



I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Monday, 23 October 2023
Time: 9.15am
Location: Bourke Shire Council
29 Mitchell Street Bourke NSW

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting

23 October 2023

Leonie Brown
General Manager

Time	Event	Representative	Organisation
9.00am	Community Open Forum for members of the public to address Council		
10.30am	Monthly Update	Inspector Pete Walton	Central North Police District



DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM COUNCIL OFFICIAL

FOR USE AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NAME OF COUNCIL OFFICIAL DECLARING INTEREST:
ACTION PROPOSED:
<p>Tick one box only:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, my interest is pecuniary, and I am therefore required to take the action specified in Part 4 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, my interest is non-pecuniary but significant. I am unable to remove the source of conflict. I am therefore required to treat the interest as if it were pecuniary and take the action specified in clause 5.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, my interest is non-pecuniary and less than significant. I therefore make this declaration as I am required to do pursuant to clause 5.11 of Council’s Code of Conduct. However, I intend to continue to be involved with the matter.</p>
COUNCIL OFFICIAL
<p>I, _____ (name of COUNCIL OFFICIAL) disclose the above interest and acknowledge that I will take appropriate action as I have indicated above.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p>
GENERAL MANAGER – required for all declarations:
<p>I have noted the above declaration and I note your opinion and/or the action you have proposed.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p>
DEFINE YOUR INTEREST:
<p>Is your interest:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary (see dealing with pecuniary interests)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non pecuniary (see dealing with non–pecuniary interests)</p>
MATTER IN WHICH YOU HAVE AN INTEREST: (Please provide full details, including item number on Council agenda)
NAME OF THE INTEREST:
<p>Be specific and include information such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The names of any person or organisation with which you have a relationship; - The nature of your relationship with the person or organisation; - The reason(s) why you consider the situation may (or may be perceived to) give rise to a conflict between your personal interests and your public duty as a COUNCIL OFFICIAL .

<p>MANAGING LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</p> <p>Clause 5.11 of Council’s Code of Conduct provides that if you determine that a non-pecuniary conflict of interest is less than significant and does not require further action, you must provide an explanation of why you consider that conflict does not require further action in the circumstances.</p>
<p>IS YOUR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT?</p> <p>If you are of the view that your non-pecuniary interest is less than significant, please provide your explanation directly below (only complete if you are claiming that your non-pecuniary interest is less than significant).</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>DEFINITIONS:</p> <p>A PECUNIARY INTEREST is an interest that a designated person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person (see Part 4 of Council’s Code of Conduct).</p> <p>A NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST is a private or personal interest that does not amount to pecuniary interest as defined by Part 5 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p>
<p>MANAGING PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</p> <p>Part 4.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct requires designated persons to declare in writing to the General Manager the nature of a pecuniary interest the person has in any Council matters, as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the interest.</p>
<p>MANAGING SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</p> <p>Clause 5.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct provides that you must manage a significant non-pecuniary interest by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a council or committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.28 and 4.29 of the Code.</p>
<p>MANAGING NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</p> <p>Clause 5.8 of Council’s Code of Conduct states that how you manage a non-pecuniary interest will depend on whether or not it is significant. Clause 5.9 of Council’s Code of Conduct states that, as a general rule, a non-pecuniary conflict of interests will be significant where a matter does not raise a pecuniary interest but involves:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a relationship between a council official and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative for the purposes of clause 4.4 of the Code or another person from the council official’s extended family that the council official has a close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household; b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship; c) an affiliation between the council official and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a council official’s affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation; d) membership, as the council’s representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of the council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter; e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6 of the Code) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1of the Code; f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.

Statement of ethical obligations

In accordance with Councils adopted Code of Meeting Practice (Clause 3.23), Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under section 233A of the Local Government Act and their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

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- 1 OPENING PRAYER**
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- 3 REMEMBRANCE**
- 4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 5 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS**
- 6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORAL ACTIVITY

File Number: M2.1
Author: Barry Hollman, Mayor
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

The Activity of the Mayor from 21 September 2023 to 21 October 2023 was as follows:

Date	Meeting	Location
25/09/2023	Bourke Shire Council Meeting	Council Chambers
27-28/09/2023	Murray Darling Association National Conference	Murray Bridge, SA
05/10/2023	Murray Darling Basin Plan - Back Bench Committee Meeting	Social Co House, Moree
09/10/2023	General Manager Review	Conference Room
10/10/2023	Western Region Planning Panel Meeting	Conference Room via AV Link
14/10/2023	Back O' Bourke Stampede	Renshaw Sporting Complex
21/10/2023	Rose and Spring Flower Garden Show	Renshaw Sporting Complex

Recommendation

That the Mayoral Minute regarding Mayoral Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

7.2 * MAYORAL MINUTE - CROSS BORDER MOU - BULLOO SHIRE**

File Number: C6.7, T4.1, A3.23
Author: Barry Hollman, Mayor
Authoriser: Barry Hollman, Mayor
Attachments: 1. Draft MOU with Bourke Shire Council

Background

In November 2016 I attended a meeting with the Mayor of Bulloo Shire in Queensland, Clr John "Tractor" Ferguson at Bulloo. Following discussions, it was agreed that the Councils should not let the state border be an impediment to both Councils working closely together. It was determined that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) be developed and executed between the Councils and that tourism promotional activities be an ideal first project to be undertaken, again between the Councils.

The initial MoU between the two (2) Councils, was subsequently executed on Monday, 21 August 2017.

Current Situation

Bourke Shire Council joined the Border Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) in August 2023. The members of the BROC are Gwydir Shire, Inverell Shire, Moree Plains Shire, Tenterfield Shire, Walgett Shire, Brewarrina Shire, Goondiwindi Regional, Balonne Shire, Southern Downs Regional, Bulloo Shire, Paroo Shire and Bourke Shire Councils.

Prior to Council joining, the BROC meeting held in St George on 19 May 2023 had resolved:

That neighbouring QLD/NSW Councils be encouraged to explore and investigate Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) for Cross Border Collaborative Working Arrangements, noting alignment with but not limited to the seven (7) BROC Areas of Strategic Importance (BASI).

Following this meeting, a template MoU was prepared for use between adjoining Councils. A copy of this draft is attached. The draft MoU establishes the collaborative arrangements approach between QLD Shire Councils and NSW Shire Councils and has been developed to advance the following objectives:

1. A commitment to working collaboratively to achieve outcomes for the betterment of both Shires (shire-wide)
2. Seek to promote efficient and effective service delivery of 'Border communities'.
3. Develop a shared advocacy on the BROC Areas of Strategic Importance'(BASI).

