategic Plan, a Delivery Plan, a Long Term Financial Plan and a Asset Management Plan and the 2015/2016 Draft Operational Plan will be aligned to these documents, where possible.

IPART has issued it determination in relation to the allowable rate increase for 2015/16 and it has been set at 2.4%.

The increase in wages as detailed under the Local Government State Award will be 2.7% and this obviously flows onto wage related costs including superannuation and worker's compensation. The 2.7 % is exclusive of increases for individual employees as they progress through the skills based salary system.

Fees and charges will be set at a minimum of full cost recovery basis where applicable, inclusive of on-costs.

Some fees are set by legislation or by external bodies and the Council fees will obviously reflect these determinations in the fee structure.

Draft Timetable for the Preparation and Adoption of Operation Plan

January 5 th	Preparation Commences
March 9 th	MANEX Meeting to Finalise Preliminary Document
March 11 th	Draft Document Distributed
March 16 th	Meeting of Corporate Services Committee to Consider Preliminary Document
March 23 rd	Draft Document to Council for approval to advertise
March 30 th	Potential for Additional Consideration if required
April 9 th	Period of Public Notices Commences
May 15 th	Closing Date for Submissions to be lodged
May 25 th	Submissions presented to Council for Consideration
May 25 th	Subject to any amendments the Operational Plan is to be adopted
June 5 th	Final Document Published and Distributed

Resolution

07/2015

- 1. That the 2015/2016 Operational Plan be prepared utilising the 2.4% General Rate increase as determined by IPART.**
- 2. That any Councillors wishing to have an item included in the 2015/2016 Draft Operational Plan for consideration notify the Manager of Corporate Services by 13th February 2015.**
- 3. That Council place an advertisement in the Western Herald seeking requests from individuals or groups for items to be included in the 2015/2016 Operational Plan, including requests for assistance.**
- 4. That the DRAFT timetable be noted.**

Moved Cr Davis

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

File No:	C2.3 – C2.3.1
Report: 303/2015	Australia Day Celebrations
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Annual Australia Day Celebrations will again be hosted in Bourke by Bourke Shire Council with assistance from Bourke Rotary Club.

A copy of the 2015 Australia Day Program is enclosed with the Business Paper.

The Australia Day Ambassador for 2015 will be Jon Dee a well- known and highly regarded environmentalist both within Australia and Internationally. Jon in 1991 founded Planet Ark in partnership with his close friend Pat Cash. (A copy of his latest “bio” is attached).

The celebrations commencing at 8.00am with breakfast at the Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct and this will be followed by the formal ceremony and presentation of the 2015 Australia Day Awards at 9.30 am.

As in the past few years the winners of the awards and their families will be hosted to lunch by Council at Diggers on the Darling.

At the conclusion of the meeting today Councillors will consider the nominations received for the various awards and make a determination in each of the categories.

Financial Implications:

Provision has been made in the 2014/2015 Operation Plan for the Expenses incurred in hosting the Annual Australia Day Celebrations

Recommendation:

- 1. That the information be noted in regards to Australia Day Celebrations.**
- 2. That all available Councillors meet at the closure of the meeting to consider the nominations and make a determination**
- 3. That the winners names be embargoed until 9.30am on the 26th January 2015**

Resolution

08/2015

- 1. That the information regarding the 2015 Australia Day Celebrations be noted**
- 2. That all available Councillors meet at the closure of the meeting to consider the nominations and make a determination for each category**
- 3. That the winners names be embargoed until they are announced on the 26th January 2015**

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Brown

Carried



Jon Dee Biography

Jon Dee is one of Australia's most influential figures on social and environmental issues.

He was the **'Australian of the Year'** in 2010 in NSW and is the Founder and Managing Director of the Australian advocacy organisation **Do Something**. In June 1991, he founded **Planet Ark** in partnership with his good friend **Pat Cash**. He headed up the organisation for 15 years, turning it into a household name and a powerful force for change. In 1988, he also founded the music industry backed **Rock Aid Armenia** initiative.

Jon's charity career began as a teenager when he volunteered 6 days a week for 5 years at an aged care facility in the English town of Wem. It was here where Jon undertook his first fundraising activities. Since then, Jon has helped to raise over \$20 million for community and environmental causes.

Every time Australians turn on a light or do the laundry, they are touched by the results of one of Jon's campaigns. Jon initiated the **'Ban The Bulb'** lobbying campaign that led to Australia's **3 year phase out of incandescent light globes** – a move that is saving Australians hundreds of millions of dollars in reduced energy bills.

In 2010-11 Jon initiated and ran Do Something's successful campaign to bring about a **voluntary ban on phosphates in laundry detergents**. This has reduced the impact of the **1.9 billion laundry washes** that Australian households carry out every year.

Together with **Olivia Newton-John**, Jon also founded **National Tree Day**. During the period when Jon and Olivia fronted Tree Day, the event planted over **10 million native trees and shrubs** (Tree Day has now planted over 20 million trees).

Olivia and Jon recently rejoined forces and in March 2013 launched their **One Tree Per Child** project. This campaign aims to get tree planting into the curriculum so that every child under ten plants a native tree as part of a school event. International patrons for this initiative include **Lord Stern, Lord May, Lord Rees, Baroness Howarth and Lord Browne**. The state of Tasmania has already committed to the initiative.

In 2012 Jon founded Do Something's **National Op Shop Week**, to boost donations to charity op shops. Now adopted by leading op shop charities such as **Red Cross, The Salvos, Vinnies** and others, Jon launched the 2014 event in association with **Margie Abbott, NACRO** and **Salvos Stores**. Jon is the main media spokesperson for Op Shop Week and in 2014, he recruited **News Corp** to be the major media partner for the event.



After starting **Do Something** with **Pat Cash** and **Tina Jackson**, Jon instigated **DoSomethingNearYou.com.au**. **News Corp** are also the media partner for this website.

This site shows Australians how to help and volunteer for community groups and events in **16,000 suburbs around Australia**. Funded with a 4 year grant that Jon negotiated with **ALDI**, this service is being used by hundreds of thousands of Australians.

No matter where they live in Australia, by typing in their postcode, people can find community groups and events that they can help or volunteer for in their local community. Over a **quarter of Australia's federal MPs** now have their own personalised **DoSomethingNearYou** website and are fronting the initiative in their electorates.

Since 2002 Jon has been the driving force behind the national campaign to ban plastic checkout bags. With **Ben Kearney**, he co-organised the original plastic bag ban in **Coles Bay** in 2003. This ban on thin lightweight plastic checkout bags has now been widened to South Australia, the ACT, the NT and Tasmania. Jon and Ben's **Ban The Bag** campaign at **Do Something** directly led to Tasmania's decision to ban thin plastic checkout bags.

Jon is also a successful author. Released in 2010, Jon's **Sustainable Growth** book has become the definitive sustainability guidebook for Australian business. With **90,000 copies distributed**, his book showed business that being socially, environmentally and economically sustainable is good for the bottom line. Jon undertook over 200 speaking engagements around Australia and overseas to promote his book to SME owners.

Jon's new 'Energy Cut' energy efficiency guidebook for small business is being launched in January 2015. This has been funded by the Australian Federal Government as part of **Do Something's Energy Cut** campaign. This has received an \$871,000 Federal Government grant via the Department of Industry.

Jon is also a strong advocate for energy efficiency. He initiated **Do Something's 10% Challenge** campaign for Australians to reduce energy use by 10%. This was adopted by leading companies and was voted for and undertaken by **Australia's Federal Parliament**. As a sign of the positive relationships that Jon and **Do Something** have with people on all sides of politics, not one MP or Senator voted against participating in the scheme.

Jon is also an advocate of waste to energy as a way of maximising the use of waste that can no longer be recycled. As part of his work in this space, he MC'd the launch of the City of Sydney's 2014 waste to energy plan. The Lord Mayor of Sydney kindly acknowledged Jon's expertise in the waste field in her introduction speech at the event:

<http://clovermoore.com.au/advanced-waste-treatment-master-plan-briefing/>

Jon also initiated Do Something's **FoodWise.com.au** food waste and food sustainability campaign as well as the **SavePaper.com.au** campaign to reduce paper waste in Australia. During his 15 year run as the head of Planet Ark he also initiated **World Environment News**, **National Recycling Week** and **RecyclingNearYou.com.au** - the latter web site is used by over a million Australians every year. Jon also created **Cards 4 Planet Ark**, which recycled over half a billion Christmas cards and envelopes. In the campaign's final year, over one million Australians walked into an Australia Post outlet to pick up a recycling envelope so that they could recycle their cards.

Jon has also produced and directed over 300 environmentally themed TV and radio adverts. These have featured the donated services of **Tom Cruise, Kylie and Dannii Minogue, Dustin Hoffman, Nicole Kidman, Sir Richard Branson, Olivia Newton-John, Michael Caton, Pierce Brosnan** and many other well known names.

Jon was also the national media front person for the Australian DVD release of **Al Gore's 'An Inconvenient Truth'** documentary film. As part of this campaign, Jon and Easy Being Green Director Andrew Randall organised for the DVD of the documentary to be given away free to Australian schools. Jon also recruited Bunnings to run a national in-store campaign to promote energy efficiency in the home. Shortly after this in 2008, Jon was also the presenter of the **Tipping Point** TV series on **Foxtel's Weather Channel**.

In 1989, Jon founded **Rock Aid Armenia** - a music fundraiser for which he recruited the help of **Pink Floyd, Queen, Bon Jovi, Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple, Black Sabbath** and other leading rock bands. As part of this initiative, Jon organised and released an all-star remake of Deep Purple's **Smoke on the Water**. It was a top 40 UK hit.

In 1990, he also organised and released **The Earthquake Album**. This was Britain's first gold-selling charity rock album - in just ten days it sold over **100,000 copies**.

After releasing the album, Jon organised and produced a follow up single featuring **Roger Daltrey** from **The Who**. Instead of using established guitarists, at the suggestion of **Deep Purple** singer **Ian Gillan**, Jon recruited the guitar playing services of **John McEnroe** and **Pat Cash**. It was the first charity project that Jon and Pat undertook together. Their close friendship led to Jon and Pat's decision to start Planet Ark and eventually Do Something. They have worked together on charity projects for over 23 years.

To recognise Jon's ongoing work in the Armenian earthquake zone, in 2009 the **President of Armenia** awarded Jon **'The Order of Honor'**. It is the highest honour that Armenia can bestow on a foreign citizen. After receiving permission from the Queen to accept the medal, Jon travelled to Armenia to accept the award.

In 2009, Jon and his friend **Ara Tadevosyan** decided to build a music school in Gyumri in the Armenian earthquake zone. The building was to replace the original school that had not been properly rebuilt after the earthquake. After 4 years of fundraising and a strong partnership with the **Fund for Armenian Relief**, the school was opened by the President of Armenia in September 2013. It is now fully operational teaching 220 children a year.

Jon has had a career long interest in workplace productivity. As a result of this, Jon will shortly be releasing **Agado** - his first **productivity software for the iPad**. Co-developed with his Russian business partner **Sergey Tristan**, the app can help charity campaigners and fundraisers to better run their campaigns and media networks. It can also enable small business owners to better manage their business operations.

Jon is a prolific public speaker. Within Australia and overseas, he regularly gives keynote speeches on social and environmental issues. He also gives speeches to corporations about change management, sustainability, waste and energy efficiency. He undertakes regular media appearances on radio and TV and has strong media networks.

Jon is married to **Leanne Dee**. They have two children (Estelle 11 and Claudia 7) and live in Australia's Blue Mountains.

For more information on the above, visit www.JonDee.com



File No:	L8.31
Report: 304/2015	Meeting of General Managers of Proposed Member Councils of The Far Western Initiative
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Following the meeting convened by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and Office of Local Government in Cobar on the 2nd December 2014 to discuss the Far Western Initiative it was suggested that all the General Managers of the Councils who are identified participants in the Far Western Initiative should meet and determine the current situation of each Council and the potential way forward, and discuss ways in which Councils can influence improvement in service delivery.

Sydney was chosen as it provided relatively easy access for all Councils

Current Situation:

Given the proposal to establish the Far Western Initiative which will include the possible involvement in the delivery of services traditionally the domain of the State Government it is essential that all Councils have a clear understanding of what can be done and the impacts on Councils, both individually and collectively.

Financial Implications:

The costs involved included the cost of travel and accommodation which are provided for within the operational plan for 2014/2015

Recommendation:

- 1. That Council note the Report on the Far Western Initiative.**
- 2. That the General Manager detail the outcomes of the meeting at the next Meeting of Council.**

Resolution

09/2015

- 1. That Council note the Report on the Far Western Initiative.**
- 2. That the General Manager send out a Précis of the information from the Meeting of General Managers of Proposed Member Councils of The Far Western Initiative held in Sydney on Friday, 16th January 2015.**

Moved Cr Brown

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

File No:	L8.33
Report: 305/2015	Update on the “ Fit for the Future “ Programme
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Final Report of the Independent Local Government Review Panel (ILGRP) and the Governments response to that Report has generated significant interest and involved a considerable investment of resources by Councils within New South Wales.

As Councillors will be very aware Bourke Shire Council has been earmarked to be part of the Far Western Initiative along with Balranald, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Central Darling, Cobar, Walgett and Wentworth.

In the Final Report of the ILGRP it was also suggested that an option for Bourke could be a merger or shared administration with Brewarrina, however, both Councils have indicated on a number of occasions that they each wish to stand alone.

Current Situation:

There was a meeting convened by The Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Office of Local Government to further develop the concept of the Far Western Initiative held in Cobar on the 3rd December 2015 and at that meeting there was strong focus on Service Delivery.

The meeting was facilitated by Graham Fleming.

The meeting was attended by the Mayor Deputy Mayor and the Manager of Tourism and Economic Development

The Executive Officer of Western Division, Ruth Fagan prepared some notes of the meeting which have been forwarded under separate cover.

