

Bourke Shire Council Minutes

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

Monday, 26th OCTOBER 2015

General Manager:

Ross Earl

PRESENT

C12.1

Councillors	19/01	16/02	23/03	27/04	6/05 Extraordinary	25/05	22/06	09/07 Extraordinary	27/07	24/08	04/09 Extraordinary	28/09 Mayoral Election	02/10 Extraordinary	26/10	23/11
Cr Andrew Lewis	✓	✓	✓ 9.38am	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Robert Stutsel	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	AP	✓	
Cr Victor Bartley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Sally Davis	✓	✓ 9.04am	✓ 9.05am	✓	AP	AP	AP	AP	✓ 9.05am	✓ 9.06am	✓	AP	✓	✓	
Cr Cec Dorrington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Lachlan Ford	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ 9.06am	
Cr Barry Hollman	AP	✓	✓ Chair	✓	✓	✓ Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Jack Bennett	AP	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	AP	AP	AP	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Sarah Barton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	AP	✓	AP	✓	
Cr Stuart Johnson	✓	AP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	AP	A	✓	

Staff

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

OPENING PRAYER

Cr Dorrington opened the meeting with a prayer.

REMEMBRANCES

Council stood in silence in the memory of Isla Johnston .

APOLOGIES

Nil apologies were received as all Councillors were in attendance.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were declared at the meeting from Cr Barton regarding Report 208/2015, Service Level Agreement – Bourke Waste Advisory Committee and Manager of Corporate Services, Leonie Brown regarding Report 934/2015, Community Contribution – Bourke Laundry Service.

MAYORAL MINUTE

No Mayoral Minute was received for the October 2015 meeting of Council.

STARRING OF ITEMS

A number of items have been starred for discussion. The Mayor received requests to star additional items to be discussed. The following additional items were identified for discussion.

Report No	Report Name	Responsible Officer
110/2015	Business Arising	Mayor
207/2015	Potential Heritage Listing for the War Memorial (Cenotaph) & Rotunda	MES
208/2015	Asbestos Awareness Month – November	MES
209/2015	Service Level Agreement – Bourke Waste Advisory Committee	MES
352/2015	Request for Matters to be Included in the Environment Impact Study for the Proposed Goat Abattoir	GM
353/2015	Report of the Meeting of the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee held in Sydney on the 14 th October 2015	GM
357/2015	Legislative Council of NSW Standing Committee on Social Issues	GM
355/2015	Changes to Federal Electoral Boundaries	GM
356/2015	Release of the IPART Assessment of NSW “Fit for the Future” Proposals	GM
462/2015	Budget Review to 30 th September 2015	MCS
210/2015	Environmental Activity Report	MES

9.06am Cr Ford arrived

Resolution

376/2015 That recommendations as detailed in the un-starred items in the Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 26th October 2015 be adopted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Resolution

377/2015 That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Friday, 2nd October and the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 28th October 2015 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of those meetings.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month/ Year	Meeting Date	Time	Event	Location
2015				
October	2 nd	8.30am	Extraordinary Meeting of Council	Council Chambers
	7 th		Tour De OROC Stopover in Bourke	
	11 th – 13 th		Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales	Rosehill Gardens Race Course
	14 th		Far West Initiative	DP&C Parramatta
	16 th	7.00pm	“My God What a Woman” Celebration of Nancy-Bird Walton 100 th Birthday and Memory	Sydney
	26 th	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
November	23 rd	9.00am	Council Meeting - 4 th Monday	Council Chambers
2016				
January	18 th		3 rd Monday – To allow for Australia Day Awards	Council Chambers
	26 th		Australia Day	Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct
February	22 nd	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
March	21 st	9.00am	3 rd as 4 th Monday is Easter Monday	Council Chambers
April	18 th	9.00am	3 rd as 4 th Monday ANZAC Day	Council Chambers
	25 th		ANZAC Day	Central Park
May	23 rd	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
June	27 th	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
July	25 th	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
August	22 nd	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
September	26 th	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
October	24 th	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers
November	28 th	9.00am	4 th Monday	Council Chambers

BUSINESS ARISING FROM 28TH SEPTEMBER 2015

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
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 2. That the recommendations in relation to the realignment of any positions be considered prior to the advertising of any vacancies. 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. 4. That the position descriptions of all employees be updated to reflect current duties performed and requirements of the organisation. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brewarrina has appointed a new Director of Technical Services 2. Ongoing 3. In progress 4. In progress

350/2013&289/2015 – Proposed Amendment of LEP

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 2. That a further report be presented to Council to obtain consent to submit that planning proposal to the NSW Department of Planning. 3. <i>That Council adopt the Planning Proposal to amend Bourke LEP 2012 and make the plan in accordance with the delegations from the Department of Environment and Planning.</i> 4. <i>That Council delegate its powers to make the LEP to the General Manager</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section S9 Planning Report being prepared for lodgement for finalisation of amendment of LEP

<p>5. That Council resolve to make amendments to the Bourke DCP 2012 to insert a new clause in section 4.6 which will apply to the Large Lot Residential Zone at North Bourke to ensure that the lots in the subdivision have access to either Warrego or Macquarie Streets.</p> <p>6. That the proposed amendment to the DCP be publicly exhibited</p>	
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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

263/2014 – Cenotaph/Rotunda Heritage Listing

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
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

306/2014 – CONFIDENTIAL - Proposal to Undertake Accommodation Project

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
The General Manager be authorised to further investigate the proposal of development of accommodation in conjunction with Government Departments	FACS still progressing

338/2014 – Tourism & Development Activity Report

Responsible Officer: MT&D

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

67/2015 & 118/2015 & 177/2015 & 203/2015 – Full Birthing Unit for Bourke Hospital

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Council monitor the development of a midwifery model to support the antenatal and post-natal needs of the community • That Council continue to work the Western NSW Local Health District staff to re-establish full birthing services if the opportunity for securing the right mix of staff is made available. • That further information in regards to midwife led birthing models be obtained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ongoing</i> • <i>Ongoing</i> • <i>Ongoing – meeting held</i>

72/2015 – Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC)

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
That Bourke Shire Council participate in discussions in relation to the transition of OROC to a Joint Organisation	Ongoing

156/2015 – Old Gateway Bridge (Old North Bourke Bridge)

Responsible Officer: MRS

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council to seek Heritage funding to restore the Old North Bourke Bridge structure. 2. If funding is received Council to go to tender to carry out the major repairs required to reopen the Old North Bourke Bridge. 3. Council to budget \$50,000 per year for the ongoing maintenance of the Old North Bourke Bridge to assure it is able to support emergency vehicles and pedestrians 	Ongoing

209/2015 – 2015 Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Mayor, Cr Dorrington and General Manager attend the Annual Conference of Local Government NSW to be held in October 2015	Mayor, Cr Dorrington & GM attended Conference

214/2015 – Proposal to Consider Construction of Additional Weir Capacity

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council support the updating of the report in relation to increasing the water supply for Bourke including the inclusion of the information held by the then Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission and the issue of water storage be referred to the Town & Village Committee for a more detailed review	To be referred to the Town & Village Committee

265/2015 – Tourism & Development Activity Report – Promotional Idea

Responsible Officer: MT&D

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Report back to Council regarding the legal and financial implications of the painting of the Morven Street Water Tower as the “Big Splashe Cola Can”	To be discussed at the next Town Committee Meeting

271/2015 – Mobile Phone Coverage

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council to strongly continue to lobby the Federal Government for funding for improved mobile coverage in remote areas of the Shire	Ongoing

337/2015 – Determination of Meeting Time and Schedule

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Public notice be given in relation to the proposed meeting schedule	Completed

338/2015 – Composition of Council Committees and Confirmation of Appointment of Delegates to other Organisations

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Delegates to the outside organisations be notified to those organisations together with appropriate contact details	Completed

344/2015 – Water Management Charges Review

Responsible Officer: MW

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council identify the current charges being levied. 2. That Council prepare a submission to IPART indicating that any increase should be in accord with the CPI increase for the period or the maximum percentage increase allowable for Council in relation to General Rates 	Completed

345/2015 – Swimming Pool Grant Opportunity

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council submit an expression of interest under the Club Grants Rounds 3 to undertake Stage 1 of the Master Plan for the upgrade of the Bourke War Memorial Swimming Pool involving the Installation a Programme Pool and a Water Play Splash Park and associated filtration plant.	Expression of Interest of Grant Submitted

346/2015 – Council Business Closure for the Christmas Period

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Closures and emergency contacts be advertised in the Western Herald.	Completed

350/2015 – Meeting with Rural and Remote Medical Services (RaRMS)

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
General Manager negotiate the lease of Council owned facilities required by Rural and Remote Medical Services (RaRMS)	In progress

354/2015 – Joint application for Fit for the Future Innovation Fund Grant – Strategic Asset Management System

Responsible Officer: MCS

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Bourke Shire Council commit to the joint Fit for the Future Innovation Grant Application for the purchase of a Strategic Asset Management System and accordingly commit a total of \$30,000 (including cash and in-kind) budget to the project	Ongoing

355/2015 – Financial Accounting Software Upgrade

Responsible Officer: MCS

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council seek quotations from the three (3) suppliers identified in the report	Ongoing

356/2015 – Précis of Correspondence - Essential Energy – Closure of the Essential Energy Depot at Bingara & Potential Loss of Employment Warialda Depot

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
Council write to The Hon. Anthony John Roberts, MA (Comms) MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy highlighting its concerns in relation to the ongoing erosion of services in rural NSW and forward a copy to the Member for Barwon, Kevin Humphries	Letter written

357/2015 – Précis of Correspondence - Union Picnic Day

Responsible Officer: GM

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permission granted to hold the annual Union Picnic Day on Friday, 30th October 2015 2. Donate \$250.00 towards the cost of the function. 3. Advertise that all of Council will be closed on that day save for all emergency services. 	Completed

359/2015 – Précis of Correspondence - Request for Tip Fees to be Waived

Responsible Officer: MES

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council meet the charges associated with the community clean-ups by MPREC through existing budgeting allocations. 2. That a report be bought back to Council after six (6) months detailing the effectiveness on the Program. 	Letter sent

369/2015 – Closed Session of Council - **CONFIDENTIAL - Sale of Land at North Bourke**

Responsible Officer:

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council sell: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 2 Castlereagh St, North Bourke, lot 6 section 11 DP 758781 o 6 Castlereagh St, North Bourke, lot 8 section 11 DP 758781 o 11 Castlereagh St, North Bourke, lot 5 section 14 DP 758781 o 15 Castlereagh St, North Bourke, lot 3 section 14 DP 758781 	Ongoing

370/2015 – Closed Session of Council - **CONFIDENTIAL - Development Opportunities for Bourke**

Responsible Officer:

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
General Manager continues to take appropriate action to assist facilitate all development opportunities within the Shire.	Continuing

Resolution

378/2015 That the information in the Business Arising as presented on Monday, 26th October 2015 be received and noted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

Unstarred

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT

File No:	H2.1
Report: 207/2015	Potential Heritage Listing for War Memorial (Cenotaph) & Rotunda
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Background

Council resolved on 24 August 2015 that:

Heritage Advisor to prepare a report detailing the potential for applying for heritage listing on both the Cenotaph and Rotunda located in Central Park detailing the benefits and potential implications of such listings.

Discussion

Council's Heritage Advisor, Ms Kate Higgins, has reviewed the proposed listings and provided the substance of this report. The War Memorial (Cenotaph) and Rotunda are considered separately.

War Memorial (Cenotaph)

The War memorial is located at the south-west corner of Central Park, Bourke. The War Memorial is comprised of a group of commemorative elements: the central column relating to WW1; the five short pillars around the column relating to WW2, the Korean War and the Vietnam War; and, the "Lest We Forget" entrance gates. The central column of the War Memorial was erected in 1920. The entrance gates following WW2, and the pillars following the end of the Vietnam War.

The Statement of Significance for the War Memorial is:

"The War Memorial is a focus for all wars this century and is use for remembrance ceremonies. It is the main War Memorial in the town of Bourke and is at the entrance to Central Park. The central Column was constructed after World War I and is devoted to that war. The five pillars have been added and include World War II, Korea and Vietnam."

The *Bourke Shire Community Based Heritage Study* identified the War Memorial as a place of local heritage significance which should be listed as a heritage item in the Heritage Schedule of Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Central Park Rotunda

The Rotunda in Central Park is believed to have been built around the beginning of the twentieth century. It has been used by Bourke's town bands during the twentieth century and in 2000 was the podium for speeches from Queen Elizabeth II and the NSW Premier Bob Carr on the occasion of the Queen's visit to Bourke.

The Statement of Significance for the Rotunda is:

An important focus point in the social and cultural life of the town of Bourke.

The *Bourke Shire Community Based Heritage Study* identified the Rotunda as a place of local heritage significance which should be listed as a heritage item in the Heritage Schedule of Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Benefits and implications of Heritage Listing

The benefits of listing the War Memorial and Rotunda as a heritage items include:

- protection for the place, as a key purpose of heritage listing is to ensure that the place is retained;
- the impact on the heritage values (including aesthetic values) of the place are considered prior to undertaking any work;
- the protection of the setting of the War Memorial and Rotunda arising from the need for development in the vicinity of the heritage item to consider the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the heritage items;
- the signalling by Council that the War Memorial is a special place and one of which the community can be proud;
- access to free heritage advice from Council's Heritage Advisor;
- access to Council's Local Heritage Assistance Fund to help pay for repair works; and
- enhancing applications to other bodies in cases where the places might be eligible for funding.

The potential implications of heritage listing include:

- the need to consider the impact of proposed works on the heritage values of the place, with the potential that some proposed works may be unacceptable;
- the need to make a development application if it is desired to make significant changes to the place; and
- the need to advise Council in writing if minor works are proposed and for Council to respond in writing prior to the works being undertaken.

It is important to note that heritage listing does not prevent changes being made to a place. Rather it seeks to ensure that changes are sympathetic.

Heritage Advisor's recommendations

Council's Heritage Advisor is of the view that both the War Memorial and Rotunda should be made a local heritage items.

Resolution

379/2015 That the War Memorial (Cenotaph) and Rotunda in Central Park be listed as heritage items in the Heritage Schedule of Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

File No:	W1.3
Report: 208/2015	Asbestos Awareness Month - November
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Summary

Bourke Shire Council will once again be an active participant in the Asbestos Awareness month in November, Council staff through the month of November will be actively promoting the importance of Asbestos Awareness across our LGA not only households but for businesses and trades people.

Report

November is national Asbestos Awareness Month. In the lead-up to Asbestos Awareness Day (Friday 28 November 2015) all Australians especially homeowners, renovators tradies and handymen need to *Get to know Asbestos this November* by visiting asbestosawareness.com.au and take the 20 Point Asbestos Safety Check to learn how to protect themselves and families from exposure to dangerous asbestos fibres.

Asbestos could be anywhere! Under floor coverings such as carpets, linoleum and vinyl tiles, behind wall and floor tiles, in cement floors, internal and external walls, ceilings and ceiling space (insulation), eaves, garages, roofs, around hot water pipes, fences, extensions to homes, garages, outdoor toilets, backyard and farm sheds, chook sheds and even dog kennels.

Asbestos products can also be found buried beneath and around homes leftover from the original construction when it was common practice for builders and labourers to bury broken asbestos materials on building sites which can now be exposed when digging, gardening or redeveloping land.

When it comes to asbestos, Don't play Renovation Roulette! Don't cut it! Don't drill it! Don't drop it! Don't sand it! Don't saw it! Don't scrape it! Don't scrub it! Don't dismantle it! Don't tip it! Don't waterblast it! Don't demolish it! And whatever you do... Don't dump it!

Get to know Asbestos – The 20 Point Asbestos Safety Check

1. At least 1 in 3 Australian homes contains asbestos including brick, weatherboard, fibro and clad homes.
2. Asbestos was widely used in building materials before 1987 so if your home was built or renovated before 1987 it most likely contains asbestos.
3. If asbestos is disturbed during renovations or maintenance your health and the health of your family could be at risk.
4. DIY is not recommended where asbestos is present.
5. When renovating or working in and around homes, if in doubt assume asbestos materials are present and take every precaution.
6. Dealing with asbestos is important and serious, but it's not overwhelming – IT IS MANAGEABLE!

7. If you're not sure if asbestos is in your home you can have it inspected by a licenced removalist or a licensed asbestos assessor.
8. Products made from asbestos cement include fibro sheeting (flat and corrugated), water, drainage and flue pipes, roofing shingles, guttering and floor and wall coverings. It could be anywhere!
9. If you find asbestos in your home; Don't cut it! Don't drill it! Don't drop it! Don't sand it! Don't saw it! Don't scrape it! Don't scrub it! Don't dismantle it! Don't tip it! Don't waterblast it! Don't demolish it! And whatever you do... Don't dump it!"
10. If left undisturbed asbestos materials in good, stable condition are unlikely to release dangerous fibres and pose a health risk. Generally, you don't need to remove the asbestos. Paint it and leave it alone but remember to check it occasionally for any signs of wear and tear.
11. There are legal requirements regarding asbestos management, its removal and disposal.
12. While some might follow the regulations and safety requirements to remove small amounts of asbestos, the safest way to manage its removal is to retain a licenced professional asbestos removalist equipped to protect you and your family from the dangers of asbestos dust and fibres.
13. Where asbestos fibres are friable (loose and not bonded into building materials), ONLY licenced friable asbestos removalists are allowed to remove it.
14. Professional removal of asbestos is affordable. You can't afford not to use a professional!
15. The cost of asbestos removal by a licenced professional is comparable to most licenced tradesmen including electricians, plumbers and tilers.
16. The cost of disposal at a lawful site is often included with the cost of removal by a licenced professional.
17. If you must work with any material that may contain asbestos or remove asbestos yourself, protect yourself and your family and follow the legal and safety requirements for the management of asbestos to minimise the release of dust or small particles from the asbestos materials.
18. There are a number of safety precautions you will need to take including wearing specific protective clothing, the correct mask or breathing apparatus and ensure you minimise dust and dispose of it legally.
19. Never use tools on asbestos materials as they will make asbestos fibres airborne including:
 - a. Power tools such as electric drills, angle grinders, circular saws and electric sanders.
 - b. Never use high pressure water blasters or compressed air.
20. Are you playing renovation roulette? Get to kNOW Asbestos this NOvember! Visit asbestosawareness.com.au Because it's not worth the risk!

Recommendation:

For the information of Council

Resolution

380/2015 That the information regarding the Asbestos Awareness Month – November Report be noted.

Moved Cr Barton

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

File No:	W1.3
Report: 209/2015	Service Level Agreement – Bourke Waste Advisory Committee
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of a service level agreement between Bourke Waste Advisory Committee (BWAC) partners in which Bourke Shire Council is a part of.