The BROC Strategic Priority Areas (SPA) are:

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
 - Industry

- Digital Connectivity
 - Tourism
2. LIVEABILITY
- Health
 - Housing
 - Education
 - Policing/Crime Prevention
3. INFRASTRUCTURE
- Road Network
 - Transport
 - Water Security, Urban and Waste Water
4. DISASTER MANAGEMENT
- Agency Coordination
 - Biosecurity

Adjoining Councils have been encouraged to use the template as a starting point and the basis of developing an MoU with their neighbouring Cross Border Council/s. Details can be added/amended/removed as agreed by the parties.

It is envisaged that neighbouring Cross Border Councils will progress their MoU's to the point whereby a group signing can take place at the BROCC meeting scheduled for Tenterfield on 10 November 2023.

In the case of Bourke Shire, the adjoining Queensland Councils are Bulloo Shire and the Paroo Shire. It would be proposed that Bourke Council enter separate MoU's with both these Shires, noting that the previously executed memorandum between Bourke and Bulloo shires would be superseded.

Financial Implications

Cost associated with the attendance at BROCC meeting and working collectively with neighbouring Council is included in the current budget allocations.

Recommendation

- 1. That Council advise the Border Region Organisation of Councils (BROC), Bulloo Shire Council and Paroo Shire Council that it supports the Cross Border initiatives.**
- 2. That Council agree to entering into separate Memorandums of Understanding with Bulloo Shire Council and Paroo Shire Council, generally based on the draft MoU as provided by BROC.**
- 3. That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to take the necessary action to negotiate, finalise and enter into separate Memorandums of Understanding with Bulloo Shire Council and Paroo Shire Council.**

[QLD Shire Council]

[insert logo]

and

[NSW Shire Council]

[insert logo]

Memorandum of Understanding

**Cross Border
Collaborative Working Arrangement**

[insert date]

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DRAFT

1. Introduction

This MoU document seeks to formalise the shared vision of a commitment to working together for the betterment of the border region local government areas of XXXX Shire Council and XXXX Shire Council.

This document also seeks to support the objectives and outcomes contained in the 2016 - 19 Statement of Principles and Priorities for Cross-border Collaboration between the Queensland and New South Wales governments¹.

This MoU has been developed to advance the following objectives:

- i. A commitment to working collaboratively to achieve outcomes for the betterment of both Shires (shire-wide);
- ii. Seek to promote efficient and effective service delivery of 'Border communities';
- iii. Develop a shared advocacy on the BROCC 'Strategic Priority Areas' (SPA).

The BROCC Strategic Priority Areas (SPA):

- 1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
 - Industry
 - Digital Connectivity
 - Tourism
- 2 LIVEABILITY
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Education
 - Policing/Crime Prevention
- 3 INFRASTRUCTURE
 - Road Network
 - Transport
 - Water Security, Urban & Waste Water
- 4 DISASTER MANAGEMENT
 - Agency Coordination
 - Biosecurity

¹ <https://www.premiers.qld.gov.au/about-us/what-we-do/assets/qld-nsw-mou-2016-2019.pdf>

2. Background

Both QLD and NSW Councils have a limited history of working collaboratively on various joint projects across their Shire footprints, however this document signals a heightened commitment from the parties to strengthen the linkages that exist between border communities.

3. Purpose

3.1 This MoU establishes the collaborative working arrangements approach between XXXX Shire Council and XXXX Shire Council. It builds on the Parties existing commitment to working collaboratively for the betterment of both Shires and recognises the history of shared responsibility and the importance of a continued strong partnership.

3.2 This MoU sets out the framework for both Parties.

3.3 Both Parties seek from this MoU:

- i. **Collaboration:** a collaborative approach to delivering agreed projects and services.
- ii. **Cooperative partnership:** an understanding of the roles, responsibilities and obligations of the Parties.
- iii. **Service delivery:** sharing services to strengthen community capability.
- iv. **Value for money:** the cost-effective use of resources devoted to the management and support of projects and activities.
- v. **Accountability:** integrated decision-making with clearly defined roles and responsibilities
- vi. **Efficiency:** avoid duplication and conflict between the provision of services.
- vii. **Transparency:** information sharing in relation to agreed projects and activities.

3.4 Any prior obligation, whether financial or otherwise, of either Party, shall continue in the same manner as was the case prior to this MoU. This MoU does not create any additional financial commitment on the parties. Furthermore, it is acknowledged that each party shall continue to prioritise their own communities.

3.5 This MoU does not constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable obligations on the part of either Party.

3.6 The Parties are expected to always act in good faith during the term of this MoU.

4. Commencement and Duration

The MoU will commence the date both Parties have signed and remain valid for a period of 3 years.

5. Collaborative Working Arrangement – Strategic Priority Areas (SAP) - Activities

[XXXXX Shire Council] and [XXXXX Shire Council] agree to the following activities forming the basis of this MoU:

5.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

- Industry
- Digital Connectivity
- Tourism

Both XXXXX Shire Council and XXXX Shire Council agree to:

- i. Work together to examine economic development & tourism needs of residents and determine if there are any service gaps in the border communities;
- ii. Develop a joint advocacy position on strategies to address these identified services gaps;
- iii. Consider and if appropriate support industry proposals that seek to enhance the economic outcomes of the border region;
- iv. Jointly apply for or support each other parties' applications for grants to deliver economic outcomes for the border region's communities.

5.2 LIVEABILITY

- Health
- Housing
- Education
- Policing/Crime Prevention

Both XXXX Shire Council and XXXXX Shire Council agree to:

- i. Work together to examine the liveability needs of residents and determine if there are any service gaps in the border communities;
- ii. Develop a joint advocacy position on improved delivery of services in the border communities.

5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE

- Road Network
- Transport
- Water Security, Urban & Waste Water

Both XXXXX Shire Council and XXXXX Shire Council agree to:

- i. Examine opportunities to utilise shared contract arrangements for the efficient and effective delivery of services to the border communities;
- ii. Review service delivery including general maintenance and procurement to gain efficiencies and cost savings in the border regions; and
- iii. Advocate together on behalf of the region with respect to the proposed long-term program of infrastructure upgrade works.

5.4 DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- Agency Coordination
- Biosecurity

Both XXXX Shire Council and XXXX Shire Council agree to:

- i. Work together to respond and recover from disaster events;
- ii. Proactively work together to inform the travelling public of road closures due to disaster events;
- iii. Share and disseminate emergency information during response and recovery phases;
- iv. Participate in Local Disaster Management Group meetings;
- v. Advocate for Cross Border Disaster Management Framework; and
- vi. Develop a joint advocacy position on any identified services gaps.