Additionally the notes relating to the meeting and outcomes achieved being prepared by the Department of Premier and Cabinet are still being finalised and on receipt these will also be distributed to Councillors

A number of Consultants have been appointed by the Office of Local Government to assist Councils work through the “Fit for the Future” process and a number of others have also been in touch offering assistance, naturally this is on a fee for service basis.

There is also a series of seminars and workshops being organised and I will attempt to work through each to see the value for Councillors and Staff in attending.

There are some courses being run by Local Government New South Wales on a range of the options being considered for Councils and a copy of these have been included.

One of the models for which a template has yet to be produced relates to “Rural Councils” a concept which has yet to be fully defined but should be much further advanced by the end of this month.

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

The "Rural Council" model is still part of the "fit for the Future Process:"

Financial Implications:

There are some significant long term financial implications to flow from the Final Report of the ILGRP for a number of Councils.

In the short term Council is spending considerable resources in keeping abreast of the changes and options being presented.

Resolution

10/2015

- 1. Council note the report on "Fit for the Future".**
- 2. Councillors interested in any of the training courses or seminars are to register their interest with the General Manager.**
- 3. That the "Rural Council" templates be distributed to all Councillors on receipt.**

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried



Learning

Item 14: 'Fit for the Future' LGNSW Learning Solutions Workshops for February and March 2015

Local Government in NSW is facing significant challenges that demand fresh thinking. LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a range of programs to support the sector in working through new ways of doing business.

'Smarter Local Government' events bring together elected members and senior managers from a variety of councils to exchange information, explore ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen their role and performance.

Councils are currently preparing their 'Fit for the Future' submissions, and the following workshops have been designed to support their preparation.

Amalgamations: To merge or not to merge?

Sydney CBD – Thursday 26 and Friday 27 February 2015

Over recent decades, NSW has seen several rounds of council amalgamations, both forced and voluntary. Experience gained and lessons learned can now be shared in order to help councils decide whether or not to consider a merger in their 'Fit for the Future' proposal.

Fit for the Future? Proposal Bootcamps

Sydney CBD – Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 February 2015

Dubbo – Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 March 2015

Port Macquarie – Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 March 2015

This roundtable is designed for councils who have chosen to complete Template 2, which requires the use of a self-assessment tool to review council's performance against a series of benchmarks, and to inform an improvement action plan.

Fit for the Future? Rural Council Bootcamp

Sydney CBD – Thursday 12 and Friday 13 March 2015

This roundtable is designed for councils who have chosen to use the template for 'Rural Councils', to be released in January 2015.

Regional Collaboration: What works?

Sydney CBD – Thursday 26 and Friday 27 March 2015

An important consideration is the potential for increased regional collaboration to help strengthen councils' financial positions and 'strategic capacity', and thus meet some of the sustainability criteria set out in the 'Fit for the Future' package. There is no one-size-fits-all model for effective regional collaboration. However, drawing on all the experience gained by different regional groups over recent decades, it should be possible to identify common themes around what works, what doesn't and – most importantly – why?

Online information and registration
lgnsw.org.au/learning

Cost
\$1100 incl. GST for two days

Contact
LGNSW Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA



Amalgamations: To Merge or not to Merge?

SMARTER LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Networking events with Local Government peers to share good ideas and generate innovative new solutions.

DATE

26 – 27 February 2015

LOCATION

Sydney CBD

COST

\$990.00 inclusive of GST*

*Reduced from the standard two day program rate

CONTACT

For more information contact LGNSW Learning Solutions at (02) 9242 4181/4081 or learning@lgnsw.org.au

Local Government in NSW is facing significant challenges that demand fresh thinking. LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a range of programs to support the sector in thinking through new ways of doing business.

Smarter Local Government roundtables bring together elected members and senior managers from a variety of councils to exchange information, explore ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen their role and performance.

Overview

Councils are currently preparing their 'Fit for the Future' submissions which, among other things, require consideration of the option of mergers. The State Government has offered substantial financial incentives for voluntary mergers but has yet to guarantee that the policy of 'no forced amalgamations' will be maintained.

Amalgamations have been the single most contentious area of Local Government reform throughout Australia. The NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel stated that amalgamations are not a panacea for all the issues and problems facing Local Government, but argued that structural reform must be considered and that some mergers are essential. However, the Panel also proposed an improved process for considering mergers, including closer attention to the business case and a more independent Boundaries Commission.

Over recent decades NSW has seen several rounds of council amalgamations, both forced and voluntary. Experience gained and lessons learned can now be shared in order to help councils decide whether or not to consider a merger in their 'Fit for the Future' proposal.

Roundtable Program

The Roundtable will cover:

- A summary of research findings on the pros and cons of mergers
- Case studies of recent mergers – forced and voluntary, more or less successful
- How the ILGRP's analysis and findings link to the 'Fit for the Future' templates
- Alternative merger processes and what a merger may cost
- What works and what doesn't.

Facilitators

The Roundtable will be led by experienced Local Government practitioners including:

- Jeff Tate, a former council CEO who has managed a large amalgamated council in South Australia, and one of the recent de-amalgamations in Queensland
- Denise Osborne, Councillor and Steven Pinnuck, General Manager, Greater Hume Shire Council (amalgamated from three councils)
- Professor Graham Sansom, former Chair Independent Local Government Review Panel
- Greg Hoffman PSM, General Manager – Advocacy, Local Government Association of Queensland
- Rob Kelly, Director Third Horizon
- Sarah Artist, Manager LGNSW Learning Solutions

Who Should Attend?

The roundtable will be of value to all those mayors, councillors and senior managers who need to consider whether a merger option is appropriate for their council, or might arise in the near future.

To register

lgnsw.org.au/learning



Fit for the Future? Proposal Bootcamps!

SMARTER LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Networking events with Local Government peers to share good ideas and generate innovative new solutions.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

23 – 24 February 2015
Sydney CBD

16 – 17 March 2015
Dubbo

30 – 31 March 2015
Port Macquarie

COST

\$990.00 inclusive of GST*

*Reduced from the standard two day program rate

CONTACT

For more information contact LGNSW Learning Solutions at (02) 9242 4181/4081 or learning@lansw.org.au

Local Government in NSW is facing significant challenges that demand fresh thinking. LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a range of programs to support the sector in thinking through new ways of doing business.

Smarter Local Government roundtables bring together elected members and senior managers from a variety of councils to exchange information, explore ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen their role and performance.

Overview

Councils are currently preparing their 'Fit for the Future' proposals which require them to select the most appropriate template. Completing these templates requires them to review their scale and capacity, undertake a self-assessment and then select to either lodge a merger proposal or develop an improvement action plan.

Since 2009 NSW councils have progressively implemented the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. This experience and the lessons learned can now be examined and shared in order to assess local community needs, review merger options, and develop their improvement plans.

The NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel presented options for councils to consider merging with their neighbours. They also highlighted the need to strengthen Local Government's strategic capacity and financial sustainability. The ILGRP argued that fiscal discipline, better financial and asset planning, increased productivity and enhanced accountability are all essential to improve councils' overall performance and future prospects.

Bootcamp Program

The Bootcamp will include plenary sessions for all councils as well as specialist streams for councils completing each template. The program will cover:

- An overview of strengths weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the Local Government sector
- A review of lessons learned through IP&R implementation
- Understanding the use of financial benchmarks
- A review of issues associated with developing a merger business case
- Discussion regarding community engagement options
- A practical review of various improvement tools currently in use in Local Government
- Council case studies
- An opportunity for peer review and collective problem-solving.

Facilitators

The Bootcamps will be led by experienced Local Government practitioners including:

- Michael Sewell, Director Business Services, Campbelltown City Council
- Dennis Banicevic, PWC Associate and LGNSW Learning Solutions Presenter
- Dr Tim Robinson, former Director Corporate Services, Fairfield City Council
- Ross Kingsley, Coordinator Corporate Planning & Development, Blacktown City Council and Executive Member, IP&R LG Network
- Sarah Artist, Manager LGNSW Learning Solutions

Who Should Attend?

The Bootcamps will be of value to all those councillors, senior managers and corporate planners who need to design and submit a Proposal for 'Fit for the Future'.

To register

lansw.org.au/learning



Fit for the Future? Rural Council Bootcamps!

SMARTER LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Networking events with Local Government peers to share good ideas and generate innovative new solutions.

DATE

12 – 13 March 2015

LOCATION

Sydney CBD

COST

\$990.00 inclusive of GST*

*Reduced from the standard two day program rate

CONTACT

For more information contact LGNSW Learning Solutions at (02) 9242 4181/4081 or learning@lgnsw.org.au

Local Government in NSW is facing significant challenges that demand fresh thinking. LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a range of programs to support the sector in thinking through new ways of doing business.

Smarter Local Government roundtables bring together elected members and senior managers from a variety of councils to exchange information, explore ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen their role and performance.

Overview

Councils are currently preparing their 'Fit for the Future' proposals which require them to select the most appropriate template. This Roundtable is designed for councils who may choose to use the template for 'Rural Councils', to be released in January 2015.

The NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel identified a number of rural-remote Local Government areas that appear unlikely to remain sustainable in their current form, but where a merger is unlikely to prove practical or effective, and it was important to maintain local community identity and self-determination to the maximum possible extent. It therefore recommended consideration of a possible modified form of Local Government called 'Rural Councils', which would remain autonomous but work as part of a regional Joint Organisation, with somewhat reduced responsibilities and a lower cost base.

As part of the 'Fit for the Future' initiative, workshops have been held with potential 'Rural Councils' and broad agreement was reached on a range of options that may help them to become more sustainable. These include making greater use of shared arrangements with neighbouring councils and reducing costs through streamlining governance, compliance and reporting requirements, as well as other changes to service delivery.

A 'one size fits all' model is unlikely to emerge, so each council will need to consider what package of measures would best meet the needs of its community.

Bootcamp Program

The workshop will cover:

- An overview of the challenges facing rural-remote councils in NSW and how they might respond effectively to threats and opportunities
- Information and discussion on the 'Rural Councils' reform agenda
- A step-by-step practical guide to completing the 'Fit for the Future' template for potential 'Rural Councils'
- Case studies and opportunities for exchanging views and collective problem-solving.

Facilitators

The Bootcamps will be led by experienced Local Government facilitators, including:

- Greg Wright, Administrator, Central Darling Shire Council
- Therese Manns, General Manager, Broken Hill City Council
- Martin Bass, LGNSW Learning Solutions Presenter
- Sarah Artist, Manager, LGNSW Learning Solutions.

Who Should Attend?

Bootcamps will be of value to all those councillors, senior managers and corporate planners who need to design and submit a Rural Council Proposal for 'Fit for the Future'.

To register

lgnsw.org.au/learning



Regional Collaboration: What Works?

SMARTER LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Networking events with Local Government peers to share good ideas and generate innovative new solutions.

DATE
26 – 27 March 2015

LOCATION
Sydney CBD

COST
\$990.00 inclusive of GST*

*Reduced from the standard two day program rate

CONTACT
For more information contact LGNSW Learning Solutions at (02) 9242 4181/4081 or learning@lgnsw.org.au

Local Government in NSW is facing significant challenges that demand fresh thinking. LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a range of programs to support the sector in thinking through new ways of doing business.

Smarter Local Government roundtables bring together elected members and senior managers from a variety of councils to exchange information, explore ideas and identify opportunities to strengthen their role and performance.

Overview

For many years the majority of NSW councils have been strong supporters of regional collaboration – Regional Organisations of Councils, County Councils, various types of strategic alliances and so on. Currently, around 50 councils are engaged in five official pilots to explore the new concept of Joint Organisations (JOs) put forward by the Independent Local Government Review Panel. In addition, some other regional groups are conducting their own investigations into possible strengthening of joint activities.

An important consideration is the potential for increased regional collaboration to help strengthen councils' financial position and 'strategic capacity', and thus meet some of the sustainability criteria set out in the 'Fit for the Future' package.

There is no "one size fits all" model for effective regional collaboration. However, drawing on all the experience gained by different regional groups over recent decades, it should be possible to identify common themes around what works, what doesn't and most importantly, why? Sharing successes and failures can help find the best way forward.

Roundtable Program

The Roundtable will cover:

- Research findings on key elements of regional collaboration
- Case studies of a range of different approaches to working regionally
- Early messages from the Joint Organisation pilots and other current moves to explore increased joint activities
- How regional resource sharing can help smaller rural councils
- Lessons learned over recent decades and mapping alternative ways forward
- Additional support councils may need to establish more robust regional bodies.

Facilitators

The Roundtable will be led by experienced Local Government practitioners including:

- Cr Paul Braybrooks OAM, LGNSW Director and Chair REROC
- Donna Galvin, Executive Manager, WBC Alliance
- Kyme Lavelle, General Manager, Rous Water, Richmond River and Far North Coast County Councils
- Professor Graham Sansom, former Chair, Independent Local Government Review Panel
- Sarah Artist, Manager LGNSW Learning Solutions

Who Should Attend?

The Roundtable will be particularly helpful to those mayors, councillors and senior managers who are involved in current discussions regarding pilot Joint Organisations or other options for stronger regional collaboration and shared services. It will also be of value to others who need to consider whether increased resource sharing should be a feature of their 'Fit for the Future' action plan.

To register

lgnsw.org.au/learning



Local Government Reform

Item 2: Independent Review of TCorp's *Financial Sustainability of the NSW Local Government Sector* report

LGNSW engaged John Comrie of JAC Comrie & Associates to conduct an expert independent review of the methodology applied by TCorp in its financial sustainability assessment of NSW councils.

This review was instigated in response to widespread criticism of the TCorp methodology by councils. The review has been completed and a summary is provided in this report.

It should be noted that TCorp and the Office of Local Government (OLG) cooperated with this review and the three case study councils – Penrith, Greater Taree and Bourke – provided very valuable input.