Background

Bourke Shire Council is a key partner on the BWAC. The BWAC was established to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate a new sustainable and viable waste management model for the Bourke and Enngonia Communities. The model is being implemented into locations in Bourke at the Alice Edwards Village and the Western End of the Bourke Township.

Discussion

Partners have taken a solution brokerage approach to the project, under the lead of Waste Aid an industry based charity, and bringing together relevant Aboriginal community organisations and government and non-government stakeholders. The scope of the project has six discrete but inter-related components:

1. Legacy clean-up of accumulated bulk waste, litter and illegal dumping
2. Development of viable infrastructure and waste service solutions
3. Development of appropriate community education and behaviour change programs
4. Community led stewardship program with engagement of Community Environmental Advisers for waste management
5. Service delivery agreement with Bourke Shire Council
6. Upgrade of the current Enngonia waste facility

Long-term goals of the BWAC also included:

7. Remediation of Asbestos contamination
8. Remediation of the old Bourke Tip site
9. Re-establishment of the kerbside recycling service to Bourke and commercial premises
10. Potential employment of an Aboriginal Liaison Officer by Bourke Shire Council.

At the September meeting of the Bourke Waste Advisory Committee, the Committee agreed to finalise the Service Level Agreement for Alice Edwards Village and the western precinct of the Bourke township. The agreement will provide management support services in order to maintain continuing and sustainable waste management arrangements for the above mentioned areas of the Bourke Township. Delivery of these services will continue to be monitored by BWAC.

Service Level Agreement

Bourke Shire Council: Provide baseline waste services for Alice Edwards Village and the Western precinct of Bourke

1. 1 x weekly bin collection (1 x bin per household)
2. 1 x weekly collection of metal bins AEV park (3 x bins AEV park)
3. Periodical bulk waste collections/clean up

4. Removal of marked vehicles for disposal (Bulk waste collection and car management is subject to continuing funding (see below) from Rural Fire Service)

Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise (MPREC): Community Based Environmental Management

1. Litter Collection and small waste clean up
2. Bin maintenance
3. Skip trailer access, use and control
4. Retained vehicles to pad management

Rural Fire Service: Hazard reduction and community fire self-management

1. On-going funding for Bourke Shire Council for bulk waste removal for hazard reduction (Bulk waste collection and car management is subject to continuing funding in Rural Fire Service budget)
2. Quarterly bin cleaning (When this assistance is requested either by MPREC or Bourke Shire Council)
3. Car Pad preparation
4. Cultural fire management and hazard reduction

Waste Aid: Community Infrastructure and Project Coordination

1. Project coordination and project management (BWAC Chair)
2. Community education materials
3. Supply of community infrastructure (1x new bins/household, 2x skips, 3x metal public bins)
4. Aboriginal Community Based Environmental Management (Community Environment Advisors, Community Based monitoring and Survey)
(Continuing employment of Community Environment Advisors is subject to funding availability and recruitment process undertaken by panel formed from Nulla Nulla LALC, MPREC, Waste Aid and Bourke Shire Council)

Nulla Nulla LALC and Maranguka: Community landholder approvals, education and advice

1. Invitations, approvals and authority to work
2. In-community waste education
3. In-community event coordination
4. In-community support and assistance

Resolution

381/2015 That the General Manager be authorised to finalise the Service Level Agreement.

Moved Cr Ford

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

File No:	L8.3
Report: 350/2015	Delegates Report from Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Council had previously approved the attendance of the Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis, Cr Cec Dorrington and I at the conference which was held at Rosehill Racecourse which I must say provided a very spacious venue for delegates and the sponsors of the Conference.

In addition to the conference itself all three representatives attended a meeting of the Western Division Councils on the Monday Evening whilst Council Lewis and I also attended the inaugural meeting of the Far Western Initiative Advisory Committee.

Current Situation:

There was a strong focus as you would expect on the current Local Government Reform process with the presentations of both Premier, the Hon. Mike Baird, MP and the Minister for Local Government the Hon Paul Toole, MP being almost entirely dedicated to the issue.

It was clear from both presentations that there was an agenda for significant change and it was indicated that all Councils in New South Wales would have a clear direction by Christmas 2015. The announcement of the IPART Assessments on Tuesday of last week certainly added some weight to that commitment with all Councils required to provide a response to the IPART determination within 30 days; this obviously excludes those Councils in the Far Western Initiative who were exempt from the "Fit for The Future Process".

In additional a Panel Session hosted by Ellen Fanning also heavily debated issues related to the reform process. Members of the Upper House Committee who undertook the Inquiry into Local Government formed the basis of the Panel and they were joined by Professor Percy Allen AM and Dr Joseph Drew, A research Fellow in Local Government at the UNE Centre for Local Government.

During the lunch break on the Tuesday the General Managers were invited to a working lunch and heard presentations from Donna Rygate the Chief Executive of Local Government New South Wales, Linda Bostock CEO of StateCover Mutual on proposed changes to the operations of StateCover as well as the CEO of Local Government Superannuation Peter Lambert who detailed options for Councils to ensure that they have sufficient funding available to meet the Commitments of the Defined Benefits Superannuation Scheme for which Councils are currently paying a catch up amount due to the income losses as a result of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC).

As Council representatives we had the opportunity to catch up with a number of the people we deal with on a regular basis but rarely meet in person including David Baird of Marsdens Lawyers who have provided us with advice on a number of issues as well as representatives from State Wide, StateCover and the Office of Local Government, including the opportunity to speak with the Acting Director of the Office of Local Government, Tim Hurst.

Financial Implications:

The costs for the attendance at the conference were met from existing budgetary provisions.

Resolution

382/2015 That the Delegates Report from Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales be received and noted.			
Moved Cr Hollman	Seconded Cr Stutsel	Carried	Unstarred

File No:	L8.3
Report: 351/2015	Election Results for Officer Bearers of Local Government New South Wales (Local Government and Shires Association of New South Wales)
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Local Government New South Wales was formed following the decision to merge the then Local Government Association of New South Wales and the Shires Association of New South Wales. Despite the merger the body for the purposes of the elections is termed the Local Government and Shire Association of New South Wales.

Current Situation:

The elections are held every two (2) years with the elections being run by the Australian Election Commission. The ballot for all positions was held in conjunction with the Annual Conference and resulted in the following persons being elected.

President - Councillor Keith Rhoades, Coffs Harbour City Council
Vice President (Metropolitan) - Councillor Bill Pickering, Ryde Council
Vice President (Rural/Regional) - Councillor Greg Mathews, Dubbo City Council
Treasurer Councillor - Scott Bennison, Lane Cove Council

Directors (Rural/Regional)

1. Councillor Denise Osborne, Greater Hume Shire Council
2. Councillor Lindsay Brown, Eurobodalla Shire Council
3. Councillor Phyllis Miller, Forbes Shire Council
4. Councillor Darriea Turley, Broken Hill City Council
5. Councillor Mark Troy, Bellingen Shire Council
6. Councillor Ben Shields, Dubbo City Council
7. Councillor Ruth Fagan, Cowra Shire

Directors (Metropolitan)

1. Councillor George Glinatis, Botany Bay Council
2. Councillor Mazhar Hadid, Liverpool City Council
3. Councillor Julie Hegarty, Pittwater Council
4. Councillor Leo Kelly, Blacktown City Council
5. Councillor Yvonne Keane, The Hills Shire Council
6. Councillor Paul Hawker, Campbelltown City Council
7. Councillor Linda Scott, The City of Sydney

There was an issue with the voting which caused a delay in the declaration of the polls, however, it would appear that the results above will stand, although the opportunity apparently exists for a challenge.

Financial Implications:

Nil Impact to Council

Resolution

383/2015 That the report regarding the Election Results for Officer Bearers of Local Government New South Wales (Local Government and Shires Association of New South Wales) be received and noted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

Unstarred

File No:	D3.1-A3.1
Report: 352/2015	Request for Matters to be Included in The Environment Impact Study for The Proposed Goat Abattoir
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Councillors are aware of the proposal of CAPRA Pty Ltd to construct a small stock abattoir at Bourke.

On the 5th October 2015 the Department of Planning held a Planning Focus Meeting in relation to the proposal during which relevant Departments and regulatory authorities had the opportunity to discuss with the proponents their requirements in relation to the proposed development.

The Department of Planning have since invited all those bodies to detail these requirements so that the proponents are aware of what issues they will need to address in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which is required to accompany any Development Application.

Council is required to provide details of issues that they would like to see addressed in the EIS.

Current Situation:

Council staff have raised the issue of disposal of all forms of waste from the proposed abattoir.

One of the options being considered was the disposal of the waste at the Bourke Waste Management Facility and to fully evaluate the ability of the facility to be able to handle the waste under current licensing conditions a relatively accurate estimate of the quantity and type of waste is required.

Depending on the volume of waste, alterations may be required to the way in which the current Waste Management Facility operates. The Waste Management Facility is currently not a licenced landfill as it does not exceed the 5000 tonne threshold governed by the POEO Act. If waste totals exceed the 5000 tonne threshold the landfill site will need to be licenced with the EPA this could trigger some significant changes including the possible installation of a weighbridge and the installation of additional monitoring facilities.

Council will need to ask the proponents to detail the volume of waste to be generated and the proposed method of disposal.

Financial Implications:

Depending on the amount of waste that will be generated and how it is to be disposed it may mean some significant alterations to the way in which the Bourke Waste Management Facility is licensed and operates. This may require some potential capital investment in relation to any new infrastructure and involve ongoing additional running costs. These will be contingent on the volume and type of waste generated.

Recommendation:

Council seek Clarification of the amount and type of waste to be generated and the proposed method of disposal.

Resolution

384/2015 Council seek Clarification of the amount and type of waste to be generated and the proposed method of disposal.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

File No:	L8.33
Report: 353/2015	Report of the Meeting of the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee held in Sydney on the 14th October 2015
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Paul Toole, MP established the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee (FWIAC). The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide advice on the development and implementation of the Far West Initiative.

The Minister also appointed the former Member for Murray Darling, John Williams to Chair the Committee.

The Far West Initiative, announced as part of the “Fit for the Future “ package aims to deliver a new governance and service delivery model to apply across all levels of Government to secure better outcomes for local communities.

The initiative is being delivered by the Office of Local Government (OLG) and Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC).

Current Situation:

The FWIAC is made up as follows:-

- Chair (John Williams)
- A representative of each of the eight (8) Councils in the region
- DPC Executive Director, Regional coordination
- OLG director, Innovation and Development
- A representative from the Commonwealth Government
- A representative of the non-Government service delivery sector
- A representative from the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly

In addition to the above each of the General Managers was able to attend as observers/ advisers and other staff from both the OLG and DPC attended as they have behind the concept to date and will be providing the ongoing secretariat support to the Committee.

As the meeting was the inaugural meeting it was an opportunity to meet other delegates and recap the journey to date.

One of the issues to be determined was the best way to engage with all stakeholders with the various communities, noting the wide area covered by each of the Councils and the diverse range of groups involved.

The Minister has not put a timeframe on the establishment and implementation of the Far West Initiative (FWI) but has said it will take as long as is needed to get it right. In this context it should be noted that the Chairman’s appointment is for a three (3) year period.

It was acknowledged that there will need to be meetings held in both Sydney and various locations within the proposed FWI region and in this regard it was determined that the meetings were alternate between a Sydney and rural venue. The next meeting will be held in Bourke on the 7th December 2015.

In general terms until something is decided the discussions and concepts tabled at the meetings should be kept confidential, however, this needs to be in the context of being able to be obtain feedback from all Councils and other stakeholders.

The next significant milestone will be the finalisation of a discussion paper which will the LOG and DPC feel suggest will:-

- Establish the evidence base for reform, drawing on preliminary consultation with Councils, State and Commonwealth agencies and non-Government organisations
- Analyse and seek feedback on options for improving Local Government financial sustainability and strategic capacity; and
- Identify how different options might provide a foundation for broader whole of Government governance and service delivery reform in the Far West

Financial Implications:

As delegates were in Sydney the only cost involved was the additional night's accommodation.

The broader implications from the establishment and implementation of the far West initiative can have a significant impact on both Council and the community.

Recommendation:

1. That the report be received and noted
2. That Council develop options to be considered for inclusion in any model for the proposed operation of the Far West Initiative for submission for consideration by the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee.
3. That Council note the hosting of the next meeting of the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee in Bourke on the 7th December 2015.

Resolution

385/2015

1. That the report regarding the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee Meeting be received and noted
2. That Council develop options to be considered for inclusion in any model for the proposed operation of the Far West Initiative for submission for consideration by the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee.
3. That Council note the hosting of the next meeting of the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee in Bourke on the 7th December 2015.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

File No:	A6.1
Report: 354/2015	Return of Air Services to Bourke
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

Council has for some time been working with the Member for Barwon, Kevin Humphries to see a return of an air service to Bourke. Over the past two (2) years the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) have done a considerable amount of work on the proposal involving consultation with a number of stakeholders, to ascertain potential usage.

The DPC had previously called for expressions of interest from operators for a service which would involve flights from Dubbo to Bourke and on to Walgett in a triangulation model with a number of Government agencies committing to the purchase of seats. The NSW Governments current and future travel demands between the three centres will provide a seat guarantee, supporting the service over the next four (4) years and assisting providing stability during the start-up phase.

Current Situation:

Following an evaluation of the proposal and the benefits to the communities, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure the Hon. Andrew Constance, MP and the Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Barilaro, MP have issued a press release indicating that four (4) air operators will be invited to submit a proposal to provide the service linking Bourke Walgett and Dubbo.

In the press release Mr. Barliaro said:-

“Creating greater access between these towns will improve connectivity for business, create more jobs and provide Western NSW with the air services for access to important services such as health, education, business and recreation.

The tender process will commence next month and while the resumption of flights will be a commercial decision for the successful tenderer, which is expected to be awarded mid-2016.

Council has also lodged an application under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the upgrade of the lighting and the runway at Bourke Airport and if successful will complement the re-introduction of the air service.

Financial Implications:

There will obviously be some costs associated with the additional travel generated at the terminal however; these costs can be off-set by the introduction of a landing fee.

The broader financial implications for the community are quite significant in terms of reduced travel time, increased accessibility for the tourist market, greater access to the eastern seaboard with the ability to connect with flights out of Dubbo to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

The reduced travel time will benefit many of the professionals who visit Bourke to provide services including health by allowing a greater level of efficiency and the same applies to the provision of services by Government agencies.

Resolution

386/2015

1. That Council note the report regarding Return of Air Services to Bourke.
2. That Council provide the successful tenderer with the use of the "Booking Office" at the terminal.
3. That a further report be brought back to Council regarding the possible introduction of a small landing fee to off- set the additional costs involved in the maintenance of the terminal building.

Moved Cr Davis

Seconded Cr Barton

Carried

File No:	L8.23
Report: 355/2015	Changes to Federal Electoral Boundaries
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Australian Electoral Commission has released details of the proposed boundary changes following the recent redistribution which will see the electorate of Parkes undergo some significant changes.

Current Situation:

Parkes will lose the Local Government Areas of Gwydir, Mid-Western (Mudgee) and Wellington and gain Broken Hill, Gunnedah, Central Darling and Carrathool plus the unincorporated area.

If there are any objections to the proposed changes they should be lodged with the Australian Election Commission by 6.00pm on Friday, 13th November 2015.

A map detailing the proposed changes is attached.

Financial Implications:

There is no significant financial implications for Council.

Recommendation:

That Council note the proposed changes to the Federal Electoral Boundaries.

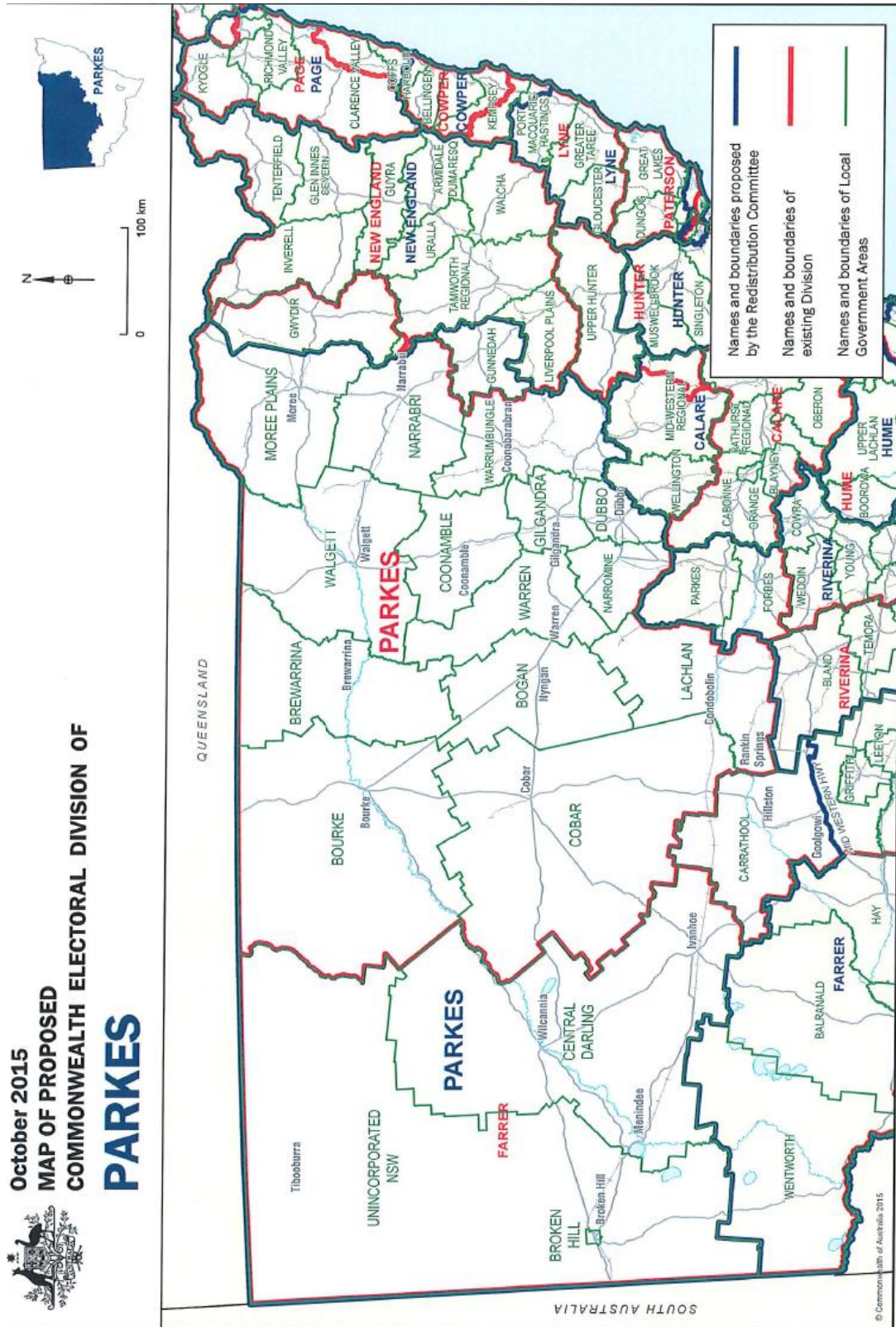
Resolution

387/2015 That Council write to the Australian Electoral Commission pointing out that the Parkes Electorate encompasses almost one half of NSW making it almost impractical for the local member to adequately address the concerns of such a large area and suggesting that as well as electorates being population based the areas of those electorates also be considered.