6. Intellectual Property

6.1 Unless expressly provided, nothing in this MoU has the effect of transferring any intellectual property owned or created by either Party, to the other Party.

7. Confidential Information

7.1 The Parties agree unless expressly authorised in writing by the other Party or required by law, confidential information will not be disclosed to any third party.

7.2 The Parties understand they are bound by privacy laws applicable to them in their respective jurisdictions.

8. Costs

8.1 The Parties agree expenses associated with the implementation of this MoU and compliance with any legislative requirements remains the responsibility of each Party.

8.2 Should costs be incurred that are otherwise not considered by this MoU or the legislative provisions the responsibility for these costs will be subject to negotiation between the Parties.

9. Review and Variation

9.1 The MoU may be varied by agreement between the Parties in writing.

9.2 It will be sufficient evidence of any agreement to vary a schedule to the MoU if the Parties execute and date a document purporting to be a substitute schedule.

9.3 The Parties agree to review the content of the MoU 12 months from the commencement date, and thereafter annually on the anniversary of the initial review, or at such other time as may be agreed by the Parties.

10. Termination

10.1 Either party may, at any time, withdraw from this MoU without legal consequence by providing 30 days written notice to the other party.

11. Definitions

Word or phrase	Definition
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
SPA	Strategic Priority Areas

12. Signatures

Signed by the Parties on the dates set out below:

SIGNED for XXXXX Shire Council by its duly authorised representative, in the presence of:

Signature of representative	Signature of witness
Name of representative (BLOCK LETTERS)	Name of witness (BLOCK LETTERS)
Date signed	

SIGNED for XXXX Shire Council by its duly authorised representative, in the presence of:

Signature of representative	Signature of witness
Name of representative (BLOCK LETTERS)	Name of witness (BLOCK LETTERS)
Date signed	

8 STARRING OF ITEMS

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting - 25 September 2023



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

25 September 2023

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**MINUTES OF SHIRE OF BOURKE
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL, 29 MITCHELL STREET BOURKE NSW
ON MONDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 9.15AM**

PRESENT: Cr Barry Hollman (Mayor), Cr Victor Bartley, Cr Sarah Barton (via AV Link), Cr Sally Davis, Cr Cec Dorrington, Cr Lachlan Ford (Deputy Mayor – via AV Link), Cr Sam Rice, Cr Grace Ridge (via AV Link), Cr Nathan Ryan, Cr Robert Stutsel (via AV Link)

IN ATTENDANCE: Leonie Brown (General Manager), Peter Brown (Manager Works), Carolyn Crain (Acting Manager Environmental Services), Paul Flanagan (Manager Roads Services), Melanie Milgate (Economic Development Manager), Ang Pasang Rai (Manager Corporate Services), Margo Anderson (Executive Assistant - Minutes)

1 OPENING PRAYER

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor then provided an Acknowledgment of Country

3 REMEMBRANCE

Council stood in silence in the memory of the following recently deceased:

Helen Bowden	Sheree Bowden	Cecil “Shorty” Collis
Margaret Gadsby	Fiona Gaffney	Margaret Gaiter
Kenny Graham	Vicki Graham	Harold Hunt
Chris Johnson	Val McLennan	William “Panther” Nean
Cookie Sullivan-Rose		

4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

Requests to attend the meeting via Audio Visual Link were received from Cr Sarah Barton, Cr Lachlan Ford, Cr Grace Ridge and Cr Robert Stutsel who were unable to attend the meeting due to personal reasons.

Resolution 2023/192

Moved: Cr Sally Davis

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That Cr Sarah Barton, Cr Lachlan Ford, Cr Ridge and Cr Robert Stutsel be permitted to attend the meeting via Audio-Visual link given their inability to attend in person due to personal reasons.

Carried

6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Sarah Barton declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 13.3 of the Agenda - Business Arising, Proposed Projects Under Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LR&CIP). The reason for such interest is that Cr Barton is the Secretary for the Back O' Bourke Picnic Race Club who make use of the Renshaw Sporting Complex and facilities, a potential project as listed in the report. In making this declaration, Cr Barton advised that she would turn off her AV link and be out of sight should Council consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the Agenda.

Cr Victor Bartley declared a pecuniary interest in Item 13.3 of the agenda – Proposed Sale of Land to Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service. The reason for such interest is that Cr Bartley is a Director on the Board of Management for the Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service. In making this declaration, Cr Bartley advised he would leave the Chamber and be out of sight should Council's separately consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the agenda.

Cr Sally Davis declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 13.3 of the agenda – Business Arising, North Bourke Storm Water Drainage. The reason for such interest is that Cr Davis and her husband own land adjacent to the land the subject of the reports and is in discussion with Council regarding a potential sale of a portion of such land. In addition, she has a friendship with the landowner (Mr G Seiler). In making this declaration, Cr Davis advised she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the agenda.

Cr Grace Ridge declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 13.3 of the Agenda – Business Arising, North Bourke Storm Water Drainage. The reason for such interest is that Cr Ridge and her family have a business relationship with the owner of the land detailed within the report. In making this declaration, Cr Ridge advised that she would turn off her AV Link and be out of sight should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the Agenda.

Cr Grace Ridge declared a significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 13.3 of the Agenda - Business Arising, Proposed Projects Under Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LR&CIP). The reason for such interest is that Cr Ridge is the Secretary for the Bourke P & A Show Committee who make use of the Renshaw Sporting Complex and facilities, a potential

project listed in the report. In making this declaration, Cr Ridge advised that she would turn off her AV Link and be out of sight should Council consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the Agenda.

Cr Nathan Ryan declared a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 13.3 of the Agenda – Business Arising, Proposed Sale of Land to Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service. The reason for such interest is that Cr Ryan is a contractor to the Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service providing yard and property maintenance to Doctor's houses. In making this declaration Cr Ryan advised that he would remain in the Chamber but would not contribute should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 13.3 of the Agenda.

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORAL ACTIVITIES

File Number: M2.1

The Council had before it the report of the Mayor regarding the Mayoral Minute - Mayoral Activities.

Resolution 2023/193

Moved: Cr Barry Hollman

That the information in the Mayoral Minute – Mayoral Activities Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

8 MAYORAL ELECTION

8.1 * ELECTION OF MAYOR**

File Number: C11.5

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Election of Mayor.

Resolution 2023/194

Moved: Cr Sarah Barton

Seconded: Cr Cec Dorrington

- 1. That should an election be required for the Office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor that Council determine the method of voting.**
- 2. That it be noted that the Mayoral Term for the upcoming period is from 25 September 2023 till it automatically expires on 14 September 2024, when the term of all Bourke Shire Councillors also expires, being the day of the 2024 Council elections.**
- 3. That on the finalisation of the count all ballot papers, if applicable, be destroyed.**

Carried

At this juncture, Cr Hollman relinquished the Chairmanship of the meeting for the purpose of the election for the position of the Office of Mayor to be conducted.