Summary of Key Findings and Recommendations

Comrie reported as follows:

- TCorp was entitled to rely on the data it used in its analysis but this data prepared by councils is not as robust as it could be. In particular, councils are still refining their estimates as it regards future asset renewal needs and ensuring that asset useful life and depreciation accounting estimates are closely correlated with actual practice, and preferred affordable service levels.
- TCorp's ratings of councils have caused many of them to reflect on their accounting practices and implicit and explicit service levels, including estimates of warranted asset renewal needs. This in itself has made TCorp's work worthwhile.
- It is quite likely that if the TCorp review was repeated today with the same methodology but with updated financial data, that some, and possibly many, councils would be likely to receive more favourable ratings and outlooks. Others though could receive less favourable results.
- TCorp's general findings regarding the sector's financial sustainability and particularly its recommendations to help strengthen councils' financial performance and capacity were generally accepted.
- I would advocate some differences in the range of financial sustainability indicators applied and in their computational basis and weighting. Such changes would result in some councils getting better and others a less favourable rating.
- In my opinion, some of TCorp's indicators are more appropriate for assessment of the financial worthiness of private sector entities (and in particular their worthiness to take on more debt) than for a sphere of government. Local Governments generally have more reliable revenue streams, discretion regarding expenditure and stable and predictable operating environment, than is typically the case for entities in the commercial business world.
- I would encourage in particular a prime focus on the current and projected operating result (net of capital revenues) of councils in assessing their financial sustainability.
- I would also caution against assessment of asset management performance that involved comparison of asset renewal levels with depreciation. Asset renewal needs can vary significantly over time and may justifiably in any period be at levels higher or lower than depreciation.
- Councils generally need to make greater use of debt if they are to cost-effectively manage their service level responsibilities and equitably charge beneficiaries of these services over time. Not only should councils make greater use of debt (subject to having sound financial plans, strategies and policies in place) but they could also benefit substantially from changes in their treasury management practices. As such I would give less regard to liquidity considerations than TCorp has in its assessments".

John Comrie also noted that it is pleasing that TCorp has refined its perspectives over time and that the OLG has also shifted ground. However, further refinements are still worth pursuing and LGNSW will do so in the new year.

The complete report is available on the LGNSW website (see fact box).

Online information

lgnsw.org.au/key-initiatives/reform-fit-for-the-future

Further online information

lgnsw.org.au/files/imce-uploads/127/comrie-review-of-tcorp-report-3-oct.pdf

Contact

Shaun McBride
Senior Strategy Manager
02 9242 4072
shaun.mcbride@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R13/0008 SMcB

File No:	V1.9
Report: 306/2015	Proposed Community Consultation Meetings
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

As part of its preparation of the Operational Plan it is intended to conduct a round of community consultation meetings in all the villages within the shire area together with one planned for Bourke.

The opportunity will also be taken to fully explain to the residents of these areas some of the proposals being considered as a result of the Final Report of the Independent Local Government Review Panel and the State Government's response to that report.

Current Situation:

The Draft Timetable for the visits is as follows

Tuesday, 3rd March 2015	Louth Breakfast at 8.00 am Meeting 9.00am – 11.00am
	Wanaaring Lunch 1.00 pm Meeting 2.00pm-3.00pm
Wednesday, 4th March 2015	Byrock Lunch 12.30 Meeting at 1.00pm-3.00pm
	Bourke 6.00 pm – 8.00pm
Thursday, 5 th March 2015	Ford's Bridge Breakfast at 8.00am Meeting 9.00am -11.00am
	Enngonia Lunch at 12.15 Meeting at 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Financial Implications:

Visits to the villages have been included in the 2014/2015 Operational Plan

Resolution

11/2015		
1.	That the Draft Community Consultation Program for the 2015/2016 Draft Operational Plan be adopted	
2.	That Council advertise the meetings both through the Local Paper and village newsletters, where available.	
Moved Cr Bartley	Seconded Cr Brown	Carried

File No:	A6.1-G4.1
Report: 307/2015	Restart New South Wales Regional Infrastructure Fund: Regional Airports Program
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Minister for Tourism, the Hon. John Barilaro has recently announced that funding of up to \$50 Million has been made available for the development of regional airports to facilitate tourism growth. Local Councils and owners of the 30 eligible airports have been invited to develop Expressions of Interest (EOI) for infrastructure projects that will benefit their communities.

Bourke is one of the 30 eligible airports.

Initial Expressions of interest close on the 31st March 2015

Current Situation:

Council has spent considerable time and resources in trying to have Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) Services re-established for Bourke. An important ingredient in making an air service viable is to ensure that facilities at the airport including, runway, lighting Terminal and storage facilities meet the requirements of any potential operator and the travelling public.

The maintenance of an airport is of a standard to provide RPT is very important to the economic development of Bourke and something that Council has been very conscious of the need to ensure that Bourke Airport is maintained to that standard.

Additionally, the Bourke Airport provides an important role in the provision of a number of other services to Bourke including but not limited to Medical and banking.

The Bourke Airport is in need of a considerable amount of work particularly in relation to the runway and lighting and as such the potential of seeking portion of the available funding is welcomed.

Financial Implications:

There is an amount of up to \$50 million dollars available and the funding would certainly be advantageous to Council in ensuring that the Bourke Airport is able to meet the standards for a RPT in the longer term.

A high standard airport is essential to growing both our Tourism Industry and the economic development of the area generally.

Resolution

12/2015

- 1. Council note the report on Restart New South Wales Regional Infrastructure Fund: Regional Airports Program**
- 2. Council lodge an expression of interest for funding under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund: Regional Airports Program**

Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Johnson	Carried	Unstarred
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John Barilaro MP
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Regional Tourism

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 8 January 2015

DELIVERING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REGIONAL AIRPORTS

Local councils and owners of eligible regional airports will be able to apply for up to \$50 million in NSW Government funding to support airport infrastructure projects to help boost local tourism in 30 regional areas of the State.

Minister for Regional Tourism John Barilaro and Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson announced the NSW Government will call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for funding from the \$110 million Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund (RTIF).

"The tourism industry makes a significant contribution to the economy in NSW, particularly in regional areas, and we are keen to support that contribution," Mr Barilaro said.

"Improving access to regional airports has the potential to boost visitor numbers and create jobs.

"Regional NSW has some of the best tourist attractions in the world, and I want visitors to have a great experience and come back, and then I want them telling their friends and families.

"Currently over half the international tourists visiting Australia arrive at Sydney's Kingsford-Smith Airport, yet only 20 per cent travel on to regional NSW. Upgrading regional airport infrastructure has the potential to improve this.

"Projects must demonstrate they will deliver a net economic benefit and that they meet the objectives of the RTIF Regional Airports program."

Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson said regional airports play a critical role in local communities around the State, providing jobs and creating opportunities that facilitate regional tourism events like the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

"The funding will help strengthen and diversify the local economy with support for tourism infrastructure projects including the expansion of regional airports that service popular regional tourism destinations like Tamworth," Mr Anderson said.

The full list of eligible regional airports is:

Albury, Armidale, Ballina Byron Gateway, Bathurst, Bourke, Broken Hill, Cobar, Coffs Harbour, Cooma, Coonamble, Coonabarabran, Dubbo, Grafton, Griffith, Lismore, Lightning Ridge, Lord Howe, Merimbula, Moree, Moruya, Narrandera, Narrabri, Newcastle, Orange, Parkes, Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Taree, Wagga Wagga, Walgett.

The Expressions of Interest (EOI) guidelines are available at www.trade.nsw.gov.au/rtif

Media: Edward Martin 0407 901 003

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

File No:	F1.1
Report: 401/2015	Bank Reconciliation & Statement of Bank Balances November 2014
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 30th November 2014

Balances as per Bank Statement	\$1,029,023.86
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$39,451.60
Less: Unpresented Cheques	\$10,868.22
Less: Unpresented Auto Pays	\$48.00
Balance as per Cash Book	\$1,057,559.24

Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 30th November 2014

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$5,387,000.10	200,000.00
Water	\$2,613,653.43	
Sewer	\$2,254,445.63	
Trust	\$117,700.17	
Total Funds	\$10,372,799.33	

Investments as at 30th November 2014

National Australia Bank	\$1,028,344.37	3.68%	304 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$510,801.63	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,400,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$575,868.46	3.55%	91 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$961,874.60	3.50%	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,215,832.00	3.60%	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,982,201.82	3.60%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,040,317.21	3.55%	180 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$9,315,240.09			

In accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government Act (General) Regulation 2005 is certified that the above investments have been made under Sec 625 of the Local Government Act and Council's Investment Policy.

Reconciliation at 30th November 2014

Balance as per cash book	\$1,057,559.24
Investments	\$9,315,240.09
Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger	\$10,372,799.33

Statement of Bank Balances as at 30th November 2014

	Balance	Transaction	Balance
	31 st October 2014		30 th November 2014
General Fund	\$4,055,306.06	\$1,331,694.04	\$5,387,000.10
Water Fund	\$2,831,126.82	-\$217,473.39	\$2,613,653.43
Sewer Fund	\$2,248,162.00	\$6,283.63	\$2,254,445.63
Trust Fund	\$127,376.42	-\$9,676.25	\$117,700.17
Investments	-\$8,858,729.24	-\$456,510.85	-\$9,315,240.09
Totals	\$403,242.06	\$654,317.18	\$1,057,559.24

Balance of all Funds as at 31st October 2014 **\$403,242.06**

Add Receipts for	
(a) Rates	\$496,788.12
(b) Other Cash	\$1,802,165.00
Deduct payments for	
(a) Paid since last meeting	\$1,188,125.09
(b) New Investment	\$456,510.85
Balance as at 30th November 2014	\$1,057,559.24

Resolution

13/2015 That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30th November 2014 be noted.

Moved Cr Dorrington **Seconded Cr Bartley** **Carried**

Leonie Brown
MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES

File No:	F1.1
Report: 402/2015	Investment Report as at 30th November 2014
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Introduction

Under the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Responsible Accounting Officer is required to report on Council's Investment portfolio on a monthly basis.

Background

The report is submitted monthly to Council

Issues

- Investments are in accordance with Division of Local Government Guidelines and Council's Investment Policy
- Statutory obligations are being met

- Councillors roles as resource allocators and policy directors are satisfied

Assessment

1. Legal Implications Including Directives and Guidelines

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

The management of Council's investments is delegated by the General Manager to the Manager Corporate Services.

2. Financial Implications/Consideration

The 2014/15 Budget estimates the total investment revenue as \$315,000 which represents an estimated return of 3.68%. This revenue is split proportionally across General, Water and Sewer Funds and changes on a monthly basis in accordance with cashflow requirements.

The market value of Council's Investments held as at 30th November 2014 is.
\$9,315,240.09.

Investment income earned as at 30th November 2014 is \$141,628.46.

3. Policy Provisions – Council Policy and Procedure

Policy 1.8.10 – Investment Policy adopted 28th May 2012.

Ministerial Investment Order – 12th January 2011

4. Strategic Implications – Implications For Long Term Plans/Targets

Funds are invested in accordance with identified cash flow requirements

Investment Portfolio

Council's current Investment Portfolio is as follows

National Australia Bank	\$1,028,344.37	3.68%	304 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$510,801.63	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,400,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$575,868.46	3.55%	91 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$961,874.60	3.50%	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,215,832.00	3.60%	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,982,201.82	3.60%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,040,317.21	3.55%	180 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$9,315,240.09			

Term Deposits

Percentage of Total Portfolio 100%

Average Investment Yield 3.6%

Discussions/Comments

The Investment portfolio increased by \$456,510.85 during the period.

The investment portfolio is invested in term deposits with the National Australia Bank. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk.

The Government Guarantee on Investments up to \$1 million dollars has now expired and the new cap of \$250,000 has replaced the scheme.

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

Resolution

14/2015

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30th November 2014 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.**

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

File No:	F1.1
Report: 403/2015	Bank Reconciliation & Statement of Bank Balances December 2014
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31st December 2014

Balances as per Bank Statement	-\$52,050.80
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$2,000.00
Less: Unpresented Cheques	\$12,380.70
Less: Unpresented Auto Pays	\$32.00
Balance as per Cash Book	-\$62.463.50

Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 31st December 2014

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$3,579,394.79	\$200,000.00
Water	\$2,706,163.08	
Sewer	\$2,317,178.03	
Trust	\$139,239.06	
Total Funds	\$8,741,974.96	

Investments as at 31st December 2014

National Australia Bank	\$1,028,344.37	3.68%	304 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,400,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$575,868.46	3.55%	91 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$961,874.60	3.50%	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,215,832.00	3.60%	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,982,201.82	3.60%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,040,317.21	3.55%	180 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$8,804,438.46			

In accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government Act (General) Regulation 2005 is certified that the above investments have been made under Sec 625 of the Local Government Act and Council's Investment Policy.

Reconciliation at 31st December 2014

Balance as per cash book	-\$62,463.50
Investments	\$8,804,438.46
Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger	\$8,741,974.96

Statement of Bank Balances as at 31st December 2014

	Balance 30 th November 2014	Transaction	Balance 31 st December 2014
General Fund	\$5,387,000.10	-\$1,807,605.31	\$3,579,394.79
Water Fund	\$2,613,653.43	\$92,509.65	\$7,906,163.08
Sewer Fund	\$2,254,445.63	\$62,732.40	\$2,317,178.03
Trust Fund	\$117,700.17	\$21,538.89	\$139,239.06
Investments	-\$9,315,240.09	\$510,801.63	-\$8,804,438.46
Totals	\$1,057,559.24		-\$62,463.50

Balance of all Funds as at 30th November 2014

\$1,057,559.24

Add Receipts for	
(c) Rates	\$224,062.17
(d) Other Cash	\$1,055,635.70
Deduct payments for	
(c) Paid since last meeting	\$2,390,781.58
(d) New Investment	\$8,989.03
Balance as at 31st December 2014	-\$62,463.50

Resolution

15/2015 That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31st December 2014 be noted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

Leonie Brown
MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES

File No:	F1.1
Report: 404/2015	Investment Report as at 31st December 2014
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Introduction

Under the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Responsible Accounting Officer is required to report on Council's Investment portfolio on a monthly basis.