Moved Davis

Seconded Cr Barton

Carried



File No:	L8.24
Report: 356/2015	Release of the IPART Assessment of NSW "Fit for the Future Proposals
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

All Councils in New South Wales were invited to submit a "Fit for the Future Proposal" to be assessed by IPART. The Proposals were to be submitted by the 30th June 2015.

The submission of a "Fit for the Future Proposal" was optional for those eight (8) councils in the Far Western Initiative and none of the eight Councils took the opportunity to submit a proposal but rather electing to devote their attention to the formation of the initiative.

IPART were to deliver their assessment to the State Government by 16th October 2015 which they apparently did.

Current Situation:

IPART assessed each of the proposals against the following criteria:-

- **Scale and Capacity**
- **Financial Criteria**
 - Financial sustainability
 - Infrastructure and service management
 - Efficiency

The results were made public on 20th October with all Mayors being invited on the evening of the 19th October 2015 to participate in a webinar the next morning.

I have attached notes from that meeting which were compiled by the Staff of the Local Government Professionals (attachment 1) of which I am a member, also a "Report Card" issued by IPART (attachment 2).

The state Government has also launched a Stronger Communities Fund which proved an incentive to Councils to consider merging and details of this were announced during the webinar and are detailed in a fact sheet supplied by the Government and detailed in Attachment 3.

The Government has also provided a fact sheet detailing the next steps for Councils and this is also in a fact sheet reproduced as attachment 4.

Local Government New South Wales has provided an initial response to the determination by IPART and it is detailed in attachment 5

Clearly there is a strong push for mergers to take place and no doubt the next thirty days will result in some significant decisions having to be made.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications for Bourke Shire Council at this stage. However, Council should be mindful of the funding incentives being provided.

Resolution

388/2015 That the information in the Release of the IPART Assessment of NSW "Fit for the Future Proposals report be received and noted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Ford

Carried



Webinar 20 October 11.45 am for all Mayors and Ministerial Advisory Group Members.

Premier Mike Baird

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Good morning I am hoping that all the Mayors on the line can hear me and thank you for coming together today.

I also have Dr Peter Boxall from IPART and the Minister here and we wanted to run through effectively the release of the IPART report today.

This process we have done together – genuinely done it together, we have worked side by side with local government every step of the way.

I think it's fair to say that it has come to the point that we now have to make some final decisions and I have to say that we are clearly disappointed to date in terms of the responses from councils because what we can see are significant community benefits in undertaking mergers and that is what we are interested in i.e. what is the community benefit and I will let Dr Peter Boxall take you through the macros. But in simple terms there is hundreds of millions in benefits and in Sydney metro area alone (up to \$2 billion alone) in community benefit/windfall that can come to councils in next 20 years if merger proposals are undertaken.

A number of councils have undertaken this analysis and can see benefits but a large number have decided to not pursue mergers. We said we would come aqnd consult with councils and that is what we are doing.

We are asking councils to respond in 30 days to the IPART report. Our hope is that merger proposal come to us to unlock these benefits so that they can be delivered in terms of improvements in additional services, infrastructure, and downward pressure of rates or combination of all three.

That is really the only thing we are focused on and we are handing it across to you and we are asking for genuine consideration and response from councils and one that puts the rate payers first in terms of significant benefits. I want to congratulate the work that IPART has done.

Dr Peter Boxall IPART

This has been an independent very rigorous process which has drawn on IPART's own expertise in local government as well as drawing upon an expert in local government John Comrie from SA.

The analysis is based on information provided by councils themselves as well as input from community and other data available

The savings found have been based upon councils own proposals. We have assessed one third of the councils as fit –i.e. 52 proposals as fit which includes the 4 merger proposals (Randwick and Waverley, Auburn, Burwood and Canada Bay, Young and Boorowa, Cootamundra and Harden).

Shaping the future of local government

Other fit councils: 7 Metro, 32 Non Metro, 9 Rural.

Of the ones that are unfit in the metropolitan area it is because they did not pass the scale and capacity criteria – they were given the merger option in the Independent Panels report and they decided to propose standalone option.

In the non-metropolitan area – some not satisfying scale and capacity but others did not satisfy the financial criteria 2-4.

We did assess the City of Sydney – as not being fit against the global city criteria In the event that the government did not accept the global cities criteria, we have noted that if City of Sydney was assessed against the standalone criteria, they would have been regarded as fit.

There were 3 councils in outer metropolitan area as assessed as not being fit: Blacktown, Campbelltown, and Hawkesbury – as while they satisfied the scale and capacity criteria they did not satisfy the financial criteria 2-4.

In assessing the financial criteria we looked at the overall assessment of 2-4.

Rural – there were 20 proposals, 9 assessed as fit and 11 assessed as not fit. The 9 that were assessed as fit against the rural council model – if the government do not decide to adopt rural council model then those councils most likely will not be fit against regular models.

Other areas to mention: Central Coast – Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Gosford and Wyong were assessed as not fit and not satisfying scale and capacity criteria. They were assessed against the merger option and their standalone proposals were not deemed as good as the merger option.

Minister Paul Toole

The release the report is a milestone in the reform of local government in this state. Councils asked for the report to be released and I am pleased we have done this just after a few days of receiving it.

I would like to thank the councils who have used the process to improve services, infrastructure and benefits for councils. In particular I would like to thank councils who have put options for structural change. I am disappointed that there were not more of you and I am hoping this will change today.

As you know, we received the IPART report on Friday and we have had time to review it and I can tell you it paints a sobering picture for local government and more positively, it demonstrates the benefits of change for communities.

The IPART report finds reducing waste and red tape through mergers could free up \$2 billion over the next 20 years for NSW rate payers. As you know, we have been consulting with the local government sector including the Mayors and our key industry groups as well as the community for four years.

This process has told us that the current system of local government is not working as well as it should be – we know now it is worse, we know that the system is broken.

Today I'll be calling on councils to do the right thing by your community, and this might mean merging with neighbouring councils.

Today I will be strongly encouraging councils to participate in the final consultation process over the next 30 days and provide their input into the local government reform policy.

You will be receiving a letter from the Secretary Department of Premier and Cabinet that will outline what you need to do in next 30 days. We are serious about ensuring councils across NSW recognise what they need to do in order to be better able to deliver the services and infrastructure their community's needs.

The government is also announcing today the establishment of a Stronger Communities Fund – to provide participating councils a head start on community infrastructure projects i.e. sporting fields, libraries or parks. We will also be funding the cost of merging – this funding will be available for council mergers supported by the government and discussed with government prior to 18 November. This is a significant funding package. In addition to covering costs of mergers the stronger community fund will offer up to \$15 million to councils for community infrastructure projects.

IPART has found that merged councils can achieve more benefits than non merging councils could achieve by only increasing rates. IPART also found that while all councils submitting merger proposals were deemed to be fit on the basis of the benefits the merged council would achieve, these benefits are even greater if neighbouring councils also merged with them.

This is the time to do what your council needs to do to become fit and to also work with the state government's generous offer of support to deliver services and infrastructure for your communities. We need to have strong local councils that can deliver service and infrastructure.

We know mergers will deliver savings and will deliver better services, more infrastructure, or lower rates. I look forward to working with you in the reform of local government.

Question and Answers

Q. Eurobodalla to Minister: When will the process be finalised? What is your time frame?

A. We will release the IPART report ASAP. Councils will have 30 days from today (until 18 November) to put forward their voluntary merger proposals, during this time the government will also be formulating a response to the IPART report. Our commitment is that we want to make all councils will know where they stand by the end of the year.

Q. Murray Shire to Minister: Is the merger money still on the table?

A. The money is still on the table as part of the stronger communities fund which will provide councils who do a voluntary merger to receive a head start. Each new council will be eligible for up to \$15 million for community infrastructure projects i.e. sporting fields, libraries, parks. Regional councils will receive \$5 million, metropolitan Sydney councils will receive \$10 million and any new council formed by merging with 3 or more councils will receive an extra \$5 million. Funding of up to \$5 million for regional - \$10 million for metropolitan areas is available for each new council to ensure rate payers do not pay for the upfront costs of that merger – this is available for next 30 days. This is your final chance to receive this money.

Q. To the Premier: When will the community get a chance to have their say on mergers?

A. Baird said: The community has had a long say on mergers. This process has been running for many years and part of this has been the IPART process. Significant consultation has been underway. Local

councils now have everything - they have submissions, IPART report, business cases (benefits to mergers). Now they have to act –we are now at end of the road and decisions need to be made. Our hope is that councils now have the opportunity with receiving this report to make their decisions.

Q. Forbes to Minister: When is the report available?

A. 12 noon today. A letter will be sent out to all Mayors with clear directions and instructions on what is required from councils over the next 30 days and what funding packages are available for councils.

Q. Goulburn to Minister: Does the IPART recommend specific mergers?

A. The report shows significant benefits and savings which can be made if mergers are to take place. Savings can be passed back onto communities for services, infrastructure or stabilising rates. I might ask Dr Peter Boxall to comment on this.

A. Dr Peter Boxall IPART: The report does not recommend mergers. We have assessed all proposals as being fit or unfit against the criteria as outlined in September 2014 by the government. We used the Independent Panel's preferred option as a starting point.

Q. Kiama to Minister: Will the pilot JOs continue?

A. We are committed to pilot the JOs. We have 5 regional pilots operating across the state. We have seen excellent work in regional collaboration. Will use the pilots to put into place another 2 JOs in regional communities.

Q. Strathfield to Minister: Will we be able to get a time extension on the deadline? 30 days is insufficient for our communities.

A. No there will be no extensions. The process has been going on for 4 ½ years.

Q. Strathfield to Minister: Should we still decide not to put in a merger proposal will you force councils to merge?

A. All councils need to have a good look at themselves over next 30 days. I hope they do see the benefits and savings back into your communities.

Q. Corowa to Minister: Will councils who cannot get cooperation from neighbours to merge do they still get funding?

A. Not Answered – Funding is there for voluntary mergers. I can only encourage you to sit down with neighbouring council and talk over the benefits.

Q. Wingecarribee to Minister: If there are significant amalgamations in regional areas will the government consider deferring the JO to allow mergers to be formed and consolidation?

A. No – it is important for JOs to continue to run – it is important for regional collaboration. Those boundaries will be considered after we receive the final submissions at 18 November.

Q. Burwood to Premier: What do those councils who submitted a voluntary proposal need to do? Do you need to resubmit the proposal?

A. No – firstly we appreciate those who have done this and shown they want to deliver better service and have extra financial capacity for their community – thank you. There could be preferences for additional partners and that could be considered. The question is there an opportunity to do more?

Q. Coffs Harbour to Minister: The original FFF package was \$600m savings on borrowings assuming there is about \$200m left, how much new money is on table, including the Stronger Communities Fund?

A. A record \$1billion was provided to support councils to make changes in the interest of their communities. The state financing authority is ready to go to support fit councils with reduced interest loans.

Q. Forbes to Dr Peter Boxall: What is the process if council disagrees with the IPART determination?

A. We have made an assessment on fit or unfit, and we are not planning to re- opening that. We will explain our reasons in more detail for our assessment in the event that you contact IPART. In the report, there is a 1 to 2 pages of reasons for each council.

Q. Rockdale to Peter Boxall: Did IPART consider the metropolitan JO idea as part of their assessment?

A. In the case where councils put JO proposals in we did review this and were mindful that some of the panel's recommendations includes JOs and we did take this into account for our assessment.

Q. Parkes to Premier: Does support funding package apply to new councils only? Will councils deemed fit also be able to access funds?

A. All councils deemed to be fit can access the state financing authority that will allow councils to have borrowings and have cheaper loans which can be then used for infrastructure projects. The opportunity will still be there for councils to make significant savings through borrowings set up through authority.

Q. United Services Union to Minister: Will the Minister confirm that local government will remain in the NSW industrial system under the Local Government State Award?

A. That is correct. I have made this commitment in the past and that councils will stay under the Award and we know this includes a 3 year employment protection. We believe mergers will support staff development and opportunities for promotions.

Q. Harden to Minister: Will councils who submitted merger proposals through the FFF process be asked to look at broadening the merger proposal with other surrounding councils?

A. Councils should indicate which councils do support the proposal and which ones don't. If there are neighbouring councils who do not want to have discussions, I am sure that these submissions will be put forward by those councils.

Q. Fairfield to Premier: Is there any proposed change of date for the elections?

A. No we are working towards the date of the elections to be held in September 2016. I would like to say that this is now time for councils to determine the significant benefits that can be delivered for your communities. Don't hold back regarding services, infrastructure and downward pressure on rates. It is time now to deliver on this. We have done everything and our actions are to help you on this. Councils need to take this opportunity and I look forward to your responses.

Disclaimer: Please note that these notes were taken though the webinar and accurate to the best of our ability given the time constraint.

Attachment 2

REPORT CARD

IPART assessment of NSW council **Fit for the Future** proposals

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has recently provided the NSW Government with its report on the assessment of 139 *Fit for the Future* council proposals (received from 144 councils). This report card provides a snapshot of what IPART found.

IPART assessed the proposals against the following criteria:

- **Scale and capacity**
- **Financial criteria**
 - Financial sustainability
 - Infrastructure and service management
 - Efficiency

The IPART report clearly shows that the system of local government in NSW is broken.

60% Not fit 

40% Fit 

"Our (IPART's) analysis and the analysis undertaken by our independent economic consultants, Ernst & Young, indicated the merger option would provide large net benefits to the local communities."

Assessment of Council Fit for the Future Proposals - p2

Sydney metro merges could save close to

\$2billion

*IPART 20-year NPV estimate using standardised assumptions based on council consultant business cases - p40

Sydney metropolitan councils:

71% Not fit 

Regional councils:

56% Not fit 

This report card was produced by the Office of Local Government. The full IPART report can be found at www.ipart.nsw.gov.au

REPORT CARD - Key Findings

Merger benefits - up to \$2 billion

IPART conducted additional analysis on business cases submitted by councils and estimate between \$1.8 billion to \$2.0 billion in NPV benefits could be realised over 20 years if mergers were to occur in Sydney. IPART's estimate includes Government funding for implementation.

Ernst & Young also estimates these mergers could yield substantial financial gains with \$1.3 billion in NPV benefits over 20 years.

Mergers bring other benefits

Other merger benefits include:

- More effective and efficient service delivery.
- Improved delivery of major infrastructure.
- More integrated strategic planning and policy development.
- Enhanced economic growth.
- More effective partnering with government.
- Stronger advocacy for local communities.

Most councils did not provide merge proposals

IPART received 139 proposals from 144 councils which included only four Merger Proposals (3% of total). The independent panel recommended merges as the preferred option for 41% of councils.

Many councils prepared business cases that showed mergers would benefit the community but chose not to proceed.

Councils preferred rate rises to merging

Many councils proposed rate increases to improve financial performance. Some 32 councils proposed a rate rise to get fit with 15 councils proposing rises above 30%.

IPART found that structural changes could achieve similar or larger improvements to council's income and reduce the need for rate increases, limiting the impact of higher rates on the community.

Almost two thirds of councils are not fit

IPART assessed 52 proposals as being fit for the future, which represents just 37% of the proposals received.

REPORT CARD - Metro Key Findings

IPART assessment

IPART received 38 proposals from metropolitan councils, including two merger proposals and 36 Council Improvement Proposals (i.e. stand alone).

IPART assessed 9 proposals as fit and 29 proposals as not fit in Metropolitan Sydney.

Merger proposals

Two merger proposals from metropolitan councils were received. These were assessed as fit because the mergers would deliver substantial benefits to their local communities when compared to the councils standing alone.

IPART still observed greater benefits would be realised from including neighbouring councils in these mergers.

Outer Metro Councils

Six of the seven councils assessed by IPART as fit are in Outer Metropolitan Sydney. These councils were assessed as fit because their proposals met the financial criteria overall, and IPART analysis did not identify a merger alternative that was better than remaining a stand-alone council.

Inner Metro councils

With the exception of Bankstown, all Inner Metropolitan Sydney councils that submitted a stand-alone proposal were assessed not fit, as they did not meet the scale and capacity criterion.

This means the assessment demonstrated the community would benefit from a merger.

Merger benefits

IPART's analysis of councils' own submissions suggests up to \$2.0 billion in NPV benefits could be realised over 20 years if the Metropolitan Sydney mergers preferred by the Independent Local Government Review Panel occurred.

Council business cases

A number of councils commissioned business cases of merger options including variations on structural changes identified by the Independent Panel on Local Government.

Some of these showed there could be substantial benefits from merging. However, despite these potential gains, most Metropolitan Sydney councils did not submit a Merger Proposal.

Financial criteria

IPART assessed three councils as not fit because they did not demonstrate they met financial criteria overall, however, IPART identified strategies that should enable them to become fit.

City of Sydney

IPART noted that the City of Sydney received the highest number of public submissions of any council, with the majority of submissions supporting the council remaining a stand-alone council.

IPART however assessed the City of Sydney as not fit as it does not meet scale and capacity criteria when compared to "Global City Council" attributes as identified by the Independent Panel on Local Government.

Joint Regional Authority

Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove and Ryde Councils submitted a proposal to share some services and centralise planning indicating benefits of \$0.5m over five years or \$3.4m if Mosman North Sydney and Willoughby were included.

In contrast, IPART estimated a merger would save \$280m over 20 years and therefore assessed the proposal as not fit.

REPORT CARD - Regional Key Findings

Merging delivers benefits

IPART's report shows mergers deliver significant benefits to participating councils, including improving a council's scale and capacity, and financial outlook.

All regional mergers assessed by IPART were found fit.

All regional councils that had been provided a recommended merger option from the Independent Panel on Local Government but opted to stand alone were unable to demonstrate that this was the better option for their community.