The General Manager, as Returning Officer, conducted the election for the position of the Office of Mayor.

On declaring nominations for the position closed, in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Returning Officer advised that one (1) nomination for the position had been received, that being for Cr Barry Hollman. Cr Hollman was nominated by Cr Rice and Cr Hollman. Cr Hollman formally accepted the nomination.

Accordingly, the General Manager as Returning Officer declared Councillor Barry Hollman duly elected to the Office of Mayor of Bourke Shire Council for the Mayoral term.

Cr Hollman resumed Chairmanship of the meeting.

8.2 * ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

File Number: C11.6

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Election of Deputy Mayor.

Resolution 2023/195

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

- 1. That Council proceed to create the Office of Deputy Mayor, Bourke Shire Council and elect a Deputy Mayor.**
- 2. That the period for which the Deputy Mayor is to be elected is the Mayoral Term.**
- 3. That all ballot papers be destroyed following the declaration of the Office of Deputy Mayor, if applicable.**

Carried

The General Manager, as Returning Officer, conducted the election for the position of the Office of Deputy Mayor.

On declaring nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor closed, in accordance with Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Returning Officer advised that one (1) nomination for the position had been received, that being for Cr Lachlan Ford. Cr Lachlan Ford was nominated by Cr Barton and Cr Rice. Cr Ford formally accepted the nomination.

Accordingly, the General Manager as Returning Officer declared Councillor Lachlan Ford duly elected to the Office of Deputy Mayor of Bourke Shire Council for the Mayoral term.

8.3 *** DETERMINATION OF MEETING TIME AND SCHEDULE

File Number: C12.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Determination of Meeting Time and Schedule.

Resolution 2023/196

Moved: Cr Sam Rice

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

1. That Council's scheduled meeting day be generally the fourth Monday of each month, as set out in the report of the General Manager for the period October 2023 up to and including 14 September 2024, being the date of the General Local Government Elections in NSW, with meetings commencing at 9.15 am with a Public Forum being held from 9.00am till 9.15am, as required, on the day of the Council meeting.
2. That public notice be given in relation to the proposed meeting schedule in accordance with Councils Code of Meeting Practice.

Carried

8.4 *** COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS

File Number: C6.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Composition of Council Committees and Appointment of Delegates to Other Organisations.

Resolution 2023/197

Moved: Cr Sally Davis

Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton

1. That Council no longer form its four (4) standing Committees (being the Roads and Plant Committee, Corporate Planning Committee, Town and Village Committee and the Tourism and Economic Development Committee).
2. That Council adopt the General Managers Performance Review Committee as its only Internal Committee, as provided for in the listing attached to the report of the General Manager.
3. That Council maintain involvement in, and be represented on, the various Local Government Organisations, Inter Government Liaison Groups, Community Liaison Groups and Regional Advisory Groups as provided for in the listing attached to the report of the General Manager.
4. That the Delegates to outside organisations be notified to those organisations together with appropriate contact details.

Carried

8.5 * DELEGATIONS TO THE MAYOR**

File Number: A3.8

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Delegations to the Mayor.

Resolution 2023/198

Moved: Cr Sam Rice

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

- 1. That Policy No 1.5.1 (v11) being Mayoral Delegations be adopted.**
- 2. That Council delegates to the Mayor, the delegations as detailed in Policy document numbered 1.5.1(v11).**

Carried

8.6 * DELEGATIONS TO THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

File Number: A3.8

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Delegations to the Deputy Mayor.

Resolution 2023/199

Moved: Cr Sam Rice

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

- 1. That Policy No 1.5.2 (v11) being the Deputy Mayor Delegations be adopted.**
- 2. That Council delegates to the Deputy Mayor, the delegations as detailed in Policy document numbered 1.5.2(v11).**

Carried

9 STARRING OF ITEMS

Council's Code of Meeting Practice provides that Council may at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda by way of a single resolution.

In this regard the Council had before it a list of reports, unstarred, with such items proposed to be adopted by Council in a single resolution.

Resolution 2023/200

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the the recommendations as detailed in the un-starred items as contained in the agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday, 25 September 2023 be adopted.

Carried

10 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution 2023/201

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 August 2023 be taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the General Manger.

Carried

11 RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

13 BUSINESS ARISING

13.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

File Number: C12.6

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Calendar of Events.

Resolution 2023/202

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the Calendar of Events Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

13.2 INFORMATION TO COUNCILLORS

File Number: C12.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Information to Councillors.

Resolution 2023/203

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the contents of the Information to Councillors Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

13.3 *** BUSINESS ARISING

File Number: C12.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Business Arising.

Resolution 2023/204

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the Business Arising Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

14 ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

14.1 *** RETENTION OF GARBAGE TRUCK

File Number: T3.1, T3.2

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Roads regarding the Retention of Garbage Truck.

Resolution 2023/205

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

- 1. That plant number 218, being a Hino McDonald Johnson Garbage Compactor, be retained by Council as a backup vehicle for Councils garbage collection operations or utilised for hire to other entities for garbage collection services.**
- 2. That the General Manager be authorised to take the necessary action in selling this piece of plant in the future, as appropriate.**

Carried

15 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Nil

16 GENERAL MANAGER

16.1 *** COUNCILLOR NUMBERS

File Number: C11.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Councillor Numbers.

Resolution 2023/206

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That as per Section 224 (2) of the Local Government Act, Council in determining its number of Councillors, maintain the status quo and retain its councillor numbers at 10 (one of whom is the Mayor).

Carried

17 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

17.1 *** BANK RECONCILIATION AND STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES - AUGUST 2023

File Number: F1.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Bank Reconciliation and Statement of Bank Balances - August 2023.

Resolution 2023/207

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31 August 2023 be noted.

Carried

17.2 * INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**

File Number: F1.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Investment Portfolio as at 31 August 2023.

Resolution 2023/208

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio 31 August 2023 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted.**

Carried

17.3 * FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANT 2023/2024**

File Number: F1.4.6

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Financial Assistance Grant 2023/2024.

Resolution 2023/209

Moved: Cr Victor Bartley

Seconded: Cr Sally Davis

- 1. That Council notes the report detailing the Financial Assistance Grants recommended allocation for 2023/2024.**
- 2. That the additional funds received, estimated to be \$1,277,260, be transferred to Council's Asset Renewal Reserve.**

Carried

17.4 PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE POLICY

File Number: 2571

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Public Interest Disclosure Policy.