Background

The report is submitted monthly to Council

Issues

- Investments are in accordance with Division of Local Government Guidelines and Council's Investment Policy
- Statutory obligations are being met
- Councillors roles as resource allocators and policy directors are satisfied

Assessment

1. Legal Implications Including Directives and Guidelines

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

The management of Council's investments is delegated by the General Manager to the Manager Corporate Services.

2. Financial Implications/Consideration

The 2014/15 Budget estimates the total investment revenue as \$315,000 which represents an estimated return of 3.68%. This revenue is split proportionally across General, Water and Sewer Funds and changes on a monthly basis in accordance with cashflow requirements.

The market value of Council's Investments held as at 31st December 2014 is \$8,804,438.46.

3. Policy Provisions – Council Policy and Procedure

Policy 1.8.10 – Investment Policy adopted 28th May 2012.
Ministerial Investment Order – 12th January 2011

4. Strategic Implications – Implications For Long Term Plans/Targets

Funds are invested in accordance with identified cash flow requirements

Investment Portfolio

Council's current Investment Portfolio is as follows

National Australia Bank	\$1,028,344.37	3.68%	304 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	3.65%	184 Days	A1+
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National Australia Bank	\$1,215,832.00	3.60%	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,982,201.82	3.60%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,040,317.21	3.55%	180 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$8,804,438.46			

Percentage of Total Portfolio	100 %
Average Investment Yield	3.60%

Discussions/Comments

The Investment portfolio decreased by \$510,801.63 during the period.

The investment portfolio is invested in term deposits with the National Australia Bank. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk.

The Government Guarantee on Investments up to \$1 million dollars has now expired and the new cap of \$250,000 has replaced the scheme.

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

Resolution

16/2015

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio as at 31st December 2014 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.**

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF TOWN & VILLAGES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 2014
COMMENCING AT 3.00PM**

Present

Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis - Chair	Ross Earl – General Manager
Cr Barry Hollman	Phil Johnston – Manager of Tourism & Development
Cr Robert Stutsel	Peter Brown – Manager of Works
Cr Victor Bartley	Mark Gordon – Manager of Roads
Cr Lachlan Ford	Dwayne Willoughby –Manager Environmental Services
Cr Stuart Johnson	Kai Howard-Oakman – Executive Assistant/Minutes
Cr Cec Dorrington	
Cr Jack Bennett 3.32pm	

Apologies

The General Manager advised that apologies had been received from Cr Davis and Cr Brown.

Committee Recommendation

That the apologies received from Cr Davis and Cr Brown be received and leave be granted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

Business Arising

Nil

Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were received for the Town and Villages Committee Meeting held on Monday, 15th December 2014.

File No:	P4.1
Report: 01/2014	Delivery Plan Fourth Quarter Review
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston, Manger of Tourism & Development

At the August 2014 meeting of Bourke Shire Council, Councillors asked if the report in regards to the fourth quarter review of the Delivery Plan could be discussed at a town committee meeting.

The fourth quarter review of Bourke Shire Council's Delivery Plan for 2013-2014 highlights the progress made towards the actions as indicated in our Community Strategic Plan.

Over the year all sections have worked towards the achievement of specific goals within the integrated plan and it is pleasing that out of the 185 items in the strategic plan just 17 are incomplete and only 1 has not progressed at all. Many of the 167 items that are completed will again be a focus for the 2014-2015 year while some such as the rollover of digital television should be labelled finalised.

Of the just on 10% that are not complete significant work, potential reallocation of resources or reconsideration of the priority should be discussed. It is timely to discuss the progress made on the items listed below, in particular as we will soon be starting on the budget process for the 2015-16 financial year. The items for discussion include:

Item	Percentage complete	Responsible	Notes
Maintain and implement a training plan	15%	MCS	While this is underway significant time and skills are required to fully develop this plan in a meaningful way.
Undertake regional skills audit as part of Orana Economic Development Network	75%	MTD	Underway. Consultant chosen. Being led by Orana RDA and EDO network.
<i>Development of local trade school</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>GM, MTD</i>	<i>Part way with development of industrial kitchen and trade area at High School. – Delete from Plan</i>
Finalisation of staff appraisals	90%	GM	Almost complete although some staff not reviewed throughout the year. To be made complete by November 2014.
Ensure commercial air service available from Bourke to Dubbo	50%	GM, MTD	This continues to be a priority. Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders within Government and the private sector. BSC continues to lobby whenever possible.
Improved telecommunications in the area including Villages and roads	30%	GM, MTD	This is recorded as 30% as BSC has continued to raise awareness and respond to enquiries whenever possible. Remains a focus of GM, Mayor and MTD.
Ensure NBN access to Bourke and surrounds	0%	MTD	Details of rollout not available. Change of Government since originally planned.
<i>Community Cinema</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>MTD</i>	<i>This is the next priority of the youth of Bourke when asked 2 years ago. Funding possible for outdoor cinema but need to investigate business model and funding for 100-150 seat indoor cinema. Reduce to flat floor proposal</i>
Development of local sculptures as art, visitor experience, local activity	80%	MTD	Good awareness of this raised with potential funders etc over the year. Although overall this will still require quite some work. Was a strong priority when asked during initial integrated plan meetings.
Ensure walkway around town levy	10%	MTD	Manager Roads has applied for funding for this. Continues to be a priority for the community.
<i>Develop single multipurpose community building.</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>GM</i>	<i>Intention is to decommission other buildings. Delete from Plan</i>
Develop Aboriginal Cultural Centre for Bourke.	5%	GM, MTD	Awareness of this has been raised. Funding has been applied for several times. No success as yet.

3.32pm Cr Bennett arrived

Recommendation:

For discussion and further action by Council staff

Committee Recommendation

1. That the following item be amended:- Community Cinema – now be a flat floor proposal		
2. That the following items be deleted:-		
a. Development of a Local Trade School		
b. Develop a Single Multipurpose Community Building		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Bartley	Carried



File No:	G4.1
Report: 02/2014	Grants update
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston

Over the past several months a number of grant opportunities have arisen for Bourke Shire Council to apply for. The General Manager has asked for Councillors to be briefed on these applications including the purpose of the grants and their status.

This information is provided below for discussion.

Grant	Status	Responsible	Amount Applied For	Funding Applied For
Australian Packaging Covenant	pending	MTD, MENV	\$64,222 Not matched	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with the reintroduction of a recycling process for Bourke. Coordinator to ensure stakeholders and resources are matched to enable the redevelopment of recycling.
Indigenous Advancement Strategy- Bourke Recycling Project	pending	MTD, MENV	\$316,483 Not matched	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with the reintroduction of a recycling process for Bourke. Purchase of capital items to enable the redevelopment of recycling.
Indigenous Advancement Strategy- Aboriginal Enterprise and Employment Project	Pending	MTD	\$654,000 Not matched	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To further develop opportunities for cultural tourism in Bourke. To work intensively to develop niche product.
Clubgrants NSW- Outback Sky Park	Pending	MTD	\$463,000 Matched by \$40K in-kind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural tourism product. Highlight the many cultural stories told through the sky.
Murray Darling Basin Economic Diversification Fund	Pending	MTD	\$3.8 Million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previously discussed with Council. Main Street precinct upgrade. Economic development potential.
CASP- Festival of a Thousand Stories	Pending	MTD	\$5,000 Matched by community and existing budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for visiting artist and development of the Festival of a Thousand Stories
Regional Roads Repair Program	Pending	MR	\$450K matched by BSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cuttaburra number 2 Bridge
Bridges Renewal Program- Federal	Pending	MR	\$605K matched by BSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Len Mallon and Whisky Creek Bridges
RMS- Road Safety- Bourke Cycleway	Pending	MR	\$468,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Bourke Cycleway. Previous report to Council.
EPA Waste Less recycle More Initiative	Pending	MENV	\$50,290 BSC contribution \$21,922 current budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target Bourke and Village Waste Depots for Environmental Improvements through fencing of sites/signage/access road improvements. Also to target illegal dumping through co-vert surveillance for village waste facilities and also the Bourke Waste Management Facility.

Generally grants are only considered if they match priority areas within the Delivery Plan. Many of the applications we make do ask for evidence of community consultation and the Community Strategic Plan is evidence of this. Each grant has its own specific criteria and its own purpose which needs to be considered when writing the application.

One of the largest issues that Council staff face when writing application is the need for matching funds. Again this issue is addressed when writing the application and sometimes means that while a grant may sound suitable an application is not made.

**Recommendation:
For Councillor information**

Committee Recommendation:

That the information in the Grants Update Report be received.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

File No:	T6.1-P1.3
Report No: 03/2014	Notice of Motion – Flag Flying Policy
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl - General Manager

Councillor Victor Bartley has requested that the following notice of motion be submitted to the next meeting of the Bourke Shire Council Town and Village Committee

“ That the Bourke Shire Council Town and village Committee undertake a review of Council’s current Flag Flying Policy with a view to making provision within that policy for the flying of both the Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag at the Council Offices and at ceremonial functions conducted by Council. “

Committee Recommendation

That the Bourke Shire Council Town and village Committee undertake a review of Council’s current Flag Flying Policy with a view to making provision within that policy for the flying of both the Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag at the Council Offices and at ceremonial functions conducted by Council.

Moved Cr Bartley

Seconded Cr Ford

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Staff were congratulated on the work done in Richard Street
2. The work undertaken in the Cenotaph area was also commended
3. The Skate Park area looks good, however, there is the presence of some graffiti
4. Information was sought on any adopted Tree Preservation Plan.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.10pm

Resolution

17/2015 That the report of the Town & Villages Committee held on the Monday, 15th December 2014 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

Unstarred

10th December 2014

Mr Ross Earl
General Manager
Bourke Shire Council
PO Box 21
Bourke NSW 2840

Dear Ross

I would like to have the following notice of motion submitted to the next meeting of the Bourke Shire Council Town and Village Committee.


“ That the Bourke Shire Council Town and village Committee undertake a review of Council’s current Flag Flying Policy with a view to making provision within that policy for the flying of both the Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag at the Council Offices and at ceremonial functions conducted by Council. ”

Yours faithfully



Cr Victor Bartley

SECTION 1 Staff Management
PART 1.12 Office Administration

	POLICY NO:	1.12.5(v2)
	POLICY TITLE:	Flags
	DATE ADOPTED:	26/03/2012
	RESOLUTION NO:	130/2012
	SUPERCEDES:	1.12.5 Flags Date adopted: 24/07/2009 Resolution No. 349/2009
	PROPOSED REVIEW DATE:	26/03/2014

POLICY

Bourke Shire Council will fly the Australian Flag with the required respect and dignity as the nation's foremost symbol.

The Aboriginal Flag will be flown during NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Week.

- NAIDOC Week celebrates and promotes greater understanding of Indigenous peoples and culture.
- National Reconciliation Week recognises 27 May as the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum which removed from the Constitution clauses that discriminated against indigenous Australians and 3 June as the anniversary of the High Court decision in the Eddie Mabo land rights case of 1992.

The use of these flags will adhere to the following protocols:-

Flying the Australian Flag

- The flag should be raised briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- The flag should be raised no earlier than first light and lowered no later than dusk.
- Unless all flags are raised and lowered simultaneously, the Australian National Flag should be raised first and lowered last.
- When the flag is raised or lowered, or when it is carried in a parade or review, everyone present should be silent and face the flag. People in uniform should salute.
- The flag should always be flown freely and as close as possible to the top of the flagpole with the rope tightly secured.
- Two flags should not be flown from the same flagpole.
- The flag should not be flown upside down, even as a signal of distress.
- The flag should not fall or lie on the ground or be used as a cover (although it can be used to cover a coffin at a funeral).
- The flag may be flown at night only when it is illuminated.
- When the Australian National Flag is flown with flags of other nations, all flags should be the same size and flown on flagpoles of the same height.

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

- When flying with only one other national flag, the Australian National Flag should fly on the left of a person facing the flags.
- The flag should never be flown if it is damaged, faded or dilapidated. When the material of a flag deteriorates it should be destroyed privately and in a dignified way. It may be cut into small unrecognisable pieces then disposed of with the normal rubbish collection.

Order of Precedence

- The Australian National Flag takes precedence over all national flags when it is flown in Australia or Australian territory.
- After the Australian National Flag, the order of precedence of flags is: national flag of other nations, state and territory flags, other Australian flags prescribed by the Flags Act 1953, ensigns and pennants.
- The Australian National Flag should not normally be flown in a position inferior to any other flag or ensign and should not be smaller than any other flag or ensign.

Flying Flags at Half Mast

Flags are flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning.

The half-mast position will depend on the size of the flag and the length of the flagpole. The flag must be lowered to a position recognisably half-mast to avoid the appearance of a flag which has accidentally fallen away from the top of the flagpole. An acceptable position would be when the top of the flag is a third of the distance down from the top of the flagpole.

There are times when direction will be given by the Australian Government for all flags to be flown at half-mast.

Flags in any locality can be flown at half-mast on the death of a local citizen or on the day, or part of the day, of their funeral.

When lowering the flag from a half-mast position it should be briefly raised to the peak and then lowered ceremoniously.

The flag should never be flown at half-mast at night even if it is illuminated.

When flying the Australian National Flag with other flags, all flags in the set should be flown at half-mast. The Australian National Flag should be raised first and lowered last.

Funerals

The flag can be used to cover the coffin of any Australian citizen at their funeral.

The upper left quarter or canton should be draped over the 'left shoulder' of the coffin to represent the heart.

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

The flag should be removed before the coffin is lowered into the ground or after the service at a crematorium.

DESCRIPTION OF FLAGS

Australian Flag

The Australian National Flag is Australia's foremost national symbol. It was first flown in 1901 and has become an expression of Australian identity and pride.