58 councils not fit

101 regional proposals were received (including 20 rural council proposals) covering 104 councils.

Only 43 proposals assessed as fit for the future.

Only two merger proposals were received – Young Shire Council/Boorowa Council and Cootamundra Shire Council/ Harden Shire Council. Both mergers were assessed as fit for the future but IPART noted that a four way merger would deliver larger gains to the community.

Scale and capacity can be improved

There were 34 regional councils assessed as having insufficient scale and capacity. In a number of cases these councils have declining or static populations, with population forecasts below 10,000 by 2031.

A population of this size is likely to affect a councils efficiency and strategic capacity to meet the future needs of its community.

Mixed performance

- 24 councils were unable to meet IPART's financial benchmarks.
- 43 councils did not reach the benchmark for scale and capacity.
- Poor financial performance was generally a result of ongoing operating deficits through to 2019-20.

Opportunity to be fit

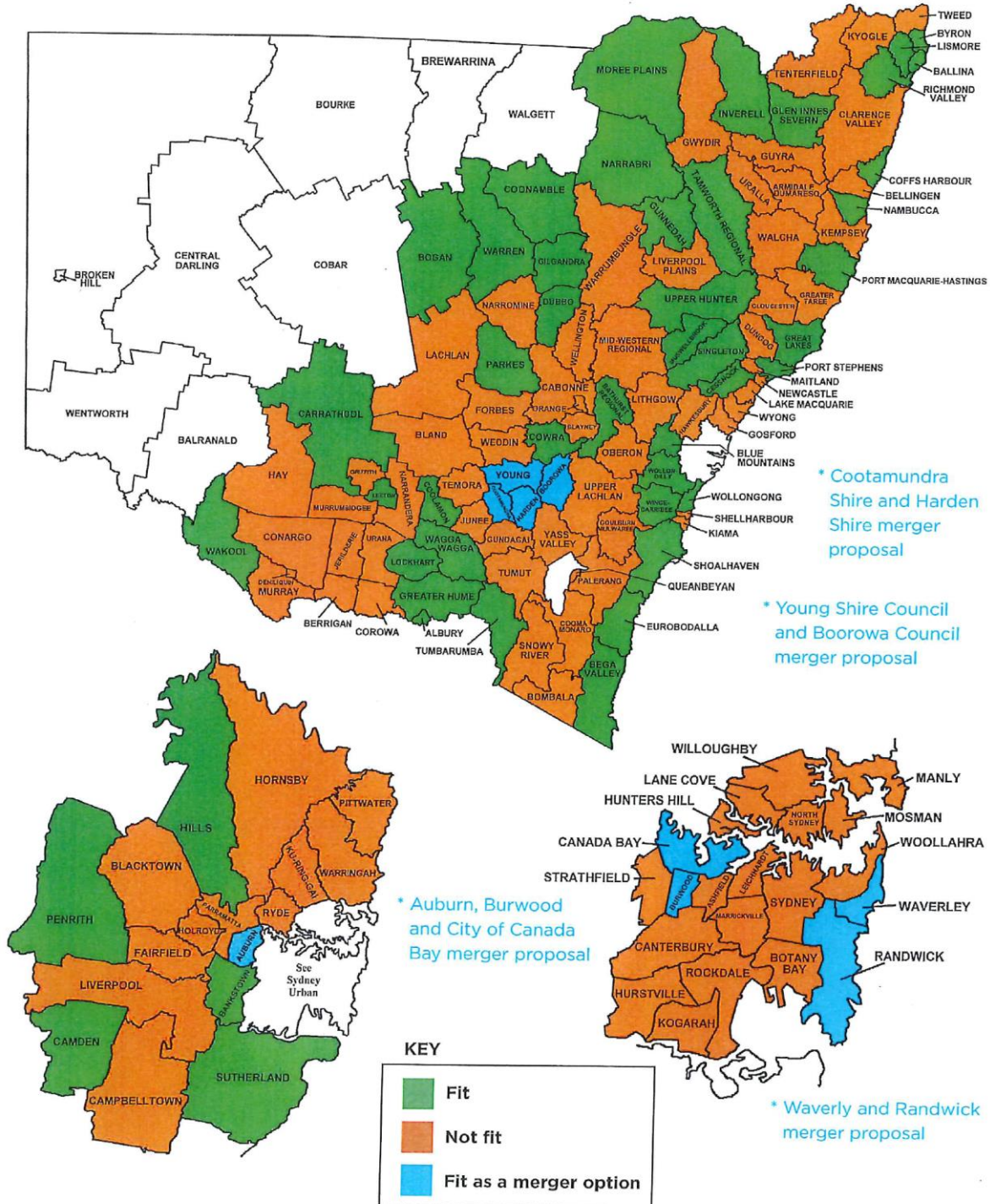
27 of our regional councils that were found not fit had a viable merger proposal that they did not act on.

There is now an opportunity for these councils to reconsider the benefits of merging.

Rural Councils

IPART assessed 11 of the 20 rural council proposals as not fit. These councils were either unable to meet the lower benchmarks or a merge offered greater gains.

REPORT CARD - Map of Fit / Not fit Councils



REPORT CARD - List of Fit / Not fit Councils

Metro - Fit (x9)

Auburn, Burwood and City of Canada Bay (merger proposal)	Blue Mountains City Camden	Randwick and Waverly (merger proposal)	The Hills Shire
Bankstown	Penrith City Council	Sutherland Shire	Wollondilly Shire

Metro - Not fit (x29)

Ashfield City Council	Hornsby Shire Council	Manly Council	Strathfield Municipal Council
Blacktown City Council	Hunter's Hill Council	Marrickville Council	Sydney City Council (as a Global City)
Botany Bay Council	Hurstville City Council	Mosman Municipal Council	Warringah Council
Campbelltown City Council	Kogarah City Council	North Sydney Council	Willoughby City Council
Canterbury City Council	Ku-ring-gai Council	Parramatta City Council	Woollahra Municipal Council
Fairfield City Council	Lane Cove Council	Pittwater Council	
Hawkesbury City Council	Leichhardt Municipal Council	Rockdale City Council	
Holroyd City Council	Liverpool City Council	Ryde City Council	

Regional - Fit (x43)

Albury City Council	Cowra Shire Council	Moree Plains Shire Council	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Ballina Shire Council	Dubbo City Council	Muswellbrook Shire Council	Wagga Wagga City Council
Bathurst Regional Council	Eurobodalla Shire Council	Nambucca Shire Council	Wakool Shire Council*
Bega Valley Shire Council	Gilgandra Shire Council*	Narrabri Shire Council	Warren Shire Council*
Bogan Shire Council*	Glen Innes Severn Shire Council	Parkes Shire Council	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Byron Shire Council	Great Lakes Shire Council	Port Macquarie-Hastings Council	Wollongong City Council
Carrathool Shire Council*	Greater Hume Shire Council	Port Stephens Council	Young Shire Council and Boorowa Council (merger proposal)
Cessnock City Council	Gunnedah Shire Council	Richmond Valley Council	
Coffs Harbour City Council	Inverell Shire Council	Shoalhaven City Council	
Coolamon Shire Council*	Leeton Shire Council	Singleton Council	
Coonamble Shire Council*	Lismore City Council	Tamworth Regional Council	
Cootamundra Shire and Harden Shire (merger proposal)	Lockhart Shire Council*	Tumbarumba Shire Council*	

Regional - Not fit (x58)

Armidale Dumaresq Council	Gosford City Council	Lithgow City Council	Temora Shire Council
Bellingen Shire Council	Goulburn Mulwaree Council	Liverpool Plains Shire Council*	Tenterfield Shire Council
Berrigan Shire Council	Greater Taree City Council	Maitland City Council	Tumut Shire Council
Bland Shire Council	Griffith City Council	Mid-Western Regional Council	Tweed Shire Council
Blayney Shire Council	Gundagai Shire Council*	Murray Shire Council	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Bombala Shire Council*	Guyra Shire Council*	Murrumbidgee Shire Council*	Uralla Shire Council
Cabonne Council	Gwydir Shire Council	Narrandera Shire Council	Urana Shire Council*
Clarence Valley Council	Hay Shire Council*	Narromine Shire Council	Walcha Shire Council*
Conargo Shire Council*	Jerilderie Shire Council*	Newcastle City Council	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cooma-Monaro Shire Council	Junee Shire Council	Oberon Council	Weddin Shire Council*
Corowa Shire Council	Kempsey Shire Council	Orange City Council	Wellington Council
Deniliquin Shire Council	Kiama Municipal Council	Palerang Council	Yass Valley Council
Dungog Shire Council	Kyogle Council	Queanbeyan City Council	Wyong City
Forbes Shire Council	Lachlan Shire Council	Shellharbour City Council	
Gloucester Shire Council	Lake Macquarie City Council	Snowy River Shire Council	

* Denotes Regional Council proposal

REPORT CARD - IPART report key quotes

Mergers will bring significant benefits to the community

"All four Merger Proposals we received were assessed as fit because they:

- Would deliver substantial benefits to their local communities when compared to the councils standing alone, and
- Were generally the best available options for the relevant councils as neighbouring councils did not elect to join the Merger Proposals." (p2)

"A merged entity would have greater scale and strategic capacity to better partner with other levels of government in providing key infrastructure and social services." (p2)

"A merged entity could better integrate planning and development, resulting in improved planning decisions and enhanced economic growth." (p2)

"Our analysis and the analysis undertaken by our independent economic consultants, Ernst & Young, indicated the merger option would provide large net benefits to the local communities." (p2)

"The efficiency improvements in the council's proposal could be realised under the merger option, and the merger option could provide significant further benefits to residents." (p2)

"...our indicative analysis suggests \$1.8 billion to \$2.0 billion in NPV benefits could be realised over 20 years if the ILGRP's preferred Metropolitan Sydney mergers occurred." (p9)

Councils have resisted mergers, despite benefits

"The merger option and the business case for the merger commissioned by the council showed substantial gains. Despite this, most councils did not submit a Merger Proposal." (p2)

Councils in regional areas are struggling with declining populations and financial capacity

"...in non-metropolitan areas, a number of councils were assessed as not having sufficient scale and capacity because the council's population is declining or static and is forecast to be below 10,000 by 2031. A population of this size would be likely to affect a council's efficiency and strategic capacity to meet the future needs of its community." (p3)

"For both Metropolitan Sydney and non-metropolitan councils, the main reason councils did not meet the financial criteria was generally because they forecast an operating deficit throughout the period." (p3)

"If a Rural Council model is not adopted, it is likely that most Rural Councils would be assessed as not meeting the scale and capacity criterion, and as a result, not fit." (p30)

REPORT CARD - IPART report key quotes

Councils have put up rates rather than merge, and this is not the best option available

"Whilst some councils may have been assessed as meeting the financial criteria and fit on the basis of assumed special variation rate increases, it does not mean this course of action is necessarily the best option for local communities under the current reform agenda." (p36)

"A large number of councils have proposed substantial future increases to general income to meet the financial criteria. There is a risk councils have proposed future SVs to improve their financial performance, and may not have fully considered whether alternative structures for the local government area, such as a merger, may be a better outcome." (p37)

"Structural changes could achieve similar or larger improvements to a council's general income and reduce the need for, and size of, potential SV increases, which could limit the impact of higher rates on the community. This was apparent during the assessment process." (p37)

Councils should consider voluntary mergers

"...a voluntary merger would facilitate a faster progression towards achieving efficiencies when transitioning to a new council" (p47)

Attachment 3



Stronger Councils. Stronger Communities.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND Funding for councils and communities

Newly created councils and their communities will receive up to \$25 million

A Stronger Communities Fund of up to \$15 million is available, providing new councils a head start on community infrastructure projects like sporting fields, libraries, or parks

Additional funding of up to \$10 million will be provided to ensure ratepayers do not fund the up-front costs of merging

Councils have until 18 November 2015 to put forward their merger preferences and be eligible for funding

Funding will be available for council mergers that are supported by merging partners, supported by the Government and submitted to the Department of Premier and Cabinet by 18 November 2015

Fund	Metro Sydney*	Regional
Stronger Communities Fund	\$10 million OR \$15 million if three or more councils merging	\$5 million OR \$10 million if three or more councils merging
Merger Implementation Grant	\$10 million	\$5 million

*Includes Newcastle, Wollongong and surrounds.



Stronger Councils. Stronger Communities.

FACT SHEET – NEXT STEPS The final consultation opportunity for councils

After four years of partnership, the NSW Government is giving councils a final 30-day consultation opportunity to inform the Government's position on local government reform and respond to the IPART findings

20 October 2015

Councils receive briefing from the Premier and Minister on the findings of the IPART assessment of council Fit for the Future proposals.

21 October 2015

Councils receive an invitation from the Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet to provide feedback on the IPART report and indicate their merger preferences.

By 18 November

Councils are encouraged to review IPART's assessment of their Fit for the Future submission and respond.

The assessment is available on the IPART website www.ipart.nsw.gov.au.

Councils should provide feedback using the online portal on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website, which will be available shortly.

For councils that are assessed as being not fit due to scale and capacity, or who neighbour a council that was not fit due to scale and capacity, the Government would also like to know, through the online portal, the merger preferences of these councils.

Funding is available for mergers agreed to by councils and the NSW Government.

By end 2015

The Government will consider responses from councils, decide on next steps and inform councils and the community.



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 20 October

Communities now critical to local government

Local councils and their communities have been given one last chance to determine their own future after IPART ruled almost two-thirds do not meet the State Government's Fit for the Future criteria, Local Government NSW (LGNSW) said today.

LGNSW President Cr Keith Rhoades, speaking after the release of the IPART report, said it has never been more critical for councils to go back to their communities to work out their next steps.

"IPART says the reason the majority of councils were found unfit is because they opposed the Government's proposed merger option and submitted a stand-alone proposal," Cr Rhoades said. "This is what we expected."

"Only 57 of the State's 152 councils were found fit: seven metropolitan councils, 32 non-metropolitan councils, nine rural councils (assessed against different criteria) and four groups of councils who proposed voluntary mergers.

"The City of Sydney was found unfit solely because it rejected the proposed 'global city' Mega Council amalgamation, while three councils not even slated to merge – Blacktown, Campbelltown, and Hawkesbury - were found unfit on financial criteria."

Cr Rhoades said the Government had today announced a "Stronger Communities" fund, for council investment in community infrastructure such as parks, libraries and swimming pools, while reiterating that funding would be available for the upfront costs of amalgamation.

"I'm pleased the Government has responded to concerns over the potential impacts of amalgamations on the community," he said.

"We don't have answers to legitimate questions on how much new money is on the table, rather than repackaged money previously announced.

"We know from experience elsewhere that amalgamations will cost the community significantly more than the \$10 million available to voluntarily amalgamating metropolitan councils, and the \$5 million to voluntarily amalgamating regional councils.

"And we note that the Stronger Communities fund announced today appears to be only available to councils who submit agreed amalgamation plans before November 18, not to others including those already found fit.

"The Minister has made it very clear that this is a time-limited carrot. Those who don't agree to merge seem destined to be forced to do so - without financial support."

Cr Rhoades said the Government was also expected to launch a new phase in its \$1 million-plus Saatchi and Saatchi advertising campaign promoting the need for fewer councils.

"The research shows the community trust their councils far more than they do other spheres of Government," he said.

"Some 75% believe Local Government is best able to make decisions about their local area, compared to 26% who think the State Government is best placed and 2% who believe the Federal Government does it best.

"That's why it is so important that councils get back out there and ensure that their residents and ratepayers clearly understand what is on offer and what is at stake.

"We all want stronger communities, and LGNSW has said all along that this issue must be one for the residents and ratepayers.

"I'd urge councils to speak directly to their residents and ratepayers about today's developments and then act accordingly."

Media Enquiries

LGNSW President, Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM: 0408 256 405

Media Toni Allan 0412 774 441

IPART's classification of NSW councils as fit or unfit delivered no real surprises to the sector today. The report and subsequent Government response has fulfilled sector predictions.

Councils worked hard to meet the Government's benchmarks, only to be found unfit for reflecting community feedback and seeking to maintain their independence.

While the Government announcement has answered some questions, more remain.

WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

- The majority of NSW councils were found "unfit" because they did not meet the Government's criteria. This is as expected.
- Just 57 of the State's 152 councils were found to be "fit". Of these, seven were metropolitan councils, 32 were non-metropolitan, nine were rural councils assessed against a different model, while the remaining nine were those involved in voluntary merger proposals.
- IPART confirmed the primary reason NSW councils were found "unfit" is because they opposed the Government's proposed merger option and submitted a stand-alone proposal. This was considered to mean that they did not have "scale and capacity".
- Three metropolitan councils not slated to merge were found unfit because they did not meet financial criteria. These councils were identified as Blacktown (the state's largest council), Campbelltown and Hawkesbury.
- Councils found to be unfit have been granted a period of 30 days to consult with their communities and submit their preferred amalgamation partner(s). No extensions will be granted, and IPART will explain but not revisit its fit/unfit finding.
- Control of the process has been escalated to the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- The Government is offering a funding package it has dubbed "Stronger Communities". The package will provide funding for community infrastructure, but is only available to councils who submit an acceptable merger proposal by November 18, not to those already fit.
- This funding is set at \$5 million for merged regional councils and \$10 million for merged metropolitan councils. An additional \$5 million is available for new councils formed by three or more municipalities.
- The Government has reiterated funding support to contribute towards the upfront cost of amalgamation. Some \$5 million will be made available to each merged regional council and \$10 million for each merged metropolitan council – but only if approved mergers are submitted by the November 18 cut-off.
- Councils should "know where they stand" by the end of the year.

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

- Is the "new" fund just the old, previously announced \$1 billion funding package (\$600 million of which is potential savings on interest, via cheaper loans from Treasury Corp)?
- What additional support is available for rural councils, beyond the Innovation Fund allocation?
- What happens after November 18? What will happen for councils who do submit a merger proposal acceptable to the Government – or who are willing to merge but rejected by their neighbours?
- Will the Government force the amalgamation of financially sustainable councils with community support?
- By which process?

GENERAL MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

File No:	G4.1-G4.13
Report: 357/2015	Legislative Council of NSW Standing Committee on Social Issues
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

Background:

The Committee has been tasked with undertaking an Inquiry into service coordination in communities with high social needs.

The terms of reference are as follows;

1. That the Standing Committee on Social issues inquire into and report on the service coordination in communities with high social needs, including:
 - a. The extent to which government and non-government service providers are identifying the needs of clients and providing a coordinated response which ensures access to services both within and outside of their particular area of responsibility
 - b. Barriers to the effective coordination of services, including lack of client awareness of services and any legislative provisions such as privacy law
 - c. Consideration of initiatives such as the Dubbo Minister's Action Group and best practice models for the coordination of services and
 - d. Any other Related matters
2. That the Council Report by 11th December 2015.