Resolution 2023/210

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

- 1. That Councils Public Interest Disclosure Policy (v4) dated 23 July 2018 be rescinded.**
- 2. That the Public Interest Disclosure Policy dated 25 September 2023 (v5) developed as per the requirements of the Public Interest Disclosures (PID) Act 2022 be adopted and be effective as at 1 October 2023.**

Carried

18 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Nil

19 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Nil

20 POLICIES

Nil

21 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

22 ACTIVITY REPORTS

22.1 ACTIVITY REPORT - ENGINEERING SERVICES ROAD WORKS & WORKSHOP - WORKS COMPLETED

File Number: E7.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Roads regarding the Engineering Services Road Works and Workshop - Works Completed.

Resolution 2023/211

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That Council note the information in the Engineering Services Department Road Works and Workshop – Works Undertaken Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023.

Carried

22.2 ACTIVITY REPORT - PARKS & GARDENS / TOWN SERVICES / WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: E7.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Works regarding the Parks and Gardens / Town Services / Water and Wastewater Engineering Services Activity.

Resolution 2023/212

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That Council note the information in the Parks and Gardens, Town Services and Water and Wastewater Engineering Services Department Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023.

Carried

22.3 ACTIVITY REPORT - PLANNING, REGULATORY & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

File Number: D3.1, A11.1, A8.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding the Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services Activity.

Resolution 2023/213

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25th September 2023 be received and noted.

Carried

22.4 ACTIVITY REPORT - GENERAL MANAGER

File Number: G2.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the General Manager's Activity.

Resolution 2023/214

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the General Manager's Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

22.5 TOURISM AND EVENTS REPORT

File Number: T4.3

The Council had before it the report of the Coordinator Tourism Operations regarding Tourism and Events Activity.

Resolution 2023/215

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the Tourism and Events Report for August 2023 as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

22.6 LIBRARY MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT FOR AUGUST 2023

File Number: L4.1

The Council had before it the report of the Library Manager regarding the Library's Activity for August 2023.

Resolution 2023/216

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That the information in the Library Manager's Report for August 2023 as presented to Council on Monday, 25 September 2023 be noted.

Carried

23 CLOSED SESSION

At this juncture, the Council gave consideration to moving into Closed Session of Council.

Resolution 2023/217

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

23.1 * North Bourke Bridge Restoration**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (d)(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session with the livestreaming of the meeting being paused at 10.06am.

23.1 *** NORTH BOURKE BRIDGE RESTORATION

File Number: 4373

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the North Bourke Bridge Restoration.

Resolution 2023/218

Moved: Cr Sam Rice

Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton

1. That Council endorse the series of desired outcomes to lead the restoration project, as follows:
 - a) To make the bridge an attraction of choice to visitors, tourists, the local and surrounding communities, in conjunction with the historic Jandra Paddle Steamer tourist attraction.
 - b) To restore the bridge to allow pedestrian and cyclist access and to provide for weddings and other similar community functions.
 - c) To restore the wrought iron lift bridge span to a safe and accessible condition, with the lift span to remain fixed in position.
 - d) To restore the iron structure where deemed necessary.
 - e) To make safe the bridge decking, by removing the existing timber decking and replacing with new alternative decking material, that allows visibility to the iron trusses below and reduces future deck maintenance costs.
 - f) To demolish and replace the timber approach structures with other suitable access such as concrete or steel approaches (approx. 3-4m wide), and possibly accommodating a maximum loaded truck of 15 tonnes.
 - g) Wherever possible, seek leverage with the current similar upgrade works being undertaken on the nearby Brewarrina Bridge, via FBE and TfNSW.
2. That Council acknowledge that an estimated \$1.2m in funding is required to undertake Stage 1 and Stage 2 design and documentation works (\$800,000) and the deconstruction of the timber approaches to the Bridge (\$400,000).
3. That Council note the advice of NSW Public Works regarding the deteriorated condition of the timber approaches to the North Bourke Bridge and the advice “that the approach spans should be demolished as early as practicable.”
4. That Council endorse the engagement of NSW Public Works and Focus Bridge Design (as a sub-contractor), with a view to:
 - a) the development of documentation, and a recommendation regarding the engagement of a contractor to undertake the deconstruction of the timber approaches to the bridge; and
 - b) the development of the necessary designs and documentation that would result in indicative restoration costs being identified that allow Council to seek grant funding to engage a contractor(s) to restore the North Bourke Bridge and further, ensure the project is “shovel ready” to proceed once a tender for the required restoration works is awarded, once grant funding is attained; at a combined estimated cost of \$1.2m.
5. That NSW Public Works be requested to prepare a revised project brief, in conjunction with Focus Bridge Engineering, such that demolition of the timber approaches to the bridge are included in what were Stages 1 and 2 of their proposal dated 18 June 2023.
6. That Council note the actions taken by Staff to secure funding for the required design and

deconstruction works.

7. That Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to take the necessary action in respect of the use of available Council funds, having regard to the success or otherwise of Councils various applications for funding for the design and deconstruction works.
8. That the General Manager be requested to report to Council, in due course, the outcome of its applications to Government for the required design and deconstruction works.
9. That the General Manager be requested to update the community on the status of the bridge project.
10. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to the Council.

Carried

Resolution 2023/219

Moved: Cr Sam Rice

Seconded: Cr Cec Dorrington

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

Carried

Open council resumed at 10.24am.

RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

At the request of the Mayor, the General Manager read to the meeting the Councils resolutions as determined in the Closed Session of Council.

The Meeting closed at 10.30am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 October 2023.

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CHAIRPERSON

10 RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

12 BUSINESS ARISING

12.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

File Number: C12.6
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Information is sent out monthly to advise when Council Meetings, meetings which Councillors are Delegates to and other meetings of which Council is a member of, or representatives of Council, are to be held.

Current Situation

Month	Date	Time	Meeting / Event	Location
2023				
October	23	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
November	12-14	8.30am	LGNSW Annual Conference	Rosehill Gardens Racecourse, Sydney
November	23	8.30am	Joint Organisations Chairs Meeting	Parliament House, Sydney
November	24	8.30am	Country Mayors Association Meeting	Parliament House, Sydney
November	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
December	8	8.30am	Alliance of Western Councils Meeting	Dubbo - venue to be confirmed
December	18	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
2024				
February	26	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
March	25	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
April	22	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
May	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
June	24	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
July	22	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
August	26	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding the Calendar of Events, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

12.2 INFORMATION TO COUNCILLORS

File Number: C12.1
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Each month a list of correspondence is sent out in the Business Paper to Councillors to ensure that they have not missed any information since the last Business Paper was produced.