The Australian National Flag has three elements on a blue background: the Union Jack, the Commonwealth Star and the Southern Cross. The Union Jack in the upper left corner (or canton) acknowledges the history of British settlement. Below the Union Jack is a white Commonwealth or Federation star. It has seven points representing the unity of the six states and the territories of the Commonwealth of Australia. The star is also featured on the Commonwealth Coat of Arms. The Southern Cross is shown on the fly of the flag in white. This constellation of five stars can be seen only from the southern hemisphere and is a reminder of Australia's geography.

Aboriginal Flag

The top half of the Australian Aboriginal flag is black to symbolise Indigenous people. The red in the lower half stands for the earth and the colour of ochre, which has ceremonial significance. The circle of yellow in the centre of the flag represents the sun.

The Aboriginal Flag was proclaimed on 14th July 1995.

Murray Darling Flag

The Murray Darling Flag was first hoisted at Goolwa, South Australia in March 1853.

The Murray Darling Flag features a red cross with four horizontal bars of blue (said to represent the Murray, Darling, Murrumbidgee and Goulburn Rivers). The Union Jack in the upper corner and five stars on the cross (said to represent the Australian Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia).

RELATED POLICIES

There are no related Policies.

PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

File No:	A5.5 - L1.6
Report: 901/2015	Update on the Use of Tooralé Station
Author:	The Hon. Greg Hunt, MP – Minister for the Environment

Following discussions with the NSW Minister for the Environment, the Hon Robert Stokes, MP, regarding the use of Tooralé Station advising that there are no plans to change the National Park tenure of Tooralé Station to allow commercial use of the property.

Recommendation:
For Council's information

Resolution

18/2015

- 1. That Council forward a copy of the letter received from the Hon. Greg Hunt, MP to the Local Member, Kevin Humphries.**
- 2. That the Local Member also be asked to ascertain the State Government current policy in relation to the commercial use of portions of Tooralé Station at Bourke**

Moved Cr Bartley

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

File No:	D5.1-D5.2-P3.1
Report: 902/2015	Community Contribution – Request for Use of Council Vehicle
Author:	Neil Driscoll, Vice President, Bourke Police & Community Outback Trek

Requesting the use of a Council vehicle for the scout trip for the Annual Bourke Police & Community Outback Trek.

Resolution

19/2015 That Bourke Police and Community Outback Trek be given the use of a Council vehicle for the scout trip, when required during either February or March 2015. All fuel, tyres and damage and insurance excess are to be paid for by the Bourke Police and Community Outback Trek Committee.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

File No:	W1.2
Report: 903/2015	Proposed Introduction of Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)
Author:	Mike Baird, Premier of NSW

Responding to Councils correspondence relating to the Proposed Introduction of Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), advising that the NSW Government has been examining different approaches used both in Australia and around the world to reduce litter and increase the recycling of container waste.

Resolution

20/2015 That the information regarding the proposed Introduction of Container Deposit Scheme from the Premier of NSW, the Hon. Mike Baird, MP be noted.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Brown	Carried



The Hon Greg Hunt MP
Minister for the Environment

COPY

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1 DEC 2014
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OWNER <i>Precis</i>

MC14-021188

26 NOV 2014

Councillor Andrew Lewis
Mayor
Council of the Shire of Bourke
PO Box 21
BOURKE NSW 2840

Dear Mayor 

I am writing to provide you with an update on my correspondence to you of 3 September 2014, regarding Toorale Station.

Toorale Station was purchased in 2008 by the New South Wales Government with funding support from the Australian Government. The property was purchased for its unique conservation values, rich cultural heritage and its water entitlements. Toorale was gazetted under the New South Wales *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (the Act) in November 2010. The New South Wales Government is responsible for the ongoing management of Toorale as a conservation reserve in accordance with the Act.

As state and territory governments have constitutional responsibility for land management, the tenure classification of Toorale Station and the appropriateness of its classification as a National Park, is a decision for the New South Wales Government.

I have recently spoken with the New South Wales Minister for the Environment, the Hon Robert Stokes MP, on this matter. Minister Stokes has advised that the New South Wales Government has no plans to change the national park tenure of Toorale Station to allow commercial use of the property.

As Toorale Station is managed by the New South Wales Government, I encourage you to contact the New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage to discuss your concerns.

Thank you again for bringing the Bourke Shire Council's concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely



FAXED
02/12/14

80904

COPY



**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIP, "IN KIND" SUPPORT)
2011/12**

Name of applicant organisation:	Bourke Police & Community Centre
Postal Address:	P.O Box 449 Bourke NSW 2840
Contact person:	Neil Driscoll
Position:	Vice President
Phone number:	68308000
Mobile number:	0419435056
Fax number:	0268721276
Email address:	

Enquiries are to be made to Council's Manager Corporate Services on 0268308000.

Completed applications are to be returned to Council no later than 4pm Friday,

(Date(s) to be specified each year)

An electronic version of the form can be made available upon request, or applications can be posted or hand delivered to:-

Bourke Shire Council
Financial Assistance Program
P O Box 21 / 29 Mitchell Street
BOURKE NSW 2840
Phone: 02 68308000 Fax: 02 68723030
Email: bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au

64.3

File No	DS-1-DS-2
Doc No	
ACK	RESP OFF
TRM	TRM
2 DEC 2011	
INVOIC	COUNCIL
SM	LIBRARY
MSR	RATES
MSD	EMERG
DM	SR

INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Please provide a brief overview of your group /organisation:-

Raising Money For R.F.D.S & Local Groups
in Bourke - Helping People through the outbreak
of A Zoonotic Disease:

Is the Group/organisation based in Bourke Shire?:- Yes/No

If no, where is it located?

What is the number of current members of your group/organisation? 12 .

Purpose for which the donation will be used:-

For Local Groups

If not stated above, briefly describe the way in which this donation will benefit Bourke Shire:-

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

What is the total amount of your request (exclusive of GST)?	\$	
Is your group / organisation registered for GST	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Does your group / organisation have an ABN (Australian Business Number)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
Is your group / organisation incorporated?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
If yes, please quote your ABN	98063195973.	
If yes, please quote your Incorporation No		
Does your group / organisation have Public Liability Insurance?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
If yes, please attach a Certificate of Currency		

To be completed for "in kind" support:-

(Please arrange appointment with appropriate Council staff to obtain a quote where necessary)

ITEM	Applicant's Contribution	Support sought from Council
A. Monetary		
Total (A)		
B. Equipment costs	USE OF COUNCIL	
	VEHICLE FOR SCARF TRAP	
Total (B)	ALL FUEL, TYRES etc	
C. Labour costs	DAMAGED AT TRAILS	
	COST	
Total ©		
D. Other project costs		
Total (D)		
TOTAL COSTS (A+B+C+D)		

Has your group/organisation received financial or in kind support from Bourke Shire in the last 12 months? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
If yes, please provide amount and details of purpose: <i>THE USE OF Council's VEHICLE TO Carry OUT this year track. Approx 6 days. Possibly FEBRUARY or MARCH 2015</i>
Has your group/organisation received any grants from the State or Federal Government in relation to the project for which this donation is sought? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
If yes, briefly list details and amount of grant <i>—————</i>
Rates Donations – if you are only applying for a donation of rates (general or water) please provide the following details:-
Property for which rates donation is sought:
Council's Rates Assessment Number:
Owner of land on which property is located:



Premier of New South Wales
Minister for Western Sydney
Minister for Infrastructure

Reference: A1081492

12 January 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your email about the Government's plans to reduce litter and help the environment. I have noted your comments and appreciate that you took the time to write to me.

Littered containers are a major issue in NSW for local communities and our environment.

The NSW Government has been examining different approaches used both in Australia and around the world to reduce litter and increase the recycling of container waste. The Government has advised industry representatives that it favours the introduction of a state-based container deposit scheme (CDS).

Independent advice states that a state-based scheme, using reverse vending machines and targeting containers that are predominantly consumed away-from-home, will be both cost efficient and effective. Importantly, it will also complement, rather than compete with, our existing kerbside recycling system. The Government is currently working with the community and industry to refine the design principles of a CDS and in turn protect the environmental health of our parks, rivers, beaches and towns.

This reform will be part of the broader action being undertaken by the NSW Government to reduce litter generally, with the aim that NSW will have the lowest litter count per capita in Australia. Through the *Waste Less, Recycle More* program, \$20 million is being used over five years to revitalise anti-littering efforts across the state, including new education and community awareness campaigns, new and upgraded litter infrastructure and targeted enforcement programs.

Thank you again for writing to me on this important issue.

Yours sincerely

MIKE BAIRD MP
Premier

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL

ACTIVITY REPORT



Council Meeting, 19th January 2015

This is Page 62 of 98 of the Activity Report for the ordinary meeting of Bourke Shire Council to be held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.00am

ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

The following information outlines works completed from the 14th November 201 to the 24th December 2014.

File No:	E7.1
Report: 101/2014	Works Completed
Responsible Officer:	Scott Parnaby / Roads Supervisor

1. NORTH SECTOR – Dennis Tiffen, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
HWY 7 North Bourke – Barringun segment 3775 3780	Rehab completed
RLR 3 Twin Rivers	Top Grade completed
RLR 4 Bundy	Top Grade completed

2. SOUTHWEST SECTOR – John Reed, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
RLR 13 Landsdown	Top grade completed
RLR 15 Lakemere	Top grade completed
RLR 14 Avondale	Top grade in progress
MR 405 Bourke - Wanaaring	Top grade completed

3. TRANSPORT SECTOR – Jack Weilinga, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
HWY 7 North Bourke – Barringun segment 3775 - 3780	Rehab Completed
HWY 7 North Bourke – Barringun segment 3775 - 3780	Aggregate carted
Town stockpile	Crusher dust Carted
Byrock Water Supply	Water carted

4. BITUMEN MAINTENANCE SECTOR – John Bartley, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Bourke Township	Pothole patching Town Streets
All State Highways	Pothole patching undertaken
MR 405 Bourke –Wanaaring	Pothole patching
Brewarrina Shire Council	Pothole patching
MR 68s Bourke- Louth	Pothole patching

5. PARKS & GARDENS – Terry Rankmore, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
General	All parks and gardens regular mowing and maintenance carried out Sporting grounds mowed Sporting grounds facilities cleaned and maintained Public Toilets cleaned and maintained General graffiti removal carried out on Council Facilities
Small Plant	Maintenance and service carried out on all ground plant
Works Requests	Actioned and ongoing
1 Tudor St	General maintenance carried out
Wharf	General maintenance carried out Prepare for Market Day/Night Prepare Wharf for Carols by Candlelight
Renshaw Complex	Grounds facilities cleaned and maintained
Coolican Oval	Mow and Maintain Oval Prepare for BAHS Bourke Fit
Davidson Oval	Mow and Maintain Oval Prepare ground Junior & Senior Cricket
Central Park	Skate Park-General maintenance Prepare for a variety of Christmas functions
Villages	Mow grounds and facilities cleaned and maintained

6. TOWN SERVICES – Troy Hayman, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Daily
Cemetery	Grave 6/11/2014 Grave 28/11/2014 Put headstone back on grave 2/12/2014 Grave 18/12/2014
Rest Areas	Weekly cleaning and rubbish removal and cleaning road side Water rest areas
Staff Training	Nil
General	Remove rubbish Enngonia under bridge needed bobcat Sand footpaths ongoing Remove goal posts for cricket season Replace keep left signs Oxley Street blisters vandalism Remove burnt out car Hope Street Whipper snip street corners Dig up blow out Richard Street in front of Police Station Relieving garbage truck

	Re- paint parking Bowling Club Prune lane way trees of bottle shop Prune dead limbs from trees Mertin Street footpath Relieving garbage truck Call out storm Pick up trees from storm Fix main street flags from wind Trees from storm after storm Prune tree footpath near Cenotaph Remove car Short Street Put new give way sign up corner of Becker and Short Street Pick up tree North Bourke airport Remove chevrons levee bank Short Street for new railing Erect Christmas flags Clean out drains and corners Sweep stone at the Exhibition Centre Put chevron on levee gate Short Street Clean out depot main drain Repair lid depot wash bay Clean lanes of rubbish Road closures for market day Clean rubbish way bay Renshaw Remove rubbish from lanes Take cold mix to Wanaaring Bridges Kill ants Coomah Street road
Sundry Debtors	S/D Crusher dust 919913 S/D Crane 919914 S/D Crane 919915 S/D Essential Energy 919916

7. WORKSHOP – Neil Driscoll, Plant Foreman

Plant No	Rego	Description	Work Carried Out
135	BD37AJ	2009 Volvo	7500 hr service
137	DH91BK	2010 Volvo	Replaced hydraulic hose 6,000 hr service
139	BR53WH	Caterpillar 950H	1,500 hr service Repair grease hose
140	AK24LO	Caterpillar 12H	7,500 hr service Re-shim blade and replace shaft Install ram cylinder kit in steering

72	BC83 YB	2009 John Deere	Weld mudguard bracket Replace air-conditioner condenser
171	BN04EY	2002 Isuzu	Replace c-clip and shock ring to body ram
48	AZ90ZJ	2009 Freightliner	10,000 km service
60	AV25YJ	2008 Freightliner	Replace thermostat hose Replace batteries Replace front engine mount Weld hydraulic tank 41,000km service
78	CA80TI	2014 Isuzu Twin Cab	500 km service Repair UHF Ariel Repair trailer plug Bolt down water tank 15,000km service
107	73635C	2009 Kubota	Repair ignition wire
74	WYC811	Case	250hr service Repair air conditioner
13	CRL70H	2014 Mazda BT-50	25,000km service
21	BX51PF	2014 Holden Commodore	25,000km service
49	BZQ74Z	2011 Mazda BT-50	70,000km service
109	07615C	2011 Toro	Service
27		2009 Isuzu	140,000km service
46	BX92HR	2013 Hino	20,000km service
55	AU97TV	2007 Hino	Remove and clean radiator
37	AJ01DM	Isuzu 500 Long	180,000km service Adjust brakes
25	COM15X	2013 Mazda BT-50	70,000km service 75,000km Service Change transmission oil