Current Situation:

The Membership of the Committee is:-

The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC	<i>The Nationals</i>	Chair
The Hon. Gregg Donnelly MLC	<i>Australian Labour Party</i>	Deputy Chair
The Hon. Shayne Mallard MLC	<i>Liberal Party</i>	
Revd. the Hon. Fred Nile MLC	<i>Christian Democratic Party</i>	
The Hon. Dr. Peter Phelps MLC	<i>Liberal Party</i>	
The Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC	<i>Australian Labor Party</i>	

The committee have elected to visit some of the communities impacted and Bourke was one of the communities that has been selected.

The Committee have chartered a plane and will be in Bourke on 5th November 2015 at 10.00am and Council have been invited to appear before the inquiry and give evidence.

The committee will be utilising Council's Meeting Room for the inquiry.

The visit to Bourke has been coordinated by the Committee's secretariat and the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the full program is currently being finalised.

Financial Implications:

Whilst the financial implications in relation to the visit are minor to Council the financial impact that may flow from the better coordination of services could be quite significant.

Resolution

389/2015

1. That Council note the Report regarding Legislative Council of NSW Standing Committee on Social Issues
2. That Council prepare a briefing paper
3. That Councillors be encourage to attend the hearing

Moved Cr Davis

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

File No:	F1.1
Report: 460/2015	Bank Reconciliation & Statement of Bank Balances
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 30th September 2015

Balances as per Bank Statement	\$250,000.15
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$3,939.35
Less: Unpresented Cheques	\$9,517.16
Less: Unpresented Auto Pays	\$788.60
Balance as per Cash Book	\$243,633.74

Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 30th September 2015

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$9,590,259.89	\$200,000.00
Water	\$2,840,084.21	
Sewer	\$966,272.93	
Trust	\$191,772.98	
Total Funds	\$13,588,390.01	

Investments as at 30th September 2015

National Australia Bank	\$500,000.00	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$977,711.19	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,237,417.16	3.00 %	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,017,588.20	3.05 %	305 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,436,656.81	3.00 %	305 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$362,525.00	3.00 %	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,000,000.00	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$400,000.00	2.90 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,015,780.83	2.90 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$400,000.00	2.82 %	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,065,968.60	2.85 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$620,714.10	2.82 %	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$710,394.38	2.85 %	182 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	2.87 %	182 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$13,344,756.27			

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 September 2015

Balance as per cash book	\$243,633.74
Investments	\$13,344,756.27
Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger	\$13,588,390.01

Statement of Bank Balances as at 30th September 2015

	Balance	Transaction	Balance
	31 st August 2015		30 th September 2015
General Fund	\$9,921,605.00	-\$331,345.11	\$9,590,259.89
Water Fund	\$2,685,603.60	\$154,480.61	\$2,840,084.21
Sewer Fund	\$815,975.35	\$150,297.58	\$966,272.93
Trust Fund	\$187,605.10	\$4,167.88	\$191,772.98
Investments	-\$12,729,944.78	-\$614,811.49	-\$13,344,756.27
Totals	\$880,844.27	-\$637,210.53	\$243,633.74

Balance of all Funds as at 31st August 2015

\$880,844.27

Add Receipts for	
(a) Rates	\$300,769.89
(b) Other Cash	\$1,316,264.71
Deduct payments for	
(a) Paid since last meeting	\$1,639,433.64
(b) New Investment	\$614,811.49
Balance as 30th September 2015	\$243,633.74

Resolution

390/2015 That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30th September 2015 be noted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

Leonie Brown

MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES

File No:	F1.1
Report:461 /2015	Investment Report as at 30 th September 2015
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 2015/16 Budget estimates the total investment revenue as \$295,000 which represents an estimated return of 2.95%. This revenue is split proportionally across General, Water and Sewer Funds and changes on a monthly basis in accordance with cash flow requirements.

The market value of Council's investments held as at 30th September 2015 is \$13,344,756.27.

Investment income earned as at 30 September 2015 is \$49,058.40.

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	\$500,000.00	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$977,711.19	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,237,417.16	3.00 %	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,017,588.20	3.05 %	305 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,436,656.81	3.00 %	305 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$362,525.00	3.00 %	180 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,000,000.00	3.00 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$400,000.00	2.90 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,015,780.83	2.90 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$400,000.00	2.82 %	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,065,968.60	2.85 %	184 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$620,714.10	2.82 %	90 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$710,394.38	2.85 %	182 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$600,000.00	2.87 %	182 Days	A1+
Total Investments	\$13,344,756.27			

Percentage of Total Portfolio 100 %

Average Investment Yield 2.93%

Discussions/Comments

The Investment portfolio increased by \$614,811.49 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

391/2015

1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30th September 2015 be received and noted.
2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

File No:	F1.6
Report: 462 /2015	Budget Review to 30 th September 2015
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Introduction

Clause 203 (1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (the Regulations) requires a council's responsible accounting officer to prepare and submit a Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) to the governing body of council within two months of the end of the quarter. Herewith is that report.

Background

The Division of Local Government released guidelines on the preparation of QBRS to Council in December 2010 with mandatory reporting in line with the guidelines commencing in July 2011.

The QBRS must show, by reference to the estimated income and expenditure that is set out in the operational plan adopted by Council for the relevant year, a revised estimate of income and expenditure for that year.

The guidelines also require the budget review statement to include a report by the responsible accounting officer as to whether or not they consider the statement indicates Council to be in a satisfactory financial position (with regard to its original budget) and if not, to include recommendations for remedial action.

Issues

- The QBRS must be prepared by the Responsible Accounting Officer and presented to Council within two months of the end of the quarter.
- The minimum format of the QBRS is governed by the Division of Local Government's Guidelines in December 2010.

Assessment

(a) Legal Implications Including Directives and Guidelines

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (the Regulations) clause 203 requires a Council's Responsible Accounting Officer to prepare and submit a quarterly budget review statement to the governing body of Council within two months of the end of the quarter

Division of Local Government – Quarterly Budget Review Guidelines issued December 2010

(b) Financial Implications/Considerations

Council's original budget was adopted on 25th May 2015 and reflected overall cash based surplus of \$513,576.

(c) Policy Provisions – Council Policy and Practice

Nil

(d) Strategic Implications – Implications for Long Term Plans/Targets

Community Strategic Plan
Delivery Program/Operational Plan

Discussion

The QBRS has been prepared for the September 2015 review period and is presented to Council for consideration.

This review has been undertaken in consultation with the General Manager, Managers and other officers where applicable.

Council adopted a \$513,576 cash based surplus budget as part of the 2015/16 Operational Plan at the 25th May 2015 Council Meeting.

Overall Financial Position

The revised consolidated budget result following the September QBRS is estimated to be a surplus of \$566,954 an increase of \$53,378.

A break-up of the funds are detailed in the table below once depreciation has been added back:

Fund	Expenses	Revenues	Depreciation	Operating result
General	(\$30,621,179)	\$27,163,737	\$3,509,200	\$51,758
Water	(\$4,729,890)	\$4,731,890	\$339,120	\$341,120
Sewer	(\$1,277,358)	\$1,277,394	\$174,040	\$174,076
Total	\$36,628,427	\$33,173,021	\$4,022,360	\$566,954

The adjustments which have been identified during the Review are summarised below:

Operating and Capital Works Budgets:

Adjustment Description	Budget Impact
Operational Income – additional	614,671
Operational Expenses – additional	(561,293)
Capital Income and Contributions - increase	111,410
Capital Expenditure - additional	(111,410)
Transfer to/from Reserves	
Net adjustment - Budget	53,378

Summary	Budget Impact
Original Budget surplus	513,576
Adjustments from QBRS September 2015	53,378
Revised Budget Surplus	\$566,954

Conclusion

The financial position of Bourke Shire Council as at 30th September 2015 is considered to be satisfactory and is confirmed by the Report from the Responsible Accounting Officer provided under separate cover to Council.

Resolution

392/2015

1. That the document entitled "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – September 2015" be received and noted
2. That the variations of income and expenditure as identified in the "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – September 2015" be approved and voted.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

File No:	F1.1
Report: 463/2015	Preliminary 2014/2015 Annual Financial Statements Report
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services

Introduction

This report is to provide Councillors with a preliminary review of to the Financials Statement for 2014/2015.

Background

The Local Government Act 1993, Section 49 (1) stipulates that Council must present its audited Financial Reports, together with the auditors reports to a meeting of Council. The final report will be completed at the November Ordinary Meeting of Council, by Council's Auditors.

Report

Council's operating result was a surplus of \$3.668 million as compared with a \$1.32 million deficit in the previous year. This total is an overall increase over the previous year of \$4.988.

Summarised outlines of the operating result and financial position are detailed below:

Summary of Financial Reports

For the year ending 30th June 2015

Income Statement	2015 (\$000's)	2014 (\$000's)
Total Operating Revenues	22,576	18,246
Total Operating Expenses	18,908	19,566
Net Operating Result for Year	3,668	(1,320)
Net Operating for year Before Grants for Capital purposes	1,494	(2,074)

Balance Sheet	2015	2014
Current Assets	14,205	12,268
Current Liabilities	5,816	4,723
Non-Current Assets	224,186	208,783
Non-Current Liabilities	4,019	3,633
Net Assets/Equity	228,556	212,695

Other Financial Information

Note 13 of the Financial Statements provide performance measurement indicators and these are summarised below:

Indicator	2015	2014
Operating Performance Ratio	7.39%	-9.98%
Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio	58.62%	64.47%
Unrestricted Current Ratio	2.26:1	2.13:1
Debt Service Cover Ratio	5.30:1	3.13:1
Rates and annual Charges , interest and Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage	14.75%	11.00%
Cash Expense Cover Ratio	9.44 months	8.11 months

Special Schedule 7 report on Infrastructure Assets

Indicators	2015	2014
Building and Infrastructure Renewal Ratio	158.74%	77.36%
Infrastructure Backlog Ratio	9.43%	17.08%
Asset Maintenance Ratio	.96	1.00
Capital Expenditure Ratio	1.81	0.81

Financial Position as at 30th June 2014

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The unrestricted current ratio is an indicator that Council is able to pay its debt as and when they fall due. Council has marginally increased the unrestricted current ratio this financial year. The benchmark for this ratio is a minimum of 1.5:1.

Available Working Capital

These are funds available to Council to meet unforeseen and unbudgeted expenditure, and exclude any funds in reserve.

Available working funds in 2014/15 increased by \$1.388 million taking the 30/06/2015 figure to \$3,064 million compared to \$4,676 million as at 30/06/14.

Councils Auditors have indicated the Available Working Capital to be adequate after taking into consideration the nature and level of internally restricted assets (reserves) that have been set aside.

Debt Service Cover Ratio

This is a ratio that measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark for this ratio is a minimum of 2:1.

For 2015, the ratio indicated that operating results before capital, interest and depreciation covered payments required to service debt by a factor of 5.30:1

Cash Assets as at 30th June 2014

Cash and Investments

This figure includes funds held in internal and external reserves across all of the Council's functions along with any unspent specific purpose grants and contributions.

The total cash and investments figure increased by \$1.378 million during 2014/15; taking the figure of \$10.252 million as at 30th June 2014 to \$11.630 million as at 30th June 2015.

Externally restricted cash and investments total \$3.983 million, internally restricted cash and investments total \$1.114 million, and unrestricted cash and investments total \$6.533 million, which is available to provide liquidity for day to day operations.

Receivables as at 30th June 2015

Rates and Annual Charges

Council's net Rates and Annual Charges amounted to \$3.439 million and represented 19% of Council's overall revenue for 2013/14.

Outstanding Rates and Annual Charges

The Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage has increased in 2014/2015 from 11% to 14.75%. This is due to the amount of land that the owners have effectively walked away from and will be subject to a sale for unpaid Rates. Provision is made annually to account for this amount.

Payables as at 30th June 2015

Employee Leave Entitlements

Employee Leave Entitlements (ELE) are the leave entitlements which were accrued as at the 30th June 2015, and equate to \$2,712 million.

Council had a cash reserve of \$594,000, funding the liability at 22%.

Council's Auditors have indicated that the Office of Local Government requires Council to fund ELE at a minimum of 20%.

Other

Building and Infrastructure Renewal

The Building and Infrastructure renewal ratio is an indicator of the proportion of depreciation which is being funded by expenditure on new assets. A ratio greater than 100% indicates that Council is spending more on asset renewal than the depreciation charge for the year.

Councils Asset Renewal was 158.74%.

Conclusion

The Unrestricted Current Ratio has marginally increased over the past year. The Unrestricted Current Ratio is a financial indicator and represents Council's ability to meet its debts and obligations as they fall due. The available Working Capital position was also maintained at an acceptable level.

Council continues to maintain a relatively low level of debt and is in a sound financial position as reflected in our Auditor's reports and demonstrated by the financial performance indicators.

Council will need to continue to closely monitor the budget during the current and future years to ensure that the positive result continues to ensure the ongoing consolidation of the Councils financial position.

Summary

Councillors have been issued with a copy of the audited Audit Report letter as an attachment to this report a copy of the Financial Statements will be made available at the meeting for review prior to lodging the Office of Local Government on Monday 26th October 2015.

Recommendation:

That Council notes the preliminary report in regards to the 2014/2015 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Reports, as presented.

Resolution

393/2015 That Council notes the preliminary report in regards to the 2014/2015 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Reports and that the congratulations of Council be passed on to the staff involved.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

File No:	M2.1-M2.2
Report: 933/2015	Land Transport PBR Mayors Challenge - Cunnamulla Festival 2015
Author:	Liz Land, Festival Coordinator Cunnamulla Festival 2015

Inviting the Mayor to participate in the Land Transport PBR Bull Ride at the Cunnamulla Fella Festival 2015, if the Mayor is unable to participate you may select a Bull Rider from your shire who can nominate himself with PBR to ride on your behalf and if there is no rider competing from your shire, PBR can conduct a draw to select a rider on your behalf. A nomination fee for PBR of \$150.00 must be paid to the Paroo Shire Council by Friday 30th October 2015.

Recommendation:
For Council's consideration

Resolution

394/2015 That Council participate in the Lands Transport PBR Mayors Challenge to be held in conjunction with the Cunnamulla Fella Festival 2015.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Hollman	Carried

Resolution at 10.28am

395/2015 That Council suspend standing order to conduct the Naturalisation Ceremony for David Sharp.		
Moved Cr Davis	Seconded Cr Dorrington	Carried

Resolution at 11.11am

396/2015 That Council resumed Standing Orders		
Moved Cr Stutsel	Seconded Cr Dorrington	Carried

11.12am The Manager of Corporate Services, Leonie Brown left the room having declared and interest in Report 934/2015

File No:	D5.1-D5.2
Report: 934/2015	Community Contribution – Bourke Laundry Service
Author:	Lisa Crothers, Executive Officer – Bourke Laundry Service

Requesting that Council extend the filtered water mains to include the new Bourke Laundry Service building at 32 Richard Street and to assist by extending the filtered water main through the “shed” by cutting the poor quality existing cement slab and installing the meter in the back yard with the access from Oxley Street.

Recommendation:
For Council's consideration.

Resolution

397/2015 That Council donate funds up to \$2,500 to the Bourke Laundry Service to enable them to relocate the filtered water service to their new building at the corner of Richard and Oxley Streets.

Moved Cr Bennett

Seconded Cr Johnson

Carried

MCS returned to the meeting at 11.19am

Resolution at 11.20am

398/2015 Council suspended Standing Orders for an update from Inspector Scott Parker from Darling River Local Area Command.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried

Resolution at 11.41am

399/2015 That Council resumed Standing Orders

Moved Cr Barton

Seconded Cr Hollman

Carried



CUNNAMULLA FELLA FESTIVAL 2015

Mayor of Bourke
Mr. Andrew Lewis
Bourke Shire Council
BOURKE NSW 2840

10th October 2015

Dear Mayor Lewis

2015 CUNNAMULLA FELLA FESTIVAL 6th - 8th November.
LAND TRANSPORT PBR BULL RIDE – MAYORS’ CHALLENGE

I invite you to participate in this year’s, “Mayors’ Challenge”, contested at the Annual 2015 Land Transport’s PBR Bull Ride to be held on Saturday 7th November as part of the Cunnamulla Fella Festival.

This exciting part of the Bull Ride is, “Mayor against Mayor” with the winning Mayor being presented with a miniature of our famous Cunnamulla Fella statue as a trophy to be placed in their care for the duration of their winning year. This perpetual trophy will be passed on to the winner of each Mayors Challenge for the lifetime of the Cunnamulla Fella Festival.

The challenge is held in the first round of the Land Transport’s PBR Bull Ride and consists of your nominated rider scoring the highest points, on some of the rankest bulls, to triumph over the other mayors who are game enough to step up and contest the Mayors Challenge for 2015.

The Cunnamulla Fella Festival is one of the Paroo Shire’s signature events and we invite you to come along and see your rider compete in person and enjoy the weekend.

Paroo Shire Mayor, Lindsay Godfrey, says “it’s time for a change” ...he wants to win and retain the allusive prestigious trophy, in our Shire Office until next year’s competition. So pick up the gauntlet and put your shire’s rider against Paroo’s rider and compete at Cunnamulla this year!

To enter:

A nomination fee for PBR of \$150.00 must be paid to the Paroo Shire Council by Friday 30th October, for the privilege of a bull rider to compete on your behalf at the Bull Ride. You may select a Bull Rider from your shire who can nominate himself with PBR to ride on your behalf and if there is no rider competing from your shire, PBR can conduct a draw to select a rider on your behalf which can be arranged by contacting me.

For any further information and assistance please do not hesitate to contact me on
Ph: 0428 551 587.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Land', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Liz Land
Festival Coordinator



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

Name of applicant organisation:	Bourke Laundry Service Inc
Postal Address:	PO Box 57 BOURKE NSW 2840
Contact person:	Lisa Crothers
Position:	Executive Officer
Phone number:	0268721900
Mobile number:	0419 291979
Fax number:	
Email address:	crothers@bigpond.net.au

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: hourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au

INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

Bourke Laundry Service Inc is a not for profit organisation established in 1992 to provide employment opportunities to people with disability. As an Australian Disability Enterprise (ADE), we operate a small commercial laundry and receive CBF from the Federal Government (Dept Social Services) to support ten workers with disability. The service is managed by a voluntary Board of Management.