Current Situation

Information that has been provided to Councillors for the period 19 September 2023 to 13 October follows:

Date	Information Sent	Author	Email
19/09/2023	Council Meeting - Monday, 25 September 2023	Margo Anderson	✓
20/09/2023	GMs Column for publication - 21 September 2023	Leonie Brown	✓
20/09/2023	The Weekly Newsletter, 19 September 2023	Local Government NSW	✓
20/09/2023	Country Spend Vital for Future Growth	NSW Farmers Association	✓
20/09/2023	News from the Barwon Electorate, 12 Sept 2023	Roy Butler, MP	✓
20/09/2023	Edward River Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Edward River Council	✓
20/09/2023	CMA Media release - NSW Budget	Country Mayors Association	✓
20/09/2023	Blayney Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Blayney Shire Council	✓
20/09/2023	Inner West Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Inner West Council	✓
20/09/2023	Gilgandra Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Gilgandra Shire Council	✓
21/09/2023	Various items of interest to Local Government	Inside Local Government	✓
21/09/2023	The Weekly Newsletter, 20 September 2023	Local Government NSW	✓
21/09/2023	Berrigan Shire Council Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Berrigan Shire Council	✓
21/09/2023	Oberon Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Oberon Council	✓
21/09/2023	Junee Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Junee Shire Council	✓
21/09/2023	Business Papers for the September Ordinary and Closed Session Council Meeting , Monday 25 September 2023	Leonie Brown	✓
21/09/2023	Business Paper Bounce Backs	Margo Anderson	✓
21/09/2023	Council; Election – Monday, 25 September 2023	Leonie Brown	✓

22/09/2023	Bathurst Regional Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Bathurst Regional Council	✓
22/09/2023	Gunnedah Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Gunnedah Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Leeton Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Leeton Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Moree Plains Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Moree Plains Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Upper Lachlan Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Upper Lachlan Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Forbes Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Forbes Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Temora Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Temora Shire Council	✓
22/09/2023	Federation Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Federation Council	✓
25/09/2023	Kiama Municipal Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Kiama Municipal Council	✓
25/09/2023	Coolamon Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Coolamon Shire Council	✓
25/09/2023	Garbage Truck Report update	Leonie Brown	✓
26/09/2023	Minutes of the September 2023 Council Meeting	Leonie Brown	✓
27/09/2023	The Weekly Newsletter, 26 September 2023	Local Government NSW	✓
27/09/2023	GMs Column for publication - 28 September 2023	Leonie Brown	✓
27/09/2023	Upper Hunter Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Upper Hunter Shire Council	✓
27/09/2023	Carrathool Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Carrathool Shire Council	✓
27/09/2023	Greater Hume Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Greater Hume Shire Council	✓
27/09/2023	Hay Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Hay Shire Council	✓
27/09/2023	Penrith City Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Penrith City Council	✓
27/09/2023	North Sydney Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	North Sydney Council	✓
27/09/2023	Woollahra Municipal Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Woollahra Municipal Council	✓
27/09/2023	Narrabri Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Narrabri Shire Council	✓
27/09/2023	Griffith City Council - Election of Deputy Mayor	Griffith City Council	✓
27/09/2023	CMA Communique - September Rural Health Forum	Country Mayors Association	✓
28/09/2023	Walcha Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Walcha Council	✓
28/09/2023	Georges River Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Georges River Council	✓

28/09/2023	City of Ryde Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	City of Ryde Council	✓
28/09/2023	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	✓
28/09/2023	Cessnock City Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Cessnock City Council	✓
28/09/2023	Tenterfield Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Tenterfield Shire Council	✓
03/10/2023	Warren Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Warren Shire Council	✓
03/10/2023	Glen Innes Severn Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Glen Innes Severn Council	✓
03/10/2023	Cumberland City Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Cumberland City Council	✓
03/10/2023	Cabonne Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Cabonne Council	✓
03/10/2023	Gwydir Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Gwydir Shire Council	✓
03/10/2023	Byron Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Byron Shire Council	✓
03/10/2023	Cobar Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Cobar Shire Council	✓
04/10/2023	GMs Column for publication – 5 October 2023	Leonie Brown	✓
04/10/2023	Dubbo Regional Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Dubbo Regional Council	✓
04/10/2023	Weddin Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Weddin Shire Council	✓
04/10/2023	The Weekly Newsletter, 04 October 2023	Local Government NSW	✓
04/10/2023	Murray River Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Murray River Council	✓
04/10/2023	Shoalhaven City Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Shoalhaven City Council	✓
05/10/2023	Bogan Shire Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Bogan Shire Council	✓
05/10/2023	Armidale Regional Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Armidale Regional Council	✓
09/10/2023	Call to stop rising pest costs	NSW Farmers Association	✓
09/10/2023	Upcoming Professional Development Courses	Local Government NSW	✓
09/10/2023	Vote on the Private Members Bill Amending the Rural Fires Act 1997	Country Mayors Association	✓
10/10/2023	City of Parramatta Council - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	City of Parramatta Council	✓
11/10/2023	The Weekly Newsletter, 10 October 2023	Local Government NSW	✓

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding Information to Councillors, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

12.3 * BUSINESS ARISING REPORT**

File Number: C12.1
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Business outstanding from previous meetings.

Current Situation

GM GENERAL MANAGER	MW MANAGER WORKS
MCS MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES	MRS MANAGER ROAD SERVICES
MES MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	EDM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

362/2018	BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016 - UPDATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY - MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NUMBER	E6.1, E6.4, L8.1

RESOLUTION

1. That Council undertake a review of the potential impact on the sale of land held for industrial development including obtaining specialist advice as appropriate.
2. That on finalisation of that review a further report be brought back to Council.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Continue to lobby Government - matter evolving.
2. Issue of impact of the Biodiversity Act recently discussed at meeting of the Alliance of Western councils.
3. Meeting held with Alliance of Western Councils and Paul Scully, Shadow Minister for Planning, 1 September to provide an update on the impact if the Biodiversity Act.
4. Matter continues to be pursued by Western Alliance on behalf of member Councils.
5. Matter further discussed at the Alliance of Western Council Meeting held on 09/12/2022.
6. Impact of Biodiversity Act, and specifically the issue of the North Bourke Industrial lots, raised on Sydney Radio (2GB Ray Hadley 14/03/2023) by Chair of Western Alliance, Cr Craig Davies.
7. GM and MES attended Biodiversity teleconference organised by LGNSW held on 4 April 2023 . Submission from Council will be forthcoming during the follow up process.
8. The need for a review of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 was raised with Clr Darriea Turley, President LGNSW and Scott Phillips, Chief Executive Officer during discussions with them at Bourke on 10/05/2023.
9. Review of the Act is underway with the Hon Paul Scully MP, NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces considering options to assist with development blockages. Advice received from Roy Butler MP, Member for Barwon on 17 July 2023.
10. Western Division Councils of NSW moved a motion to write to the Minister for the Environment,

the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and the Minister for Regional and Western NSW requesting the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* be amended in such a manner as to allow the recommencement of development of housing and industry in Regional NSW.