35	COR74B	2013 Mazda BT-50	55,000km service Rewire revolving light and fridge wire
50		2013 Mazda BT-50	Weld Mudguard
236	J43715	Highgate water tanker	Repair trailer legs Repair skid plates Weld body cracks Replace all brake shoes Rod and Cam bushes Replace hydraulic motor on pump
95	K46882		Repair water leaks under bench
15	BW32YX	2013 Holden Colorado	60,000km service
28	YCJ49T	2014 Mazda BT-50	5,000km service
61	CQG23T	2014 Mazda BT-50	25,000km service
66	BQ40XY	Isuzu D/Max	65,000km service
218	BR67WH	2012 Hino	40,000km service Replace radio antenna Clean radiator and adjust brakes
51	AB97TB	2004 Isuzu	Replace LH door motor Tightened air conditioner belt
67	BZ23A	2014 Isuzu D/Max	15,000km service Weld mudguard Rewire trailer plug
65	BG97LI	2010 John Deere	Change fuel filters Check oil levels
86	N85143	2002 Snorkel	Tighten hydraulic hose on valve body
11	BZ24PA	2014 D/Max	10,000km service Replace trailer plug

8. Water and Wastewater – Shane Hopley, Acting Supervisor

WATER SUPPLY PLANNED MAINTENANCE

ACTIVITY	REQUIRED INTERVAL	DATE CARRIED OUT / OR PROGRAMMED FOR	
River mains flushing	12 months or as required		Ongoing
Potable mains flushing	12 months or as required		Ongoing
Hydrant painting and cleaning	12 months		As required
Bourke river pumps annual maintenance	12 months	Completed 2014	ongoing
Alignment of stop valve covers checked	12 months		Ongoing
Instrumentation test and calibration (flow meters)	12 months	July 2015, Next Service	Completed
Reservoir cleaning	5 years	2020	Ongoing
Reservoir inspection	24 months	2017	completed

Water & Sewerage system planned maintenance

ACTIVITY	REQUIRED INTERVAL	DATE CARRIED OUT / OR PROGRAMMED FOR	
Bourke WTP daily maintenance	Daily	Ongoing	
Bourke WTP tests	Daily	Ongoing	
Bourke STP and WTP weed spraying / slashing	As required	Ongoing	
Bourke STP bank grading (to fill scours & cracks)	Annually	As Required	
Bourke WTP chemical pump calibrations	Daily	Ongoing	
Sewerage pump monitoring	Daily	Ongoing	
Sewer manholes & risers inspection	Annually	Ongoing	
Preventative maintenance sewer pump inspection	Annually	Ongoing	
Instrumentation test and calibration (flow meters)	Annually	July 2015	
Main cleaning & pump station desilting	As required	March 2016	
Bore Inspection	5 Years	NSW Office of Water	

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WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE SYSTEM UNPLANNED MAINTENANCE – 2014			
Main breaks repaired for December	9	Sewer chokes for June cleared:	14
Annual Main Breaks	78	Annual Sewer Chokes	111
Raw:	6	Boundaries replaced:	1
Potable:	3		
Year to date: 2014 Water Meters			
Faulty Meters replaced	98		
New Connections	5		
Total Replacements in 2012/2013	103		
Year to date: 2014/15 Water Meters		Meters read twice yearly	
Faulty Meter replaced	98		
New Connections	5		
Total Replacements in 2013/2014	170		

BOURKE SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT EPA LICENCE COMPLIANCE

Record of Effluent Analysis

POLLUTANT	UNIT OF MEASURE	LICENCE 100 PERCENTILE CONCENTRATION LIMIT	Sept 2014 TEST	Oct 2014 TEST	Nov 2014 TEST	Dec 2014 TEST	Jan 2015 TEST	Feb 2015 TEST	Mar 2015 TEST	Apr 2015 TEST
Oil & Grease	<i>mg/L</i>	10	2	3	<2	<2				
pH		6.5-8.5	8.9	8.6	9.0	9.3				
Nitrogen (total)	<i>mg/L</i>	40	7.1	5.6	7.9	7.8				
Phosphorus (total)	<i>mg/L</i>	10	1.6	3.3	1.3	0.78				
Total suspended solids	<i>mg/L</i>	65	32	45	34	40				
Biochemical oxygen demand	<i>mg/L</i>	55	7	40	9	11				

RECORD OF WATER USAGE

For the period, 01/01/14 to 31/07/14 Council's meters indicated the following water usage:

Water usage for January through to December 2014: **Yearly totals for 2014**

WATER SCHEME	ANNUAL ALLOCATION (ML)	TOTAL USAGE FOR THE PERIOD (ML)	USAGE YEAR TO DATE (ML)	DAILY AVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD (ML)	DAILY AVERAGE YEAR TO DATE (ML)
Bourke potable		39	299	2.1	1.3
Bourke river	3500	244	1388	8.1	6.1
North Bourke village raw	750	33	378	1	1.8

Rainfall in Bourke for September period:

Resolution

21/2015 That Council note the information in the Engineering Services Department Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 19th January 2015.

Moved Cr Dorrington Seconded Cr Johnson Carried Unstarred

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

File No:	D3.2
Report: 201/2015	Developments Approved Report
Author:	Carolyn Crain, Development Assessment Officer
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

November 2014

Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No.	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Delegated	DA 2015/0011	Lot 2, DP 1187597 Alambie Farm, Bourke	Two (2) Lot Subdivision
Delegated	DA 2015/0012	Lot 10, Section 11, DP 758389 Belalie Street, Enngonia	Construction of War Memorial Monument

Total value of Approved works for November 2014 = \$8,000
 No. of Development Application Approvals for November 2014 = 2
 No. of Complying Development Application Approvals for November 2014 = 0

December 2014

Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Delegated	CDC 2015/0013	Lot 2, DP 502912 4 Coomah Street, Bourke	Construction of Residential Shed

Total value of Approved works for December 2014 = \$7368.00
 No. of Development Application Approvals for December 2014 = 0
 No. of Complying Development Application Approvals for December 2014 = 1

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

File No:	A11.1.1
Report: 201/2015	Building Services Report
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

November 2014

Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing
Risk Assessments	Completed with every job
Training	Staff Training – Needles
Office	Relocate shelves and files from file room Install Emergency generator Clean out Gutters
Cemetery	Install sector signs General maintenance – Watering ,Mowing and fill in holes
Central Park	Erect fence for lone pine tree
Enngonia Camp	Fit cage to pump
Dog Pound	Repairs to roof – storm damage
Airport house	Painting barge ends and re-nail veranda deck
Depot	Sheeting to town services shed
Airport	ARO Inspections
Contractors	Replace A/C units at Office, Jandra and ongoing repairs Pest Control – Railway Flat Electrical – Repairs to Building , Plant and Equipment

December 2014

Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing
Risk Assessments	Completed with every job
Training	Nil
Office	Monthly check and test Emergency Generator Commenced alterations to front office
Cemetery	Complete sector signs General maintenance – Watering ,Mowing and fill in holes Spray for weeds and burr
Central Park	Complete lone pine fence Install slabs and seat n shades
Caravans	Repair roof leak – P/N 85 Replace A/C units and fridge – P/N 80
6 Glen Street	Trim tree in rear yard
Dry Lake Oval	Removal of shed structure
Medical Centre	Erect shelving
Airport House	Repair roller door Fit new pumps
Airport	ARO Inspections and village Inspections Install air filters in PAL box Fit new windsock at Louth
Contractors	Electrical – Repair wiring fault and fit RCD's at Renshaw Cottage Replace oven and cooktop – Renshaw cottage Replace plug and socket to windsock lights – Bourke Airport Replace A/C Units on the Jandra Pest Control – Renshaw Cottage

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File No:	A8.1
Report: 201/2015	Animal Control/Environmental Issues Report
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

November 2014

Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	3	0
Seized	16	4
Surrendered	3	0
Dumped	0	0
Total	22	4
Euthanased	17	4
Returned to Owner	0	0
Released from Pound	2	0
Re-housed	0	0
Died in Pound	0	0
Escaped from Pound	0	0
Animals Remaining at End of Month	3	0
Total	22	4
Micro-chip Implantations	0	1
Infringement Notices	0	0
Wandering Stock	0	
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	0	
Shopping Trolley Impounded	0	

December 2014

Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	3	0
Seized	17	6
Surrendered	3	0
Dumped	0	0
Total	23	6
Euthanased	16	6
Returned to Owner	0	0
Released from Pound	0	0
Re-housed	0	0
Died in Pound	1	0
Escaped from Pound	0	0
Animals Remaining at End of Month	6	0
Total	23	6
Micro-chip Implantations	0	0
Infringement Notices	0	0
Wandering Stock	0	
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	0	
Shopping Trolley Impounded	0	

- Attended complaints in regards to dogs causing trouble to the general public
- Ongoing patrols of the township enforcing the Companion Animal Act
- Water sampling for the township, villages and Darling river
- Patrols of Councils Reserve's

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File No:	S10.2.1
Report: 201/2015	Swimming Pool Report
Responsible Officer:	John & Tanya Milgate, Pool Managers

Attendance for November 2014

Season Ticket Holders		Non- Season Ticket Holders	
Adults	607	Adults	232
Children (2+)	1553	Children (2+)	462
Children (<2)	95	Children (<2)	0
Pensioners	25	Pensioners	0
School Groups	726	Total for Month	3700

Attendance for December 2014

Season Ticket Holders		Non- Season Ticket Holders	
Adults	346	Adults	124
Children (2+)	931	Children (2+)	286
Children (<2)	0	Children (<2)	26
Pensioners	30	Pensioners	0
School Groups	486	Total for Month	2229

Resolution

22/2015 That Council note the information in the Environmental Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 19th January 2015.			
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Johnson	Carried	Unstarred

GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	G2.1
Report: 301/2015	"From the GM's Desk"
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

27th November 2014

The water in the Darling River has ceased to flow over the weir necessitating the re-introduction of water restrictions in accordance with Council's Drought Action Policy.

Level-one water restrictions are now again in place which means fixed sprinklers are only to be used for two (2) hours per day and the washing down of paths is prohibited as is the filling of any new pools. Hand held hoses can still be used at any time.

Council would appreciate the continued cooperation of all residents in abiding by these restrictions.

The next rates instalment is due on the 30th November 2014 as are the water charges. If you are having any difficulty in meeting the payments please contact the rates officer who will discuss possible options with you. Interest charges do apply to overdue amounts.

The Annual General Meeting of the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC) was held last Friday and saw the incumbent Chair, Cr Bill McAnally, Mayor of Narromine Shire re-elected to that position whilst Bourke Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis was re-elected to the position of Deputy Chairperson along with Cr Alan Karanouh, Mayor of Coonamble Shire who was elected to fill the other Vice-Presidents role.

The annual meeting was followed by the General Meeting.

The ongoing discussions in relation to the Local Government Reform process, "Fit for the Future" featured very much in discussions as expected.

The meeting was also addressed by the Executive Officer of Western Medicare Local, Jenny Benge who detailed some of the changes facing the current structure of Medicare Locals throughout Australia and in particular the fact that there has been a proposed consolidation of Far Western Medicare Local, Western Medicare Local and Murrumbidgee Medicare Local into a single entity which will result in a huge area under the name of Western New Wales

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

Primary Network and will include Broken Hill, Mudgee, Oberon, Tumbarumba , Tumut, Orange Coonabarabran, Albury and Wagga.

Jenny noted that the new Entities will be called Primary Health Networks and the Boards of the Western Medicare Local and Far Western Medicare Local will be combining to submit a tender in relation to the role required of the Western NSW Primary Health Network and hopeful that they will be joined in the consortium by Murrumbidgee Medicare Local.

While the geographic size of the New Western NSW Primary Health Network (PHN) looks challenging Jenny indicated that it presented an opportunity for collaborative and integrated health care systems. It is proposed that the new model will focus on local delivery of services and a reduction in the Fly in Fly Out Service Delivery Model. There will be the need for more than the one Administrative Office to service the area.

The Member for Parkes, Mark Coulton attended the Meeting of OROC and he faced a number of questions including the freeze on increase in the Financial Assistance Grants, (FAGs), the co-contribution required for a number of the infrastructure grants which are available which makes it difficult for smaller Councils to be able to provide the matching funds required and be able to take advantage of these of grants.

On behalf of the residents of the Shire I took the opportunity to again raise with Mark the need for an improvement and expansion of the Mobile Phone Service in the Shire and sought an update on the progress of the \$100 million fund set up to address the mobile phone coverage deficiencies across Australia.

On Friday night Mayor Andrew Lewis and I attended the Inaugural Orana Outlook dinner which was hosted by Regional Development Australia and held at Taronga Western Plains Zoo.

Speakers at the Dinner included the Hon. Troy Grant, Deputy Premier of NSW and Member for Dubbo, Nick Farr-Jones, AM, Former Wallabies Captain and now a business leader in the finance and resources sector and Jonathon Pain a highly regarded Global Economic commentator and speaker on economic issues and is a sought after speaker across the globe.

Guests included a wide range of representatives from across the region including Local Government, finance industry, agricultural sector and commercial and manufacturing sectors.

This is the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bourke Shire Council held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.07am

Council has already obtained preliminary approval to commence the carting of water for Byrock should this be required with the New South Wales Office of Water (NOW) fully understanding that the need will become both urgent and essential once the storage supply is exhausted.

The water is only to be utilised for inside domestic use. In the past all residents have been very compliant with the restrictions regarding the use of the water.

Advertisements regarding Council's intention to take action regarding the issues of stray horses at North Bourke have been placed in the Western Herald and landowners in the North Bourke area notified by letter drop.

These apparently stray animals are not only causing damage to property but are also posing a danger to traffic in and around North Bourke.