Is the Group/organisation based in Bourke Shire?:- Yes

What is the number of current members of your group/organisation? 10

Purpose for which the donation will be used:-

Bourke Laundry Service has recently been awarded a leading practice grant from Dept Social Services to assist our organisation in adapting to the National Disability Insurance Scheme which may impact negatively on our future funding. This funding was used to purchase 32 Richard Street (formerly Elders) in Bourke to provide us with security of tenure for our operations & give us a much higher profile in the community.

On purchase it was discovered there is no adequate mains supply of filtered water to the premises. It is my understanding Council has responsibility to provide this service & metering from the laneway between Oxley & Mertin Street - the boundary of the property is the external wall of the "shed" component of the building. What I am hoping Council can also do for us, is to extend this water connection through the "shed" component of the building (which will require cutting through poor quality cement slab) & install the meter in the back yard with access from Oxley Street. This would mean ease of access for meter readings & more importantly for Bourke Laundry, reduce our substantial plumbing costs associated with relocating the service.

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

The relocation of our service in the most cost efficient way, helps secure future employment for people with disability residing in the Bourke Shire; By purchasing and occupying such a highly visible premises we are vastly improving the vista of Bourke's CBD; the continuation of Bourke Laundry helps underpin future economic development in Bourke (such as the proposed abattoir & tourism) by providing a commercial laundry service

Has your group/organisation received financial or in kind support from Bourke Shire in the last 12 months? Yes No

If yes, please provide amount and details of purpose:

No

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

If yes, briefly list details and amount of grant
\$250,000 towards the purchase & refurbishment of 32 Richard Street BOURKE & the relocation of existing laundry service

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:

Purpose for which the property is used:

Approximate number of days per year that the property is used for these purposes:

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

What is the total amount of your request (exclusive of GST)?	\$	
Is your group / organisation registered for GST	Yes	
Does your group / organisation have an ABN (Australian Business Number)?	Yes	
Is your group / organisation incorporated?	Yes	
If yes, please quote your ABN	46 535 091 766	
If yes, please quote your Incorporation No	Y17424-25	
Does your group / organisation have Public Liability Insurance?	Yes	
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		
Total (B)		
C. Labour costs		
Total ©		
D. Other project costs		
Total (D)		
TOTAL COSTS (A+B+C+D)		

ORGANISATION'S BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Name of bank:	
Name of bank account:	
Bank BSB Number:	
Bank Account Number:	


APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- For first time applicants, a copy of your group/organisation's constitution and if that constitution changes, then an updated copy is to be forwarded with any subsequent application
- A copy of the most recent annual report (including financial statements of income and expenditure) – preferably audited
- Copy of notification of ABN Number and GST Registration (if applicable) from the Australian Taxation Officer
- Evidence of Incorporation
- A copy of the applicant's current public liability insurance policy (i.e. Certificate of Currency)
- Where the applicant is a registered public charity, a copy of the registration certificate is required

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all the details supplied in this application form and in any attached documents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that the application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the applicant group / organisation.

I have read the Financial Assistance Policy provided with this application form.

Signed: 
.....

Name: LISA CROTHERS
.....

Position: EXECUTIVE OFFICER
.....

Date: 12/10/15
.....

BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL

ACTIVITY REPORT



Council Meeting, 26th October 2015

ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	E7.1
Report: 110/2015	Works Completed
Responsible Officer:	Scott Parnaby / Roads Supervisor

The following information outlines works completed from 4th September 2015 to the 2nd October 2015.

1. NORTH SECTOR – Dennis Tiffen, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
RLR 20 Wampra	Top Grade completed
RLR 49 West Culgoa	Top Grade completed
RLR 18 Myroolia	Top Grade completed
RLR 19 Dungarvon	Top Grade in progress
Town Streets	Shoulders Completed
HWY 7N Bourke- Barrington	Heavy patch completed
HWY 29 Bourke-Brewarrina Boundary	Heavy patch completed
RLR 16 River road	R2R Gravel sheeting Completed
RLR 40 Long Meadows Road	R2R Gravel sheeting in progress

2. SOUTHWEST SECTOR – John Reed, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Town Streets	Shoulder Sealing completed
RLR 10 Toorale	Top Grade completed
RLR 13 Landsdown	Top Grade completed
RLR 48 Carney	Top Grade completed

3. TRANSPORT SECTOR – Jack Wielinga, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Town Streets	Shoulder Sealing completed
Town streets	Shoulders Completed
HWY 7N Bourke- Barrington	Heavy patch completed
HWY 29 Bourke-Brewarrina Boundary	Heavy patch completed
RLR 16 River road	R2R Gravel sheeting Completed
RLR 40 Long Meadows Road	R2R Gravel sheeting in progress

4. BITUMEN MAINTENANCE SECTOR – John Bartley, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Bourke Township	Town Patching
All State Highways	Patching undertaken
HWY 29 Bourke-Brewarrina Boundary	Slashing Completed
HWY 7N Bourke- Barrington	Heavy patch completed
HWY 29 Bourke-Brewarrina Boundary	Heavy patch completed
Training	Nil

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 Long Weekend Wedding
Renshaw Complex	Grounds facilities cleaned and maintained Prepare ground for Australian Defence Force
Coolican Oval	Mow and Maintain Oval Prepare ground for Bourke Public School Soccer Match Prepare for Junior Cricket
Davidson Oval	Mow and Maintain Oval Prepare ground for Bourke Little Athletics Prepare ground for start of 2015/2016 Cricket Season for both Junior & Senior Cricketers
Central Park	Skate Park- regular mowing and maintenance carried out General graffiti removal
Villages	Mow grounds and facilities cleaned and maintained
Training	Nil

6. TOWN SERVICES – Troy Hayman, Team Leader

Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Daily
Cemetery	Nil
Rest Areas	Weekly cleaning and rubbish removal and cleaning road side
Staff Training	Nil
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove Rubbish from Library • Pick up dirt from stabilization Town Streets • Pick up branches from wind in Town • Whipper snipping Town Streets ongoing • Town Mowing ongoing • Sand Footpaths ongoing • Remove Rubbish from Murdi Paaki • Slash tops of levee • Slash rest area 20km Cobar Road • Clean Alice Edwards Village remove steel and rubbish • Pick up rubbish from Yanda streets • Remove customer parking from town streets • Shovel out gutters from reseals around town • Pick up needle from Hope Street near car wash • Relieving garbage truck • Pull down Goals posts at Davidson oval • Staff on Annual Leave • Erect No Camping signs at Renshaw Complex • Mow fence line at the Sisters of Mercy • Set for Hospital Garden party • Erect 2x tables at Enngonia at the park • Prune tree's 2 Tudor street • Move toilet block back to gun club from Davidson Oval • Move Office block from water works to depot • Remove burnt out car from vacant block Mertin Street • Pick up rubbish Public School • Mow rest areas 20km and 78km Sydney Road • Staff relieving Street Sweeper • Gravel holes at North Bourke truck stop • Make lid for storm water pit at Oxford Hotel corner • Whipper snip Town Street corners
Sundry Debtors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil

7. WORKSHOP – Neil Driscoll, Plant Foreman

Plant No	Rego	Description	Work Carried Out
131	AY22KL	2008 Caterpillar 12M	Replaced turbo valve and air cleaners
135	DB37AJ	2009 Volvo	8500hr service Replaced exhaust Replace RHS engine cove strut Repair bolts on intake
139	BR53WH	Caterpillar 950H	Check air horn and LH blinker
140	AK24LO	Caterpillar 12H	12750hr service
41	YCJ49T	2014 Mazda BT 50	30,000km service
50	CQS20T	2013 Mazda BT 50	Replace battery and repair mudguard 65,000km service
90	CB73JP	Isuzu D/Max	20,000km service
72	BC83YB	2009 John Deere	Chesterfield repaired transmission from neutralising
92	CA52JC	2014 Western Star	50,000km service Repair add blue bracket
232	N.92511	1990 Homemade Fuel Trailer	Replace fuel filter and housing
171	BN04EY	2002 Isuzu 1400 FY FVZ	Repair PTO electrics
48	AZ90ZJ	2009 Freightliner CL 120	Repair park brake Replace air conditioner hose Fix ¼ guard and indicator switch
60	AV25YJ	2008 freightliner Columbia	Repair air leak in dash
89	BS52AN	2012 Isuzu 300	Replace air conditioner pipe Remove accessories for sale
17	YCJ49S	2014 Mazda BT 50	15,000km service
20	CF75DI	2015 Nissan X-Trail	1,000km service
28	YCJ49T	2014 Mazda BT 50	25,000km service Weld bracket on spray rig
5	CD89QM	Holden Colorado	5,000km service
61	CQG23T	2014 Mazda BT 50	45,000km service
107	73635.C	2009 Kubota	Replace engine Engine service
74	WYC811	Case	Recondition hydraulic pump
216	YZH349	2004 Hino	Replaced fuel tank rubber Adjust brakes Repair top tail lights and grease hose
10	CA17WX	2015 Holden Colorado	30,000km service
13	CRL70H	2014 Mazda BT 50	45,000km service
14	YCJ74H	2015 Mazda BT 50	1,000km service
4	BS86YC	2013 Toyota Pardo	70,000km service
36	YCJ44G	2014 Mazda BT 50	20,000km service
39	YCJ44H	2014 Mazda BT 50	15,000km service
109	07615.C	2011 Toro	Repair seat
110	CE19JB	2015 Toro	Fit fan to roof
19	CE73MA	2015 Isuzu D/Max	Replace UHF Radio Add 12v supply to tub

40	BM09FA	2011 Toyota Hilux	Remove all accessories for sale
64		2011 Gason HD S/Shift	Repack wheel bearing Replace blades and check hear box oils
65	BG97LI	2010 John Deere	Repair revolving light Repair revolving lights and replace leaking pipe Replace PTO solenoid
86	N.85143	2002 Snorkle	Repairs done by AHERN Repairs to harness, cut-out switches and over centre valve 2015 annual service done to manufactures recommendation Full engine service Ten year service completed Replace hydraulic valve and rewire flashing light
32	BM39KN	2011 Isuzu NPR 400	80,000km service
46	BX92HR	2013 Hino	Check steering and spring bushed for wheel alignment Adjust brakes
57	CC20UJ	2015 Hino	Replace gutter brush Repair cooler leak Replace splash tray on rear and fix air conditioner
423	UCP348	Mitsubishi	Bleed Fuel system

8. Water and Wastewater – Shane Hopley, Team Leader.
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		Ongoing
Alignment of stop valve covers checked	12 months		Ongoing
Instrumentation test and calibration (flow meters)	12 months	Next Service July 2016	
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

water supply & sewerage system Unplanned maintenance – 2015			
Main breaks repaired for September	7	Sewer chokes for August cleared:	15
Annual Main Breaks	103	Annual Sewer Chokes	93
Raw:	76	Boundaries replaced:	1
Potable:	27		
Year to date: 2015 Water Meters			
Faulty Meters replaced	0		
New Connections	0		

Training	Part 2 Water Treatment Operations
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BOURKE SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT EPA Licence compliance

Record of Effluent Analysis

POLLUTANT	UNIT OF MEASURE	LICENCE 100 PERCENTILE CONCENTRATION LIMIT	June 2015 TEST	July 2015 TEST	Aug 2015 TEST	Sep 2015 TEST	Oct 2015 TEST	Nov 2015 TEST
Oil & Grease	<i>mg/L</i>	10	4	<2	<2	<2		
pH		6.5-8.5	9.2	8.9	8.9	9.5		
Nitrogen (total)	<i>mg/L</i>	15	7.9	5.3	5.3	4.2		
Phosphorus (total)	<i>mg/L</i>	10	1.3	1	1	1.1		
Total suspended solids	<i>mg/L</i>	20	54	19	19	36		
Biochemical oxygen demand	<i>mg/L</i>	15	12	5	5	10		

RECORD OF WATER USAGE

For the period, 01/01/15 to 31/12/2015 Council's meters indicated the following water usage:

Water usage for January through to December 2015: **Yearly totals for 2015**

WATER SCHEME	ANNUAL ALLOCATION (ML)	TOTAL USAGE FOR THE PERIOD (ML) Sept	USAGE YEAR TO DATE (ML)	DAILY AVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD (ML)	DAILY AVERAGE YEAR TO DATE (ML)
Bourke Potable		40	318	1.3	1.3
Bourke River	3500	158	1415	5.8	6.0
North Bourke Village Raw	750	51	299	1.2	1.1

Rainfall in Bourke for September 2015 was 0.2mm for the period:

Resolution

400/2015 That the information in the Engineering Services Department Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 26th October 2015 be noted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

Unstarred

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

File No:	D3.2
Report: 210/2015	Developments Approved Report
Author:	Carolyn Crain, Development Assessment Officer
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No.	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Delegated	S96/DA 2015/0021/01	Lot 4, Section 8, DP 758389 Belalie Street, Enngonia	Demolition of existing dwelling & associated structures including garage and water tanks, installation of a 4 bedroom single storey transportable dwelling & construction of a 6x7.5m garage
Delegated	DA 2016/0006	Lot 7, Section 26, DP 758144 15 Tudor Street, Bourke	Additions and alterations to an existing commercial premises (retail) and storage premises, including demolition/removal of two shed structures, construction of 30.5x12.5m shed & installation of transportable office building
Delegated	DA 2016/0009	Lot 16, Section 33, DP758144 10 Wortumertie Street, Bourke	Construction of Residential Shed
Delegated	DA 2016/0010	Lot 1, DP 537496 41 Wortumertie Street, Bourke	Construction of Carport

Total value of Approved works for September 2015	= \$134,800
No. of Development Application Approvals for September 2015	= 3
No. of S96 Modification Application Approvals for September 2015	= 1
No. of Complying Development Application Approvals for September 2015	= 0

File No:	A11.1.1
Report: 210/2015	Building Services Report
Author:	Paul Faulkner, Environmental Co-ordinator
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing
Risk Assessments	Completed with every job
Training	Nil
Office	Monthly check and test Emergency Generator
Cemetery	General maintenance – Watering ,Mowing and fill in holes Trim and remove trees Poisoning
Senior Citizens	Install new Stove
Grandstand	Repair works – Progressing
Building Services	Test and Tag electrical equipment
Office	Replace down pipe to front entry
Pool	Install new alarm Repairs to power points Repairs to flood lights
NTH BKE Oval	Sheet existing shed with iron
Airport	ARO Inspections Poisoning Slashing Replace wind sock - Byrock
Contractors	Repairs to 1 Tudor Street House – Electrical Repairs to sewer pump stations and water treatment plant – Electrical Install Power point for RMS

File No:	A8.1
Report: 210/2015	Animal Control/Environmental Issues Report
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	2	1
Seized	5	8
Surrendered	0	0
Dumped	0	0
Total	7	9
Euthanased	3	9
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	3	0
Total	7	9
Micro-chip Implantations	0	0
Infringement Notices	0	0
Wandering Stock	0	
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	474	
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

File No:	S10.2.1
Report: 210/2015	Swimming Pool Report
Author:	Ashley & Cathy Lowe, Pool Managers
Responsible Officer:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services

Attendance for September 2015

Season Ticket Holders		Non- Season Ticket Holders	
Adults	7	Adults	152
Children (2+)	23	Children (2+)	680
Children (<2)	0	Children (<2)	19
Pensioners	0	Pensioners	3
School Groups	0	Total for Month	884

In response to queries from Councillors, the Manager of Environmental Services advised that he had been in contact with the lessee of the pool in regard to a few issues that had been brought to his attention in relation to the pool and it was likely that those issues have now been resolved.

Resolution

401/2015 That the information in the Environmental Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 26th October 2015 be received and noted.

Moved Cr Hollman

Seconded Cr Bartley

Carried

GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	G2.1
Report: 310/2015	"From the GM's Desk"
Responsible Officer:	Ross Earl, General Manager

24th September 2015

As part of the implementation phase involving the Far Western Initiative, the Department of Premier and Cabinet in association with the Office of Local Government facilitated a teleconference with Bourke Shire Council representatives to review the stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Far West Initiative.

The opportunity was also taken to update Council on the current status of the Far Western Initiative, including plans for the meeting to be held on the 14th October 2015.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Office of Local Government are obviously very keen to get the feedback of all stakeholders across the vast region covered by the Far Western Initiative.

There are a number of strategies that are being considered in an effort to ensure that all sectors and interest groups within the eight shires and the unincorporated area are aware of the proposed changes.

Council has held meetings for residents and ratepayers to discuss issues with Councillors and staff at various locations across the shire at least on an annual basis, and will be using these meetings to keep all groups informed on what is being proposed once the Discussion Paper is released later in the year.

Council yesterday met with members of the New South Wales Local Government Grants Commission. The Grants commission were represented by:-

- Richard Colley Chair
- Councillor Gae Swain, Commissioner
- Bruce Wright Executive Officer

The presentation of the commission focussed on the following:-

- Background to the Commission
- The basis of grant distribution
- Grants for 2015/2016

The next Meeting of Barwon Darling Water is scheduled to be held on the 7th October 2015 at the Walgett Sporting Club and will commence at 10.00 am. The General Meeting will be preceded by an Annual General Meeting.

Barwon Darling Water is an important lobby group for irrigators and other water users along the river system and no doubt the issues of embargoes will figure prominently on the agenda. Enquiries should be directed to the Executive Officer, Ian Cole on 04297225857

The 2015 Tour de OROC will visit Bourke on the 7th October 2015 with around 26 people in the party, including support drivers and other coordination staff. Bourke Shire Council will join with Bourke Rotary Club in hosting the visit to town.

The Rotary Club and Bourke Shire will be holding a welcome to town / fundraiser on the night of the 7th October 2015 at the Port of Bourke Hotel. Planned activities for the ride within Bourke Shire and the function that evening will include:-

- The representatives from Bourke Shire to accompanying the riders from the Cobar Shire Boundary to Bourke on the 7th and then from Bourke to the Brewarrina Boundary on the 8th October. At this stage a rider for both legs is yet to be confirmed but Mark Gordon and John Bartley will be riding on the 7th October 2015 with that leg going from the Cobar boundary into Bourke
- Dinner at the Port of Bourke Hotel
- Raffles and Auction on the night
- Music

Tour De OROC aims to raise funds for the construction of Macquarie Homestay which is the proposed accommodation for patients and family of patients at the new Dubbo Base Hospital.

The 2016 Australia Day Award nominations are open with nominations being called for the following categories:-

- Citizen of the Year
 - Young Citizen of the Year
 - Sportsperson of the Year
 - Young Sportsperson of the Year
 - Community Service through Employment
 - Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year
 - Village Community Service
-

The Bourke Rotary Club joined with Bourke Shire Council in hosting a Trivia Night to raise funds for the Tour de OROC and around 120 people in 15 teams participated in what was a great night with all contestants eager to display their wealth of knowledge. The night was certainly played out in the right spirit and I would like to thank 2WEB, Carole's of Bourke and the Bourke Bowling Club for their assistance with the raffle and 2WEB announcer, David Sharp for compiling a very interesting "Music Round".

Thank you to everyone who turned up and supported the night.

The Mayor and I represented Council at the service to recognise the contribution of Aboriginal Servicemen to the Australian Armed Services in the various conflicts in which Australia has been involved over the years. The service was held at the Bourke Aboriginal Health Service and coordinated by Victor Bartley and the Local RSL Sub Branch.

Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis, Cr Cec Dorrington and I will be representing Council at the Annual Conference of Local Government NSW to be held between 11th and 13th October at Rosehill Racecourse.

Included as part of the Conference will be the election of Office Bearers for the next two (2) years with the positions of President, two (2) Vice Presidents, one (1) metropolitan based and the other

regionally or rural based, and a Treasurer plus seven (7) Directors from the Metropolitan Area and seven (7) Directors from the Rural/Regional Areas. The elections are conducted by the Australian Election Commission and those elected will have the important task of guiding Local Government over the next two (2) years, which at this stage seems likely to usher in a period of change.

I attended the Annual Spring Flower Show which included the presentation of the Garden Competition Awards.

Both the Garden Competition and the Spring Flower Show attracted very impressive entries the winners facing some very strong competition.

Council has supported both the competitions for a number of years and in doing so seeks to encourage the development of well-kept gardens within the Shire.

In the commercial section there was a spread of winners across the business sector with the presentation of many of the business premises certainly very impressive and reflective of the amount of work undertaken and pride shown by the owners.

Lorraine Lewis, wife of Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis, in her welcome address noted that despite the harsh climate of Bourke the gardeners were able to produce some great flowers and well-presented gardens. Lorraine also mentioned the recent letter to the editor from ex-residents Les and Frances Walsh regarding the obvious pride they felt when they showcased the town to a group of their friends from Dubbo.

The first impression given to visitors when they enter town is extremely important and each of us can assist making this first impression both appealing and long lasting by ensuring that the lawns and gardens both inside your boundary and along the nature strip adjacent to your property are well presented.

Well done to all the staff at the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre, who was successful in being awarded places in a number of categories for their ongoing efforts in improving the appearance of the Centre.

Council staff has recently erected tables for the park at Enngonia and once the canopies are erected over the seats and tables they will provide an ideal stopover point for visitors passing through town and another facility for those utilising the park area.

Like all Australians, I noted with interest the change in leadership of the Liberal Party and hence the change in our Prime Minister. While a change of Prime Minister should not have a huge impact on individual communities the fact is there will be some impact due to the changes to the make-up of Cabinet and Ministerial Portfolios.

An interesting change and of interest to water users was the addition of Water Resources to the Agricultural portfolio held by Hon. Barnaby Joyce, MP.

Minister Joyce will be assisted by Senator Anne Ruston from South Australia.

Quote of the Week!

“I am not young enough to know everything”
Oscar Wilde

1st October 2015

Monday’s Council meeting saw the election take place for the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2015/2016. The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis was re-elected unopposed as was the Deputy Mayor, Cr Barry Hollman. This is Councillor Lewis’s eighth consecutive term as Mayor whilst it will be fourth consecutive term for Councillor Hollman.

Representatives of RaRMS addressed Council during Monday’s Meeting regarding their plans to provide medical services to Bourke over the duration of their contracted period. RaRMS already have already recruited an additional permanent doctor for Bourke and are confident that they will have a full complement of doctors available prior to the changeover on the 28th November 2015.

RaRMS have a presence in a number of towns already including Gilgandra, Tenterfield, Warren, Warialda and Bingara and with the addition of the six (6) towns that they will now service following the recent tender announcement RaRMS will have a significant foot print in rural New South Wales

Council reviewed its membership of its standing committees, internal Committees and Delegates to other organisations at Monday’s meeting and there were no changes to the existing appointments.

Council will continue to meet on the 4th Monday of each Month at 9.00am following a resolution passed at Monday’s meeting. The meeting in January however, will be held on the 3rd Monday in January to allow Councillors the opportunity to select the Australia Day Award Recipients. The 4th Monday in March is Easter Monday and the 4th Monday in April is ANZAC day so each of those meetings will also be held on the 3rd Monday.

As part of their presentation last week the New South Wales Grants Commission tabled a map of New South Wales which detailed those Local Government areas that had experienced a population decline over the period 2001-2014. The map shows, that with a few exceptions, those areas west of the Newell Highway had generally experienced a decline.

During that time New South Wales has seen an overall population growth of 14.3% or 943,255 people. This is a clear demonstration of the population drift to the eastern seaboard of the state. The ongoing population increases along the eastern seaboard is placing considerable pressure on the infrastructure in those areas while there is existing capacity in the rural and regional centres that can readily cope with an increase in population and all that is required is sustainable employment.

The cost to provide the infrastructure to cater for the increase is enormous and the relocation of some industries to rural NSW would have beneficial impacts for all parties.

There needs to be a return to an active policy of decentralisation and if adopted is will assist in arresting the decline of Rural New South Wales.

The next Meeting of Barwon Darling Water is scheduled to be held on the 7th October 2015 at the Walgett Sporting Club and will commence at 10.00 am.

Enquiries should be directed to the Executive Officer Ian Cole on 0429 7225857

The 2015 Tour de OROC will visit Bourke on the 7th October 2015 with around 26 people in the party, including support drivers and other coordination staff. Bourke Shire Council will join with Bourke Rotary Club in hosting the visit to town.

The Rotary Club and Bourke Shire will be holding a welcome to town / fundraiser on the night of the 7th October 2015 at the Port of Bourke Hotel. Planned activities for the ride within Bourke Shire and the function that evening will include.

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Tour de OROC aims to raise funds for the construction of Macquarie Homestay which is the proposed accommodation for patients and family of patients at the new Dubbo Base Hospital.

Together with the Deputy Mayor, Cr Barry Hollman, Cr's Cec Dorrington, Jack Bennett and Victor Bartley and I represented Council at the Police Remembrance Service on Tuesday this week. The service was held at Holy Innocents Anglican Church in Bourke with the Service being conducted by Police Chaplain, Graeme Yeager who was assisted by the Bishop for the Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes the Most Reverend Columba Macbeth-Green.

The service remembers those Police Officers who have been killed on duty and members of the Police Force who have died in the past twelve months.

As the summer approaches there will be an increased demand on the water supplies right across the Shire. Residents are reminded to be "Water Wise" and ensure that water is not wasted. Far too often water can be seen flowing down the gutters or ponding. If possible, water in the evening or early in the morning and not in the heat of the day to maximise the benefit and reduced evaporation.

The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis and I attended the farewell function for Dr Hutchison Thurairajah (Dr Hutch). Hutch was in Bourke for around two and a half years and built a strong relationship with his patients during that period. The farewell as also attended by a number of representatives of the Health Service Providers within the town with Hamish Meldrum one of the directors of OCHRE Health making the trip from Sydney for the occasion.

One of the items on the agenda at Monday's Council meeting was the endorsement of a recommendation to apply for a Clubs NSW Grant under the next round of funding from this source. Council has previously developed a masterplan for the upgrade of the Bourke Memorial Swimming Pool.

The first stages of this masterplan are the installation of a water splash park for the little kids and the re-development of the small pool into program pool which will enable that pool to be put to a greater range of uses. A new filtration system to specifically cater for these two (2) facilities would be required to be installed in accordance with current requirements.

Bourke Shire Council commissioned a report from the New South Wales Department of Public Works in relation to the upgrade the bores within the Shire that service the villages. There has been a strong commitment from the current State Government to provide better water supplies across the state and in anticipation of additional grant funding possibly becoming available a number of “shovel ready” projects will be developed. Council is very conscious of the needs of the village communities and a reliable water supply is critical.

Councillor’s Auditors Hill Roger Spencer Steer from Sydney have almost completed the audit of Council’s Annual Financial Statements for 2014/2015. They will then provide a report to Council which needs to be included with the Financial Statements so that they can be lodged by the end of October as required.

Council is currently calling for tenders for the construction of three (3) bridges which, when complete, will mean that all timber bridges within the Shire have been replaced and Bourke Shire Council would be one of the few rural Council’s that have been able to achieve this milestone. The bridges to be replaced are the Len Mallon Bridge near Enngonia, the Cuttaburra Bridge No. 2 and Whiskey Creek Bridge on the West Culgoa Road.

Quote of the Week!

“The only way to do great work is to love what you do” - Steve Jobs

8th October 2015

There has been a very positive response from the community following the announcement that plans are being progressed for the establishment of a small stock abattoir in Bourke. The abattoir will create 200 jobs when fully operational. A Planning Focus Meeting was held last week to provide the opportunity for the relevant agencies who will be involved in the approval process to detail the matters that they would like to see addressed in the Environment Impact Statement that will need to be prepared by the proponents to accompany the Development Application for the facility.

As the value of the development exceeds the threshold of thirty million dollars it will be deemed as State Significant and the Development Application will be referred to the Department of Planning for consideration and they will be the Consent Authority.

Council has been working closely with the CAPRA Developments Pty Ltd for a few months now and will continue to assist where possible to both facilitate and expedite the project.

As the summer approaches there will be an increased demand on the water supplies right across the Shire. Residents are reminded to be “Water Wise” and ensure that water is not wasted. Far too often water can be seen to flow down the gutters or ponding. If possible, water in the evening or early in the morning and not in the heat of the day to maximise the benefit and reduce evaporation.

The "Garage Sale Trail" is fast approaching and is all set for Saturday, 24th October. Bourke Shire Council urges all local businesses, community groups and residences to jump online and register your garage sale. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of this new incentive to de-clutter your place of any unwanted treasures. Anyone not registering for a garage sale should visit the "Garage Sale Trail" website (www.garagesaletrail.com.au) the morning of Saturday, 24th of October to see where and who is holding a garage sale.

The Annual Graffiti Removal Day is scheduled for 18th October 2015 and will be coordinated locally by Bourke Rotary Club with Phil Johnston acting as the coordinator. I would like to encourage all members of the Bourke Community to get involved.

In the lead up to the day Bourke Shire Council will be undertaking a targeted removal programme and looking at some of the Graffiti on its own property. Graffiti is a blight on the landscape and everyone should do their bit in its removal. Of course it would be much easier for the whole community if person creating the graffiti would cease with this ongoing mindless sort of vandalism.

I will be travelling down to Dubbo later this afternoon to attend the October meeting of the General Managers Advisory Committee (GMAC) of the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils then heading down to the Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales which will commence on Sunday 11th October and then continue for a further two(2) days. The Conference will be held at Rosehill Racecourse.

The conference will also be attended by Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis and Cr Cec Dorrington. The conference will see the election of the Executive for the next two (2) years and with the Local Government Reforms that have been talked about, each of those elected to these important positions will have a huge responsibility in ensuring that the interest of all Local Government bodies are properly represented.

Wally Mitchell, a former President of the Shires Association of NSW will also be attending the conference in his role as a Patron of Local Government New South Wales. Wally had a long and distinguished career in Local Government and is a very well- known identity in Local Government circles and he will no doubt renew many old friendships.

On Wednesday, 13th October 2015 the Inaugural Meeting of the Far West Initiative Advisory Committee will be held under the chairmanship of John Williams. All eight (8) Councils proposed as members of the Far Western Initiative have been invited to attend along with a number of other agencies who will take their place on the Advisory Committee.

Council is able to send one delegate as well as an advisor, with the Mayor, Cr Lewis being the Delegate and I will attend in the advisory role.

This meeting will be held at the Offices of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in Parramatta.

The initial meeting will be an important one and Bourke Shire Council is keen to ensure that any changes resulting from the establishment of the Far West Initiative have a positive outcome for our community.

The Bourke Shire Council staff Union Picnic Day will be held on Friday, 30th October 2015 and all Council Offices and the Library will be closed on that day. Council will have staff on call for any emergency situation that may arise and can be accessed by calling 0419 722 055.

The Waste Management Facility will be operating as normal.

A reminder that nominations for the 2016 Australia Day awards are open and can be lodged at Councils Offices.

Nicole Payne a Project Officer with Regional Development Orana visited Bourke on Tuesday to discuss the work that has been undertaken on the Orana and Far West Infrastructure Masterplan which is the process of being developed. Nicole sought the input of Bourke Shire into the plan with her visit to Bourke one of several stopovers planned for the regions' Councils to ensure she was able get the views of all involved. The plan doesn't focus on local issues but is aimed at projects on a more regional level.

The football knockout at Dubbo last weekend went well with the local side acquitting themselves quite well.

I heard a number of comments regarding the economic boost to Dubbo as a result of the knockout and the number of visitors to the city. It demonstrates that tourism can be generated in many forms and visitors to towns for sporting events, conferences, reunions etc. generate significant income via accommodation, food and fuel sales. The whole community gets a spin- off either directly or indirectly.

There is still no more news in relation to the re-establishment of an air service for Bourke but the information I have received is that the matter is still very much on the agenda and hopefully we will hear some positive news over the next few weeks.

The Louth celebrations for the sesqui centenary of the village are planned for the 31st October 2015. It should be a good weekend for the village and no doubt many ex-residents and others with ties to the village will take the opportunity to participate in the celebrations.

The sale of another four (4) blocks at North Bourke has been approved by Council. The blocks have created a lot of interest over the past few months and this interest is starting to result in sales, justifying Councils decision to make additional blocks available in the area.

IPART are expected to report to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Paul Toole, MP next week regarding the results of their assessment of the "Fit for the Future Proposals" which were required to be submitted by the 144 Councils who are not part of the Far Western Initiative. It is not known when the Minister will make the results of the assessment public; however, they will certainly generate some interest when it occurs.

Quote of the Week!

"Spending today complaining about yesterday won't make tomorrow any better"

15th October 2015

The Toyota Tour De OROC arrived in Bourke last Wednesday afternoon after a long hot ride from Cobar. Mark Gordon and John Bartley joined the group on the Bourke/Cobar boundary to make the ride into Bourke. The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis joined also the group out of Bourke for the remainder of the ride into Bourke.

David Pickard represented Bourke on Thursday morning, riding from Bourke to the Brewarrina boundary. Special thanks to all of the riders representing Bourke and raising money for such a worthy cause.

A dinner and auction was held at the Port of Bourke Hotel on Wednesday night, special thanks to all involved for making the event such a success with a total of \$3,500 being raised at the auction with an additional \$2,500 was raised through sponsorship for the riders, a great effort by all involved.

The Toyota Tour De OROC hope to raise around \$100,000 this year to contribute to the Macquarie Homestay Facility. This facility will benefit all in the region.

As part of the additional Roads to Recovery funding Council received in 2015/2016 it was resolved to undertake an upgrade of the gravel roads around Bourke. The upgrades include resheeting the River Road, Parkdale Road, Polygonum Swamp Road, Weir Road and Long Meadows Road. This work is currently being undertaken by Council's Road Crews.

The "Garage Sale Trail" is fast approaching and is all set for Saturday, 24th October. Bourke Shire Council urges all local businesses, community groups and residences to jump online and register your garage sale. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of this new incentive to de-clutter your place of any unwanted treasures. Anyone not registering for a garage sale should visit the "Garage Sale Trail" website (www.garagesaletrail.com.au) the morning of Saturday, 24th of October to see where and who is holding a garage sale.

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In the lead up to the day Bourke Shire Council will be undertaking a targeted removal programme and looking at some of the Graffiti on its own property.

Graffiti is a blight on the landscape and everyone should do their bit in its removal. Of course it would be much easier for the whole community would cease with this ongoing mindless sort of vandalism.

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The Waste Management Facility will be operating as normal.

A reminder that nominations for the 2016 Australia Day awards are open and can be lodged at Councils Offices. It is important that we recognise those persons who assist our communities in so many ways and I encourage everyone to think about nominating someone for the awards especially those quiet achievers.

The Louth celebrations for the sesqui centenary of the village are planned for the 31st October 2015. It should be a good weekend for the village and no doubt many ex-residents and those with ties to the community will take the opportunity to participate in the celebrations.

The coordination committee have a Facebook page and further information is available from that source.

The Mayor Councillor Andrew Lewis has accepted an invitation from the Australian Women's Pilots Association to represent Council at a function to mark the 100th birthday of Nancy-Bird Walton AO, OBE, DS&J, Aviation Pioneer and founder of the Australian Women Pilots' Association (AWPA) to be held Friday, 16th October 2015 at 7.00pm at Pyrmont. Nancy –Bird is Australia's most famous aviatrix and the Terminal at Bourke Airport is named in her honour.

Congratulations to the Bourke and District garden Club on the conduct of yet another successful Rose and Spring Collection Show on the weekend. When you drive around Bourke there are some magnificent examples of roses and they certainly add a lot of colour to the gardens and streetscape.

With the hot weather now upon us there is an increased risk of fire so all residents are asked to particularly cautious when undertaking activities that could lead to fire and this include the slashing of dry areas and the use of power tools in the open. If you need to undertake such work ensure that you have an adequate firefighting resources available.

While members of the Local Rural Fire Service are well equipped to handle emergency situations many such situations could be avoided if people took a little more care and properly prepared.

With conditions becoming more conducive to the spread of fire, people need to be extremely careful when using fire.

In times of total fire bans it is critical that the directions relating to these are obeyed. These include:-

- Anybody wishing to light a fire on their property during the Bush Fire Danger Period will require a permit from their brigade permit officer or Fire Control Centre.
- Even with a permit you need to check whether a Total Fire Ban is in place before lighting any fires.
- Have a Bush Fire Survival Plan, so all members of the household know what to do on days of increased fire danger, and if their home is threatened by fire.
- Residents should also continue with their hazard reduction activities.
- Residents also need to ask whether they need a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate.
- Never leave a fire unattended and if a fire does escape, it is essential to call Triple Zero (000) immediately so that emergency services can respond accordingly and minimise the damage.

We have all seen the devastation that bushfires can bring to a community, so you are strongly urged to contact your local brigades and use their expertise to assist in carrying out safe hazard reductions.

For more information contact Bourke Fire Control Centre on 02 68724 023 or visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

While speaking of the Rural Fire Service (RFS) I would like acknowledge the efforts of all the RFS volunteers and the volunteers from the State Emergency Services (SES) who provided a dedicated service in protected our community and in assisting in many dangerous situations in all sorts of weather conditions. The work they do in responding to such emergencies is well documented but what is not as well- known is the additional hours these volunteers put in in training to ensure they are properly equipped to handle all those situations

Quote of the Week!