Anyone who claims ownership of these animals or is able to provide information in relation to same is asked to contact the Environment Services Department of Council on 02 68308000.

A further reminder, that nominations are being called for the 2015 Australia Day Awards which cover a number of categories. Nominations forms are available at Councils Offices and can also be forwarded out on request.

During the meeting of Council held on Monday Mayor Andrew Lewis officiated at a Citizenship Ceremony which saw Anil Pun Tiliza become an Australian Citizen. Congratulations to Anil.

Mayor Andrew Lewis and I will be meeting with representatives of Western Area Health on the 15th December to further discuss the issues of the reopening of the birthing unit at the Bourke Multi-Purpose Service.

Council's Financial Reports and the Auditor's Reports for the 2013/2014 Financial Year were presented to Council on Monday and Councils Auditor Gary Mottau from Hill Rogers Spence Steel joined the Council by teleconference to give Councillors a detailed explanation of the results and how the results of Bourke compared with a number of the Office of Local Government Indicators.

Generally the result for Council was quite sound.

This is Page 80 of 98 of the Activity Report for the ordinary meeting of Bourke Shire Council to be held on Monday, 19th January 2015 in the Council Chambers at 9.00am

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The fact that the practice of the Federal Government to prepay the first two instalments of the Financial Assistance grants ceased has distorted some of the comparative data.

Some interesting statistics from the Financial Reports include

- Rates and annual charges account for 19% of Councils revenue
- Councils operating expenditure was \$19.566 million
- Total net assets for which Council was responsible totalled \$208 million

Council's Offices will be closed over the Christmas period from 3.00pm on the 24th December until 8.00 am on the 5th January 2015.

There will be some changes to service delivery by Council over the Christmas period and these changes have been advertised and are also available on the Council website www.bourke.nsw.gov.au Most of Councils normal functions will continue with skeleton staff working throughout the period.

As always Council have staff on call to respond to emergency situations and the on-call duty Officer can be contacted on 0419722055

Council will hold an Extraordinary meeting on the 15th December 2014 to receive a report and recommendations from the Project Managers in respect of the construction of the new Pre-School.

The Back to Bourke weekend scheduled for Easter next year continues to take shape with a number of events already planned. The return of racing to Bourke seems to be welcomed by all those in racing across the region and will no doubt be one of the drawcards for the weekend.

Bourke Shire Council have been actively supporting the promotion of Asbestos Awareness Moth and encouraging people to adopt a very cautious approach when dealing with asbestos related products.

There has been a continuing rise in asbestos related diseases and following some simply precautionary steps can greatly assist in the minimising the risk of exposure. There are guidelines available for both the removal and disposal of asbestos and adherence to these guidelines will minimise the risk for everyone. They are able to be accessed from the New South Wales WorkCover Website www.workcover.nsw.gov.au

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Next Tuesday will see the forum being hosted by the Office of Local Government and Department of Premier and Cabinet in relation to the Far Western Initiative involving the Shires of Balranald, Bourke Brewarrina, Central Darling, Cobar, Walgett and Wentworth together with Broken Hill City Council. The Forum will be in Cobar and be attended by the Minister for Local Government Hon. Paul Toole, MP.

On Wednesday there will be two meetings being hosted by the Office of Local Government in Dubbo detailing how the templates required to be completed by Councils who wish to undertake a "Fit for the Future" assessment. Bourke Shire Council will be undertaking this self-assessment process and will be represented at the meeting in Dubbo.

4th December 2014

The Darling River has finally slowed to the extent that it no longer flows over the weir and level one restrictions are again in place.

The flow was for a much greater period than anticipated and the ability to be able maintain their gardens welcomed by most residents.

Level one water restrictions are in place again meaning fixed sprinklers are only to be used for two (2) hours per day and the washing down of paths is prohibited as is the filling of any new pools. Hand held hoses can still be used at any time

Council has accepted an offer from the Two Waterholes Cricket Club to maintain the North Bourke Oval and to use it for their home ground for the 2015/2016 season. At the meeting it was highlighted that with the current and planned development of North Bourke the availability of a maintained recreational facility would be a great asset. Council has asked that an agreement detailing the arrangements be drawn up suitable to both parties.

Anyone who claims ownership or has knowledge of the owners of the stray horses, in and around, North Bourke is asked to contact the Environmental Services Department of Council on 0268308000

These apparently stray animals are not only causing damage to property but are also posing a danger to traffic in and around North Bourke.

After the 8th December 2014 Council will consider its options regarding the removal of these animals.

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It was my privilege to be asked to be MC at a farewell morning tea held for Sally Torr to mark her retirement from the position of Health Service Manager at Bourke. Sally has completed almost fifty years of service to various parts of the health industry.

In researching a few facts for my speech I became aware of both Sally's impressive academic achievements and also her extensive experience with a variety of health organisations and health related issues.

Sally have provided eight years leadership to the Bourke Hospital and with the hospital having recently passed an accreditation audit leaves the position with the knowledge she has left the hospital in good shape.

Council has joined with a number of other Councils from within the region in expressing its concern that the Court Houses in Cobar, Narromine, Nyngan and Warren are apparently to close in February next year. The matter has been raised by a number of members of OROC who have made representations to the Deputy Premier and Member for Dubbo Hon. Troy Grant M.P. and also the Minister for Western New South Wales and Member for Barwon, Hon. Kevin Humphries MP.

Rural New South Wales has seen the erosion of a number of services over the past few years and can ill afford a continuation of this trend. The concept of decentralisation seems to be substituted by centralisation and continues to threaten the social and economic fabric of rural communities.

Council's Offices will be closed over the Christmas period from 3.00pm on the 24th December until 8.00 am on the 5th January 2015.

There will be some changes to service delivery by Council over the Christmas period and these changes have been advertised and are also available on the Council website www.bourke.nsw.gov.au Most of Councils normal functions will continue with skeleton staff working throughout the period.

As always Council have staff on call to respond to emergency situations and the on-call duty Officer can be contacted on 0419722055

Council will hold an Extraordinary meeting on the 15th December 2014 to receive a report and recommendations from the project managers in respect of the construction of the new Pre-School. The closing date for the receipt of tenders was extended until this Friday 5th December at 2.00pm.

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The confirmation that Bourke has secured Easter Sunday for the race day to be held in conjunction with the Back to Bourke Reunion is great news and the result of a considerable amount of work put in by the committee led by Phil Parnaby.

The race meeting will be one of the major attractions for the weekend which from indications from accommodation bookings to date will be very well attended.

A reminder to ensure you get your entries in the “Shop Locally” campaign being conducted by the Bourke Business Group and participating businesses.

For every purchase over \$50.00 you go into the draw to win the major prize of \$5,000.00.

Remember “Support the Businesses who support the community.”

Paying a few bills the other day I noticed the variety of methods that could be utilised for payment with a number of these options internet based or telephone based. There is the opportunity to pay most of your normal household bills at agencies located in Bourke.

The utilisation of these agencies not only provides an income for the operator but also ensures that the agency facility remains viable and the service is not lost to town.

Residents would have noticed the work being undertaken around the Cenotaph area with new guard being erected around the Lone Pine plus fencing around the garden area.

It has certainly enhanced the appearance of the cenotaph precinct.

State Highway 7 North, rehabilitation works continues between Enngonia and Barringun and it is hoped to have 3 kilometres sealed by the end of this week to a width of 8 metres. This project is scheduled to be finished before the Christmas break.

Weed Control is being undertaken on all of the State Highways and Regional Roads, with particular attention being paid to grass invasion on the edges of the bitumen.

Included in the next scope of work is the chemical control of the suckers that have started to appear in various places on the State Highways and the Regional Roads. This is being completed in house by the Council Weed’s Officer.

The Rural Roads Maintenance crews have finished the top grade of RLR 13 (Lansdowne Road) and RLR 15 (Lakemere Road) this week. Some moisture would be beneficial at this

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time so we could tidy up the Wanaaring Road as it would not be cost effective to do this work without the required moisture. Work on RLR 14 (Avondale Road) should commence next week.

The bitumen crew continues to keep all the bitumen in good order including State Highways, Regional Roads, rural roads and town streets.

On Tuesday the 25th November Council Manager of Works attended a Barwon Darling Critical Water Advisory Group meeting in Narrabri; this had been the first meeting of the group since the 2006 millennium drought.

Stakeholders from the Gwydir, McIntyre and the Barwon Darling were in attendance along with Council representatives and facilitators from the NSW Office of Water; the current situation is that Broken Hill has less than 18 months water supply left available in the Menindee lakes and while a bore has been funded by the NSW Government to supplement the water supply at Broken Hill, works to drill the bore are only in the early stages.

Discussions were held about the best way to allocate the remaining water left in the storages above Walgett.

The next meeting will be held before Christmas, with the NSW Office of Water to outline strategies for usage of available water from the previous meeting.

11th December 2014

Level one (1) water restrictions are in place again which means fixed sprinklers are only to be used for two (2) hours per day and the washing down of paths is prohibited as is the filling of any new pools. Hand held hoses can still be used at any time. Full details of the restrictions are available on the Council website www.bourke.nsw.gov.au or can be obtained from Councils Offices.

The impact of the restrictions have been offset somewhat by the rain received last week which was extremely welcome and has resulted in a significant greening of the grass around town.

While obviously not drought breaking the rain did a lot to give the flagging gardens a good lift and will no doubt have a similar effect on some of the grazing country.

Unfortunately the rainfall that was received in some sections of the Shire was not received at Byrock and the local storage there is now depleted and as a result water has now started to be carted to the village of Byrock.

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Council receives a subsidy from the New South Wales Office of Water in relation to the costs involved in the carting of water.

Residents of Byrock are reminded that the water being carted is to be utilised for internal domestic use only.

Council would again ask for the cooperation of all residents in relation to their adherence to the restrictions.

Given that to date there has been no claim of ownership over the stray horses at North Bourke, Council will be considering its options regarding the removal of these animals and in doing so reduce the danger to both the residents and the travelling public.

A reminder Council's Offices will be closed from over the Christmas period from 3.00pm on the 24th December until 8.00am on the 5th January 2015.

There will be some changes to service delivery by Council over the Christmas period and these changes have been advertised and are also available on the Council website at www.bourke.nsw.gov.au most of Councils normal functions will continue with skeleton staff working throughout the period.

As always Council have staff on call to respond to emergency situations and the on-call duty Officer can be contacted on 0419 722 055.

Council will hold an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday the 15th December 2014 to receive a report and recommendations from the Project Managers in respect of the Construction of the new Pre-School. All up there were thirteen (13) tenders received.

In addition to the tenders for the Pre-School, Councillors will also consider an appointment of a Project Manager to oversee the finalisation of the Walkden's Bore Project as well as the outcome of the two (2) seminars conducted recently in relation to the Local Government Reform being introduced by the State Government.

Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis, Deputy Mayor, Cr Barry Hollman and Manager of Tourism and Development, Phil Johnston attended the Seminar held in Cobar on Tuesday, 2nd December involving the eight (8) Councils earmarked for the Far Western Initiative. Phil and Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Service attended a seminar in Dubbo hosted by the Office of Local Government dealing with the "Fit for the Future" assessment criteria the following day.

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The Cenotaph area fencing has been completed and it certainly looks great and the area should continue to show ongoing improvements as we move towards the centenary of ANZAC Day next year. The project was jointly funded by Council and the local RSL via a grant received to improve the area.

As this is the second last edition of the Western Herald for the year I would again remind all residents of the nominations being called for the 2015 Bourke Shire Australia Day Awards.

As we approach the Christmas break it is important for both individuals and organisations to remember to consider nominating someone for one of the seven (7) categories. The categories are, Citizen of the Year, Young citizen of the Year (under 25), Sportsperson and Junior Sportsperson (under 25) of the Year, The Service through employment Awards, the Village Service Award and the Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year.

Our local State Member Hon. Kevin Humphries, MP was in town on Tuesday to attend the Public School Presentation Night and the Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis and I had the opportunity to catch up with him and raise with him few issues of local importance these included the situation regarding the birthing unit, the current situation regarding the potential reestablishment of an air service for Bourke and of course the Local Government Reform Process.

Council is awaiting the outcome of an application it submitted for funding made available to assist communities who were impacted by the introduction of the Murray Darling Basin Plan. Council has also submitted applications for other grants including for tourism projects and for the reintroduction of recycling.

Council has been advised that Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding will now be announced at the end of March 2015 rather than the end of December 2014.

A group of staff, led by the Manager of Corporate Services Leonie Brown, visited Brewarrina on Monday to see a demonstration of a new computer software package able to be utilised by smaller Councils. The current software utilised by Council, whilst meeting our current needs and continuing to be supported, is no longer being enhanced and as such does not meet all contemporary needs and potential requirements into the future.

The number of Councils utilising the software has dropped considerably and like Bourke Shire all of the remaining user Councils are considering their options. The purchase of

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software is a significant investment and staff will take every opportunity to evaluate the packages currently available.

The news in the Western Herald last week that the Western Health District are about to abandon the concept of reopening of the birthing unit in Bourke with a full range of services came as somewhat of a surprise to Council.

The Mayor and I have an appointment to meet with, Lindsey Gough, Director Operations for Western NSW Local Health District and Dr Clayton Spencer the District Director Medical Services Western NSW Local Health District in Bourke on Monday 15 December 2014 to be briefed on the issue.

Council is very keen to ensure that as wide a range of services as possible are provided to the residents of Bourke and are equally keen to ensure that there is no loss of services to our community.

The rain last week, while extremely welcome, played havoc with the road works north of Enngonia with the road having received its final trim in preparation for sealing when the rains came and the sealing project had to be cancelled and had to be rescheduled.

The work was completed on Tuesday.

Advice has been received that the Australia Day Ambassador for Bourke in 2015 will be John Dee who is one of Australia's most influential Environmentalists. Back in 1991 Jon co-founded Planet Ark with his good friend Pat Cash before leaving to start Do Something. He headed up Planet Ark for 15 years, turning it into a household name.