“Laugh when you can, it is cheap medicine” - Lord Byron

22nd October 2015

The much anticipated release of the IPART assessment of the New South Wales Council Fit for the Future Proposals occurred on Tuesday with all Mayors invited to a “webinar” prior to the public release of the document.

IPART assessed the proposals against the following criteria:-

- Scale and Capacity
- Financial Criteria
 - Financial sustainability
 - Infrastructure and service management
 - Efficiency

IPART received 38 proposals from metropolitan Councils and of those proposals (9) were deemed as fit and the remaining 29 deemed to be unfit. In the rural areas 101 proposals were received including 20 rural Council proposals and of these only 43 proposals were assessed as fit for the future.

The Councils who were involved in the “Fit for the Future “ process will now each receive a letter from the Department of Premier and Cabinet detailing the courses of action open to them and they have 30 days to respond.

Bourke Shire Council has been earmarked for membership of the Far Western Initiative and as a result did not participate in the “Fit for the Future” process and will be working with the Far Western Initiative Advisory Committee to develop a new model for this part of the state.

The full reports can be accessed at www.ipart.nsw.gov.au

The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis, Cr Cec Dorrington and I attended the Annual Conference of Local Government New South Wales last week and as was expected the addresses by the Premier, the Hon Mike Baird, MP and the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Paul Toole MP focussed on the current Local Government reform process and it was made very clear that change was in the wind.

Both the Premier and Minister fielded a number of questions from the floor in relation to the process and the indicative timeframes. The Minister indicated that by Christmas this year each Council should be aware of the direction they should be taking in the future.

Whilst in Sydney Mayor, Cr Lewis and I also attended the inaugural meeting of the Far Western Initiative Advisory Committee on Wednesday, 14th October with Cr Lewis being the delegate and I was able to attend as an observer. There is a considerable amount of work still to be undertaken in the establishment of the Far West Initiative which aims to deliver a new governance and service delivery model to apply across all levels of government to secure better outcomes for local communities.

The election for Officer Bearers for Local Government New South Wales took place in conjunction with the Annual Conference and the following persons were elected

President, Councillor Keith Rhoades, Councillor Coffs Harbour City Council
Vice President (Metro) Councillor Bill Pickering Ryde Council
Vice President (Rural/Regional) Councillor Greg Mathews Dubbo City Council
Treasurer Councillor Scott Bennison

Directors (Rural/Regional)

8. Councillor Denise Osborne Greater Hume Shire Council
9. Councillor Lindsay Brown Eurobodalla Shire Council
10. Councillor Phyllis Miller Forbes Shire Council
11. Councillor Darriea Turley Broken Hill City Council
12. Councillor Mark Troy Bellingen Shire Council
13. Councillor Ben Shields Dubbo City Council
14. Councillor Ruth Fagan Cowra Shire

Directors (Metropolitan)

8. Councillor George Glinatis Botany Bay Council
9. Councillor Mazhar Hadid Liverpool City Council
10. Councillor Julie Hegarty Pittwater Council
11. Councillor Leo Kelly Blacktown City Council
12. Councillor Yvonne Keane The Hills Shire Council
13. Councillor Paul Hawker Campbelltown City Council
14. Councillor Linda Scott The City of Sydney

The next twelve months could be a busy period for Local Government and those elected will have the responsibility to ensure that Local Government remains an effective and strong third tier of Government.

The current dry weather is making things extremely difficult for road maintenance activities and consideration is being given to suspending the grading program until there is sufficient moisture in the soil.

Work is continuing at the moment on rural Local road (RLR) 27 which is the Burrawantie Road and RLR 26 which is the Mascot Road and these should be finished this week.

Work has also been undertaken on RLR 13 which is Landsdowne Road.

Work will commence shortly on the preparatory work for the resealing works on the State Highways which is scheduled for early December.

The Garage Sale Trail is on this Saturday, 24th October. Bourke Shire Council urges all local businesses, community groups and residences to jump online and register your garage sale. This is a great opportunity to take advantage of this new initiative to de-clutter your place of any unwanted treasures. You can find out the locations of Garage Sales or register your own sale at www.garagesaletrail.com.au

The Annual Graffiti Removal Day was held last weekend, attracting a good response, Phil Johnston who acted as the coordinator was very pleased with the level of participation and amount of graffiti removed.

The materials used for the graffiti removal Day are donated by generous companies and locally Wood Bros Mitre 10 was responsible for the receipt and distribution of the goods. A big thank you to all those persons who helped in any way.

The Bourke Shire Council Staff Union Picnic Day will be held on Friday, 30th October 2015 and all Council offices and the Library will be closed on that day. Council will have staff on call for any emergency situation that may arise and can be accessed by calling 0419 722 055.

The Waste Management Facility will be operating as normal.

A reminder that nominations for the 2016 Australia Day Awards are open and can be lodged at Councils Offices. It is important that we recognise those persons who assist our communities in so many ways and I encourage everyone to think about nominating someone for the awards especially those quiet achievers.

The Louth celebrations for the sesqui centenary of the village are only a little over a week away and will be held on 31st October 2015. It should be a good weekend for the village and no doubt many ex-residents and those with ties to the community will take the opportunity to participate in the celebrations.

The news that tenders will be shortly called for the establishment of a Regular Passenger Service (RPT) for Bourke was very welcome and is a project that Council has supported for a long while. The service will link Walgett, Bourke and Dubbo and will be a great boost for all sections of the community. With the air service out of Dubbo now linking Dubbo with Brisbane and Melbourne the access to Bourke to the whole eastern section of Australia will be easier and will have a very positive impact on tourism.

The press release in relation to the calling for tenders indicates that the NSW Governments current and future travel demands between the three centres will provide a seat guarantee, supporting the services over the next four years and assisting in providing stability during the start -up phase.

Council's October meeting will be held this Monday, 26th October 2016 and will commence as normal at 9.00am.

During the meeting a naturalisation ceremony will take place for well-known radio announcer David Sharp from 2WEB. Friends of David are able to attend the ceremony which is scheduled for 10.30 am

The Mayor, Cr Andrew Lewis and Manager of Tourism and Economic Development, Phil Johnston will travel to Griffith on Tuesday, 27th October to give evidence to the Senate Select Committee on the Murray Darling Basin Plan. The Inquiry will look at both the positive and negative impacts of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and associated Commonwealth programs on regional communities.

Bourke Shire Council has for a number of years used every opportunity to highlight the detrimental economic impact on Bourke Shire as a result of the Murray- Darling Basin Plan and will be utilising its time before the senate inquiry to again highlight the impact.

Bourke Shire Council has been advised that they are a finalist in the 2015 Local Government New South Wales Excellence in the Environment Awards for the Community Sharps Management. Bourke Shire Council coordinated a regional initiative involving the installation of sharps disposal facilities in Bourke, the clean-up of contaminated areas as well as increasing the level of training locally. Council has been concerned at the potential hazards being created by the indiscriminate disposal of sharps and this concern developed into a regional leadership role.

The presentations will take place at Darling Harbour on the 1st December 2015.

Quote of the Week!

“Life was much easier when Apple and Blackberry were just fruits”

Ross Earl
General Manager

Resolution

402/2015 That the information in the General Manager’s Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 26th October 2015 be received and noted.			
Moved Cr Hollman	Seconded Cr Stutsel	Carried	Unstarred

CORPORATE SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	L4.1
Report: 410/2015	Library Report
Author:	Jodi Hatch, Library Manager
Responsible Officer:	Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Services

The following items for the months September 2015 are presented for your information:

Circulation statistics for September 2015:

Audio Visual	351
Adult Fiction	265
Non-Fiction	94
Junior Fiction	199
Magazines	63
Interlibrary Loans	
Total	972

During the same period in 2014, the figures were as follows:

Audio Visual	353
Adult Fiction	250
Non-Fiction	113
Junior Fiction	171
Magazines	87
Interlibrary Loans	3
Total	977

Other statistical information:

New Members	7
Internet/Word Processing	136
Wireless Tickets	5
Number of Visitors	2595
Scans	35
Information Requests	71
Technical Assistance	13
Faxes	18

During the same period in 2014, the figures were as follows:

New Members	9
Internet/Word Processing	138
Wireless Tickets	3
Number of Visitors	2790
Scans	6
Information Requests	74
Technical Assistance	5
Faxes	18

- Children's craft and story time this month had six (6) children attending.
- Koinonia School visited the library this month for a library tour.
- The library assisted 12 clients this month to create a MyGov account and complete their tax returns.

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

Jodie Hatch
Library Manager

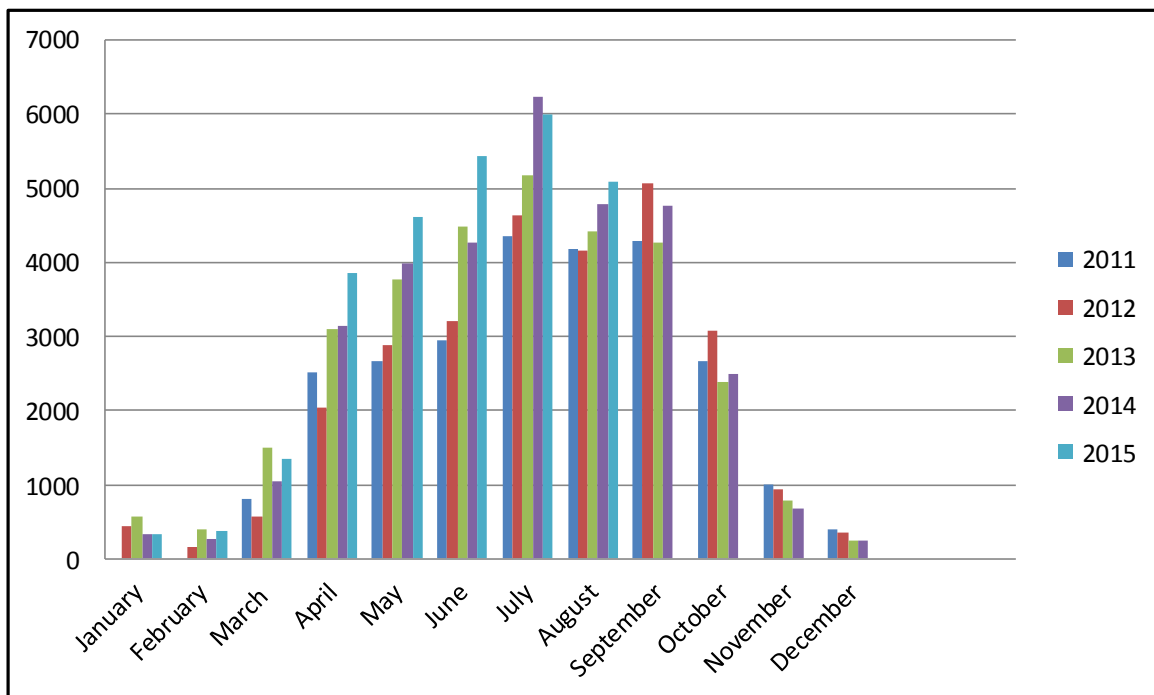
Resolution

403/2015 That Council note the information in the Corporate Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 26 th October 2015.			
Moved Cr Hollman	Seconded Cr Stutsel	Carried	Unstarred

TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File No:	T4.3
Report: 510/2015	BOBEC and VIC September 2015 Activity update
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston, Manager Tourism and Development

The main visitor season has finished on another strong note with excellent visitation to Bourke and the Shire attractions in September. The Exhibition Centre had its strongest month for visitation in September for the whole of 2015 and the Jandra also proved more popular than for the same time as last year. Overall the year has been a pleasing one with increases on the number of visitors to the area and on the number of bed-nights that they are staying.



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

Table showing number of visitors to the Tourist Centre by month

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January		448	560	325	326
February		157	397	271	373
March	810	570	1500	1051	1342
April	2507	2044	3103	3146	3849
May	2656	2891	3758	3988	4602
June	2952	3216	4492	4275	5437
July	4362	4643	5173	6241	6002
August	4187	4162	4410	4793	5078
September	4295	5074	4275	4764	4489
October	2674	3067	2383	2486	
November	1012	930	789	671	
December	386	347	254	242	

Visitation to Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre

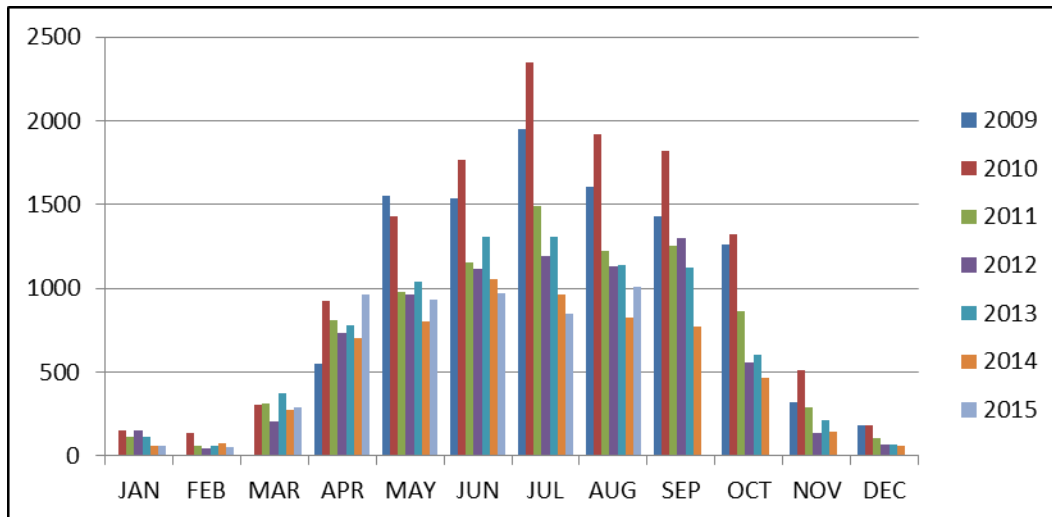


Table showing visitation to Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January		154	113	154	110	55	56
February		139	60	44	60	76	53
March		304	312	207	373	271	289
April	551	925	807	732	778	699	959
May	1551	1433	974	965	1042	801	931
June	1535	1769	1154	1114	1306	1053	971
July	1951	2345	1489	1193	1303	964	847
August	1607	1916	1225	1131	1141	822	1006
September	1433	1816	1251	1299	1120	770	1031
October	1259	1325	861	556	601	464	
November	320	512	292	136	212	143	
December	180	182	108	65	65	57	

Table showing visitation on board the PV Jandra

Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising
February	25	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising
March	213	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	64	290
April	Not Cruising	1008	519	442	980	1035
May	1325	932	1035	894	1123	917
June	1459	1241	1003	984	890	240
July	1578	1386	1238	1300	1059	1197
August	1165	1186	640	1194	1041	1212
September	1429	1411	1459	1215	900	1099
October	188	1085	760	830	631	
November	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	423	403	Not Cruising	
December	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	180	20	Not Cruising	
Total	7382	8249	7257	7282	6688	

The Tourism and Development Committee have also met in mid-October to discuss in greater depth the success and not so successful aspects of the tourism season and the initiatives undertaken by Bourke Shire Council.

As outlined at the Committee Meeting the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre will be participating in the summer time promotion with discounted ticketing in place. The promotion will last throughout the summer with any funds spent coming from Council's approved tourism marketing budget.

12.13am Cr Bartley left the room

12.15pm Cr Bartley return the room

Resolution

404/2015

1. That Council endorse the participation of the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre in the summer time promotional activities.
2. That Council note the information in the Tourism and Development Manager's Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday the 26th of October 2015.

Moved Cr Davis

Seconded Cr Stutsel

Carried

Phil Johnston
Manager of Tourism & Development

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

File No:	
Report: 116/2015	CONFIDENTIAL – Utility Requirements for Proposed Development for Bourke
Responsible Officer:	Peter Brown Manager Works

The subject report is proposed to be held in Closed Council under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Resolution

405/2015 That the report be considered in Closed Council under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Davis	Carried

File No:	A11.1.5 – V1.6
Report: 117/2015	Sale of Land at North Bourke - CONFIDENTIAL
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston, Manager of Tourism and Development

The subject report is proposed to be held in Closed Session under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Resolution

406/2015 The subject report is proposed to be held in Closed Session under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Davis	Carried

File No:	A11.1.5 – V1.6
Report: 118/2015	Industrial Estate Development - CONFIDENTIAL
Responsible Officer:	Phil Johnston, Manager of Tourism and Development

The subject report is proposed to be held in Closed Session under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Resolution

407/2015 The subject report is proposed to be held in Closed Session under Section 10A (2) (d) (i) of the Local Government Act, 1993 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.		
Moved Cr Dorrington	Seconded Cr Davis	Carried

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

Pursuant to section 10A (2) (d) (i), section 10A (2) (a), the public were invited to make representations to the Council Meeting before the meeting was closed, as to whether the meeting should be closed to consider the identified reports, those being report 116/2015 - **CONFIDENTIAL** – Utility Requirements for Proposed Development for Bourke, report 117/2015 - **CONFIDENTIAL** - Sale of Land at North Bourke and 118/2015 Industrial Estate Development - **CONFIDENTIAL**.

No members of the public made representation.

Resolution

408/2015

1. That Council move into Closed Council to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
2. That pursuant to section 10A (1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2) as outlined above
3. That the correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

Resolution

409/2015 That Council move out of Closed Council and into open Council.

Moved Cr Dorrington

Seconded Cr Davis

Carried

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL MEETING

The resolutions passed by Council while the meeting was closed to the public were read to the meeting by the Mayor and were as follows:-

Resolution – Report 116/2015 - Utility Requirements for Proposed Development for Bourke

410/2015 That Council continue to make representations to all appropriate Ministers for the funding required to provide an increased level of water security for the town of Bourke to assist in the development of the town and associated Industries.

Resolution– Report 117/2015 - Sale of Land at North Bourke

411/2015

That Council sell:

1. 6 Namoi St, North Bourke, Lot 6 section 14 DP 758781.
2. That Council delegates the General Manager to negotiate contract terms for the sale of 6 Namoi Street, North Bourke.
3. That Council authorise the fixing of the Council Seal to documentation relating to the sale of 6 Namoi Street, North Bourke.

Report 118/2015 – Industrial Estate Development

412/2015 That Council note the information received in relation to the proposal from Overland Sun Farming.

- The Mayor vacated the Chair at 12.09pm at the Deputy Mayor took the Chair
- Cr Bennett left the meeting 12.10pm
- The Mayor returned to the Chair at 12.10pm
- Cr Bennett returned to the meeting at 12.12pm

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Johnson – Enquired to the condition of the Hungerford Road.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.18pm.