John was the 2010 New South Wales, Australian of the Year.

He is a highly sought after motivational speaker both in Australia and overseas and he should be an excellent Ambassador with some important messages for us all.

The new synthetic cricket wicket has been installed at Davidson Oval and from all reports I have received has been welcomed by the cricketers.

Annette and I will be welcoming her mother Betty Wilson to Bourke later this week. Betty is coming out to Bourke for a while and will be a resident at River Gums Lodge. Betty has been a coastal dweller for the last thirty years or so but I am sure she will acclimatise quickly.

A reminder that National Parks and Wildlife will be hosting a Cultural Tourism Community Workshop on Friday the 12th of December at Diggers on the Darling. The workshop is open to all Aboriginal community members who would like to contribute to the development of cultural tourism experiences in the area.

18th December 2014

A reminder that Council's Offices will be closed over the Christmas period from 3.00pm on Wednesday the 24th December until 8.00 am on Monday the 5th January 2015.

There will be some changes to service delivery by Council over the Christmas period and these changes have been advertised and are also available on the Council website www.bourke.nsw.gov.au Most of Council's normal functions will continue with skeleton staff working throughout the period.

As always Council will have staff on call to respond to emergency situations and the on-call duty Officer can be contacted on 0419722055.

The General Managers from the eight (8) Councils that form the Far West Initiative will meet in Sydney in mid – January to again look at the concept in regards the challenges opportunities and threats to the individual Councils involved. The meeting will also review the definition of scale and capacity of Councils which seems to underpin the push for potential mergers. The applicability of the ratios currently being utilised in the self-assessment tool will also be on the agenda. The eight Councils have some concerns regarding the applicability to Far western New South Wales, given the large road networks and low population.

There is a restructure of the Western Local Land Services (LLS) on the way at the moment and Council is monitoring with interest the progress of this restructure and the possible impact on staff at the Bourke Office. Council has strongly advocated for the retention of jobs in Bourke and rural New South Wales and see the apparent gravitation of jobs eastwards as extremely detrimental to the social and economic well-being of rural and remote New South Wales.

Council has also made representations in relation to the proposal to have a State based Rural Counselling Service (RCS) which will mean the removal of Local Boards and a centralisation of the decision making process. There is also a proposal to reduce the recurrent funding to allow emergency situations as they arise. Both these changes would

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have a detrimental effect in the operation of the RCS in remote New South Wales and provide problems in the recognition of the unique circumstance in this part of the State and the ability to attract and retain staff.

The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis and I had the opportunity to meet with our Local Member Kevin Humphries, MP to discuss a number of issues relating to Bourke and District.

Kevin was in town for the Bourke Public School Presentation Night which both Andrew and I also attended and it was pleasing to see so many students recognised for their efforts. Well done to all involved.

Mel Milgate the President of the P&C presented Principal, Kylie Pennell a cheque for \$15,000.00 to provide additional resources for the school. That is a great effort by this dedicated group of volunteers.

The New South Wales State Election is scheduled to be held on the 21st March 2015. The new electoral boundaries take effect for this election with the major change for this electorate the inclusion of Broken Hill with Moree Plains Shire leaving the Electorate and will now be in the Northern Tablelands.

I understand that Parliament will now not sit until after the election.

The proposed sale of two more blocks from the North Bourke development were approved by Council on Monday and there has also been good interest shown in the remaining blocks although there are still a few available for sale.

Interested persons are invited to contact the Manager of Tourism and Development, Phil Johnston.

Council at its Meeting held on Monday resolved to prepare a "Fit for the Future" proposal. This will mean that Council will complete the self-assessment tool to see in what areas Council meets the required ratios and those which it currently is unable to meet. It will then be required to develop a strategy on how it intends to implement plans and actions to meet the ratios it is currently unable to meet.

It will provide Council with a good bench mark when considering its options under the current reform process.

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As we approach the Christmas break no doubt a lot of people will be expecting visitors and an equal number will be visiting friends and relatives in other areas, so it is an ideal time to publicise the Back to Bourke festivities to be held over the Easter long weekend. There a number of events planned, including the Race Meeting, Parade, Gala Ball and the Reunion long table along the levy bank and I also hear that there are a number of smaller reunions being held to coincide with the weekend.

Please remember that Level 1 water restrictions remain in force and will continue to be in force until we get a significant flow in the Darling.

Level 2 restriction will commence once the river level at the weir drops below 3.5m which given the current rate of usage and evaporation will be in around eight (8) weeks should be there be no inflow into the weir pool. The level in the weir pool is also heavily influenced by the rate of evaporation.

Level 3 restrictions, if required, would be implemented if the water level drops to 3.00 metres. Hopefully we will see a significant inflow prior to that level being reached.

Earlier this week Mayor Andrew Lewis and I met with , Lindsey Gough, Director Operations for Western NSW Local Health District and Dr Clayton Spencer the District Director Medical Services Western NSW Local Health District and Joy Adams Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services to receive an update on the re-opening of the Birthing Unit in Bourke. At the meeting it was agreed that Western NSW Local Health District would form a Community Consultative Committee with representatives from the Bourke Shire Community and the communities of Cobar and Brewarrina.

The committee would work with the Western District Health to develop a level of care model that was acceptable to the community.

It is anticipated that that the model would be completed by the end of June 2015. Council will be providing Western New South Wales Local Health District with a list of potential nominees for the committee and sought an assurance that the membership would provide a balanced view from all members of the three communities.

I am often asked about the progress in the re-establishment of an air service for Bourke and all I can really say at this stage is that it is still progressing and there has been a lot of consultation both with potential users and air service providers. Hopefully this will be further progressed early in the New Year by a calling of expressions of interest from interested airlines.

Both Annette and I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, health and prosperous New Year.

If you are traveling please drive to the speed limits and road conditions and take the appropriate breaks.

We will be travelling to Mudgee for Christmas and will be joined there by three of our children Jaimie, Cameron and Brenton whilst other daughter Gillian will enjoy a white Christmas with her husband Jean Luc and daughter Pascale in Canada where she has lived for the past six years.

Bourke Public Library has a great range of reading material to suit all tastes. Why not drop in and check out what is available to borrow. Talking books are a good way to keep the kids entertained while you are travelling on those long trips and will reduce the number of “are we there yet” comments.

As we approach the Back to Bourke weekend it is hoped to have the town looking its best and Council will be undertaking some additional work in this regard. The cleanliness and presentation of the town requires a whole of community approach and I am asking everybody to do their bit and ensure that their yards and nature strips are clean and tidy. Council will hold a couple of Fee Free days at the tip to encourage everyone to participate.

Remember “Do the right Thing put in the Bin”.

Council has written to both the Premier and Treasurer supporting the re-introduction of a container deposit scheme (CDS). Such a scheme works well in South Australia and result in a dramatic reduction in the number of bottles and cans that litter our streets. There is a new push for the re-introduction of the CDS and Local Government New South Wales is canvassing the support of all Councils.

Ross Earl
General Manager

Resolution

23/2015 That Council note the information in the General Manager’s Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 19th January 2015.

Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Johnson	Carried	Unstarred
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CORPORATE SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	L4.1
Report: 401/2015	Library Report
Author:	Jodi Hatch, Librarian
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Services

The following items for the months November 2014 are presented for your information:

1. Circulation statistics for November 2014:

Audio Visual	391
Adult Fiction	344
Non-Fiction	114
Junior Fiction	340
Magazines	106
Interlibrary Loans	13
Total	1308

During the same period in 2013, the figures were as follows:

Audio Visual	250
Adult Fiction	270
Non-Fiction	131
Junior Fiction	166
Magazines	62
Interlibrary Loans	4
Total	883

2. Other statistical information:

New Members	9
Internet/Word Processing	152
Wireless Tickets	4
Number of Visitors	2983
Scans	24
Information Requests	49
Technical Assistance	20
Faxes	17

During the same period in 2013, the figures were as follows:

New Members	7
Internet/Word Processing	79
Wireless Tickets	4
Number of Visitors	N/A
Scans	11
Information Requests	28
Technical Assistance	18

3. Centacare under 6's visited this library this month. They did craft activities organised by Emma.
4. Jodi attended the Public Libraries New South Wales annual conference this month.

The following items for the months December 2014 are presented for your information:

1. Circulation statistics for December 2014:

Audio Visual	209
Adult Fiction	340
Non-Fiction	84
Junior Fiction	194
Magazines	64
Interlibrary Loans	2
Total	893

During the same period in 2013, the figures were as follows:

Audio Visual	103
Adult Fiction	307
Non-Fiction	98
Junior Fiction	81
Magazines	54
Interlibrary Loans	1
Total	651

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2. Other statistical information:

New Members	8
Internet/Word Processing	114
Wireless Tickets	3
Number of Visitors	2022
Scans	25
Information Requests	45
Technical Assistance	9
Faxes	10

During the same period in 2013, the figures were as follows:

New Members	4
Internet/Word Processing	72
Wireless Tickets	9
Number of Visitors	Not Available
Scans	5
Information Requests	29
Technical Assistance	7

3. Christmas craft and story time was held this month, with seven (7) children attending.
4. We held a murder mystery evening in the library this month. We had 35 people attend, and the evening was a great success. Registrations had to be closed early as all spaces were filled very quickly.
5. Another 10 Books for Babies kits have been given out this month.

If there are any questions about these items, or any library issues, please do not hesitate to contact the library.

Jodie Hatch
Library Manager

Resolution

24/2015 That Council note the information in the Corporate Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 19th January 2015.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

Unstarred

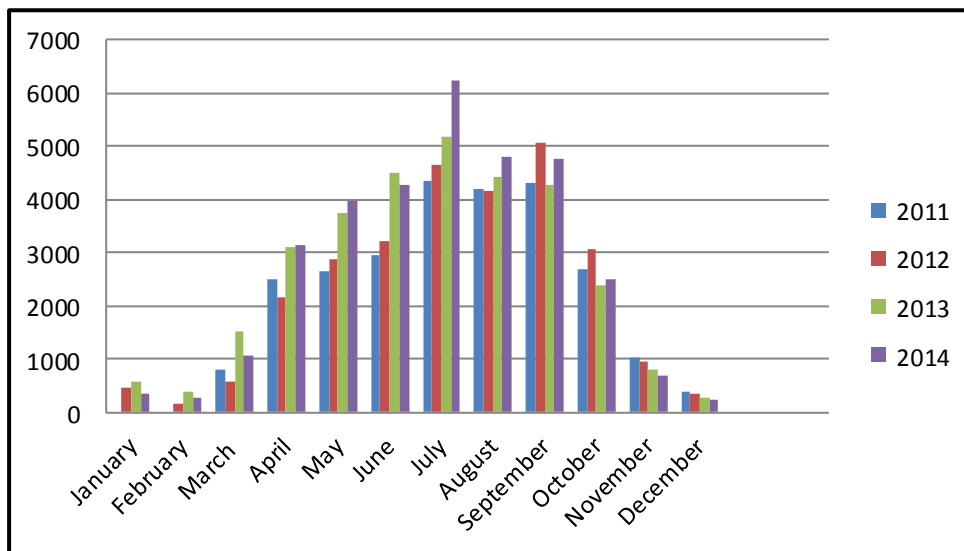
TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	T4.3
Report: 501/2015	BOBEC and VIC November and December 2014 Activity update
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston, Manager Tourism and Development

Visitation for the calendar year has slightly improved from 2013 with 32,000 visitors through the doors this calendar year. While there were additional visitors to the information centre the numbers for the Jandra and the Exhibition Centre declined slightly in 2014 with yield down slightly as well.

Feedback in regards to the product and experiences available in Bourke and surrounds continues to be positive and in any cases exceeds expectations.

Graph showing the number of visitors per month to the Tourist Centre



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Table showing number of visitors to the Tourist Centre by month

	2011	2012	2013	2014
January		448	560	325
February		157	397	271
March	810	570	1500	1051
April	2507	2044	3103	3146
May	2656	2891	3758	3988
June	2952	3216	4492	4275
July	4362	4643	5173	6241
August	4187	4162	4410	4793
September	4295	5074	4275	4764
October	2674	3067	2383	2486
November	1012	930	789	671
December	386	347	254	242

Visitation to Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre

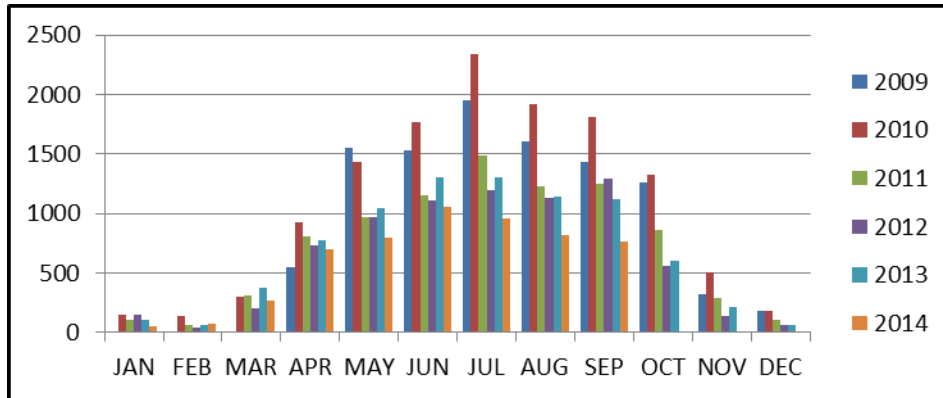


Table showing visitation to Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January		154	113	154	110	55
February		139	60	44	60	76
March		304	312	207	373	271
April	551	925	807	732	778	699
May	1551	1433	974	965	1042	801
June	1535	1769	1154	1114	1306	1053
July	1951	2345	1489	1193	1303	964
August	1607	1916	1225	1131	1141	822
September	1433	1816	1251	1299	1120	770
October	1259	1325	861	556	601	464
November	320	512	292	136	212	143
December	180	182	108	65	65	57