427/2018	PROPOSED CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE PCYC
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	L1.17-Y1.7-LD-L11.14.3
RESOLUTION	
That the General Manager prepare a detailed report in relation to the matter, including the seeking of legal advice if necessary.	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In progress. 2. Teleconference held 20/08/2020. 3. Correspondence sent to PCYC 25/8/20 and followed up for response 20/10/20 & 16/11/2020. 4. Matter further discussed with Crown Lands staff on 09/03/2021 for their contact with PCYC. 5. Further discussions held in July 2021 with Crown Lands in regard to their contact with PCYC with correspondence sent to PCYC as a follow up to discussions. 6. PCYC have advised that as a result of internal management changes they wish to defer discussions on land management till mid-2022. 7. No further approaches made by PCYC re land management matter. 	

274/2019	DROUGHT – WATER UPDATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	W2.2.9 – W2.2.9.1
RESOLUTION	
That the General Manager write to the State Government seeking their urgent consideration of the construction of a regulator or additional weir including a fish ladder upstream of Bourke at a location identified as BU8	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter sent & meeting held. 2. State Government commits to preparation of Western Weirs Strategy. 3. Teleconference involving staff and Councillors held with State Water on 22/9/2020 re Strategy. 4. Meeting held with DPIE representatives on 10/11/2020 & 11/11/2020. 5. Further briefings on Strategy held 10/02/2021 and 24/05/2021. 6. Discussions held by GM with Jim Betts in July 2021 Secretary, DPIE, in regard to the Weir Strategy Project and its prolonged timeframes. 7. NSW Govt. in Oct 2021 announced the Better Baaka Program which includes Weir renewals on the Darling and specifically upgrading of the Bourke Weir. Meeting with DPIE to be held in Bourke on 23 November 2021. 8. Meeting held DPIE 23/11/2021 with Jim Bentley and his team via Video conference regarding Better Baaka Better Bidgee project. 9. Meeting held in December 2021 with Andrew Lavelle regarding the Weir upgrade at Bourke and connectivity strategy. 10. Contact made with Minister Pavey's Office re concerns regarding potential removal of 	

- downstream weirs.
11. GM and MCS met with DPIE officers undertaking Western Regional Water Strategy consultation in Bourke on 8 March 2022 raising concern at the potential loss of downstream weirs.
 12. Contact made in March 2022 with Andrew Lavelle of DPIE re weir progress. Advised that Western Weirs project is progressing following completion of Strategic Business Case. Advised that he will be seeking to have further conversations re weirs downstream.
 13. Meeting held with Graham Attenborough and Jason Gordon of DPIE on 15 March 2022 re all things water including weir.
 14. Mayor, Mark Riley and Leonie Brown attended the DPIE Forum at Bourke Bowling Club on 30 June 2022 re Western Region Water Strategy and Barwon-Darling Water Sharing Plan and Floodplain Harvesting licencing.
 15. Submissions subsequently made re increasing Bourke Weir height and retention of downstream weirs.
 16. Mayor/GM met with Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP Federal Minister for the Environment and Water at Alliance of Western Councils Meeting at Narromine on 19/08/2022.
 17. Ingrid Emery, Executive Director Project Interfaces and Program Management Water Infrastructure to provide update to Councillors on 22 August 2022 – No State or Federal Funding for Final Business Case Study.
 18. Refer Council Resolution Clause 2022/176 herewith for further update.
 19. Meeting held in February 2023 with Minister Anderson - see item 2022/176.
 20. Letter sent to the Hon Rose Jackson, Minister for Water, Housing and Homelessness, following March 2023 State election, advising of the issues and seeking support.
 21. Councillors and staff met with members of the Board of the Murray Darling Authority, the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office and the Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water – Water Division, in Bourke on 03/05/2023 and discussed water issues.
 22. Mayor discussed issues with the Hon Rose Jackson, NSW Minister for Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth and North Coast on Wednesday, 5 July 2023. Minister Jackson advised the Mayor she would come to Bourke in August 2023 to see the issues for herself. The Mayor and GM met with Roy Butler MP, Member for Barwon on Monday, 17 July 2023 regarding water security for Bourke. On Tuesday, 18 July 2023 the GM spoke to Steph Cooke MP, NSW Shadow Minister for Water and Crown Lands who advised of a planned visit to Bourke in August 2023 to hear the concerns of the community.
 23. General Manager made contact with Minister Jackson’s office 29 August 2023; no response received to date.
 24. Mayor and General Manager attended the Murray Darling Association Annual Conference in Murray Bridge 27 and 28 September 2023. Representations were made both at and post the conference to the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water regarding water security at Bourke.

2020/111 March Meeting	DUAL NAMING OF THE DARLING RIVER – DARLING RIVER BAAKA
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	R6.5
RESOLUTION	
That Council seek further clarification from the GNB on which section of the Darling River will be dual named Baaka and will the name be Darling Baaka River / Baaka Darling River or Darling River Baaka.	

ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing. Geographical Names Board GNB contacted. 2. Investigations are continuing by GNB. 3. GNB advised in July 2021 that it would be undertaking consultation in August 2021 in regard to dual name proposal. 4. GNB subsequently advised in August that due to COVID the consultations will now be undertaken in 2022. 5. Meeting was to be held with GNB on 22 June 2022 however was postponed by GNB till “next month” with a date yet to be suggested. 6. Meeting scheduled for 19 July 2022 postponed – new date yet to be confirmed. 7. New meeting date proposed for 11 October 2022. 8. Representatives of NSW GNB attended Council on 11 October 2022 and met with available Councillors and relevant staff re naming matter. 9. No further advice received from GNB, to date.

2020/325 and 2020/326 September Meeting	REVIEW OF CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM 2019/2020 AND REALLOCATION OF FUNDS – ITEM 15.5 - MOUNT OXLEY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	R2.5

RESOLUTION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council notes the report on the responsibility and current condition of the access road to the summit of Mount Oxley. 2. That Council notes the status of telecommunication infrastructure located atop Mount Oxley. 3. That following a Title Search discussion be held with the owners of the land and the various owners of the telecommunications infrastructure atop Mount Oxley with a view to sourcing funding for at least the \$80,000 in maintenance work and potentially a further \$110,000 for the guard rail installation, for a further report to Council including consideration to any contribution by Council. 4. That Council investigates its potential liability as a result of the public use of the access road to the top of Mount Oxley and a report be submitted back to Council.

ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extensive title searches have been completed. 2. Liability issues being pursued by Booth Brown Legal for further report. 3. Meeting held with Mr & Mrs Stalley on 10 December 2020. 4. Risk review undertaken by Council’s insurers on 16/03/21. Awaiting advice to allow instructions to be issued by Booth Brown Legal to prepare licence documentation. 5. Discussions held with NSW Telco Authority re potential for funding to assist with road upgrade. Costs advised. No funding available. 6. Further discussions to be held with owners of Mt Oxley site.

2020/236 July Meeting	BOURKE AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN – MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	A6.1
RESOLUTION	
That Council seeks quotations for the preparation of a Master Plan at the Bourke Airport to determine the availability of land for the proposed development and future developments.	
ACTION TAKEN	
Brief prepared, quotations to be invited, when funding available.	

2021/355 December Meeting	ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PAUL FLANAGAN – ROADS MANAGER
FILE NO	R7.1, R7.4.3
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council provide a submission to the Independent Panel on Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer proposing that ownership of the Bourke – Milparinka Rd (Wanaaring Rd) be transferred to the NSW Government, as a minimum. 2. That the transfer of any Regional Roads to Government in the Bourke Shire being on the basis of Council entering into a contract with Government which would see Council continuing to undertake both improvement works, and the necessary programmed and emergency maintenance works on the transferred roadway(s). 3. That Council also provides a submission to the Independent Panel on Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer proposing the reclassification from local road to regional road status of the following roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RLR 5 – Caronga Peak to Wilga Downs (23km / no bridge); • RLR50 - Moleyarrah Road – Wanaaring to Hungerford (86.82km / no bridge); • RLR44 – Janina Road – Louth to Wanaaring (85.7km / no bridge); • RLR49 – West Culgoa Road – Bourke to Weilmoringle (82.82km / single lane bridge). 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submission to Review Panel prepared and submitted. 2. Additional information and financial data requested for consideration 23 August 2022. Information provided. 3. No Further information to date. 4. Representation made through the Country Mayors Association to accelerate the Regional Roads Reclassification and Transfer Programs. 	

2022/96 and 2023/60 April and March Meetings	NORTH BOURKE STORMWATER DRAINAGE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	D6.1, D6.2, V 1.6
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the information in the report of the General Manager from March 2022 be noted. 2. That the Mayor and General Manager be requested to take the necessary action in pursuit of 	

- Potentially acquiring land in respect of this drainage matter, for a further report to Council.
3. That the Mayor and General Manager be requested to brief Mr G Seiler on the progress of this matter.
 4. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to Council.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Investigations into land proceeding.
2. Mayor and GM have briefed Mr Seiler.
3. Land to west of subject site reviewed by environmental consultant and is considered to be an undesirable location for the construction of stormwater retention infrastructure due to the multitude of environmental, practical and physical constraints.
4. Further update meeting held in June 2022 with Mr Seiler involving Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Messrs Riley and Brown.
5. Monthly progress reports to be provided to Mr Seiler by Council.
6. Structural Engineer engaged by Insurers inspected property on 8 September 2022.
7. Meeting held with landowners to the north of Warrego Street with a view to a portion of this land being acquired and utilised for the construction of a detention pond. Further information being sought for a future meeting.
8. Further information received and provided to the landowners to the north of Warrego Street with subsequent discussions held.
9. Structural Engineers Report received. Comprehensive report being developed for Workshop of Councillors in March 2023.
10. Workshop held 20 March 2023. Workshop report including recommendation included in March 2023 Business Paper.
11. Council in March 2023 (2023/60) resolved:
 - to undertake final negotiations with Mr Rob and Mrs Sally Davis in respect of the acquisition of some 2.21ha of their land fronting Warrego St, North Bourke for the purpose of constructing a stormwater detention basin thereon, for a final report to Council.
 - on the basis of Council resolving to formally acquire such land, the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action that would result in the construction of a stormwater detention basin and required infrastructure on such land, in general conformity with the concept plan developed by Premise dated 10 February 2023 designed to accommodate a 1:100 year rainfall event for this area.
 - noted the opinion as expressed in the Expert Report prepared by Engineering Investigations and Solutions in regard to the residence of Mr G and Mrs C Seiler.
 - not pursue the purchase of the Seiler property located in Namoi St, North Bourke.
12. Meeting with Mr and Mrs Davis requested and pursued. Council's Solicitor, Insurer and Mr G Seiler advised of Council's resolution accordingly.
13. Meeting with Mr and Mrs Davis, as per March 2023 resolution, held on 26 July 2023.
14. Further technical advice to be sourced by Council from consulting engineer, prior to further discussions being held with Mr and Mrs Davis, noting that consulting engineer has been on extended leave returning mid-October 2023.

2022/161 and 2023/42 July and March Meetings	CAMPING & CARAVAN USAGE - MITCHELL HIGHWAY ROAD RESERVE AND NORTH BOURKE BOAT RAMP CROWN RESERVE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY – MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NO	L1.9
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the legislative information in respect of the potential usage of the North Bourke Boat Ramp Crown Reserve for the purposes of caravanning and camping be noted. 2. That Council not pursue the development of a primitive campground to allow camping at the North Bourke Boat Ramp Crown Reserve and having regard to this position, camping in this reserve not be permissible and appropriate signage be maintained. 3. That Council enter into discussions with TfNSW with a view to the sealed section of road reserve leading to the old North Bourke Bridge being designated for use by light and recreational travellers as a Rest Area, for a trial period ending 12 months after the opening of such road reserve as a rest area, should it be approved. 4. At the end of this period it would be proposed that a report on the trial be provided to Council to review usage and issues, including any impact on accommodation providers in Bourke. 5. That Council investigate further opportunities to promote Bourke as an RV friendly town. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact made with Transport for NSW (TfNSW). 2. Awaiting response from TfNSW. 3. Further follow up with TfNSW. Cobar Shire have advised they are having similar issues. 4. Further contact made with Transport for NSW. 5. Follow up report included in March 2023 Business Paper. 6. At the March 2023 Ordinary Meeting of Council the following resolution (2023/42) was carried. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the information in respect of the potential usage of the Polygonum Swamp Road be noted. • That Council not pursue the development of a Rest Area to allow camping on the side of the Polygonum Swamp Road. • That the No Camping and No Caravans signs be maintained to encourage Caravan and Camping users to move on to a more suitable location, where there is no risk to pedestrians, road users and themselves. 7. Meeting held with representatives from Crown Lands Monday, 26 June 2023. Identified land at North Bourke behind Darling Street that might be a Public Recreation Reserve. Free camping may be allowable with infrastructure upgrades - to be determined with a further report to be presented to Council when all details are available. 8. Funding application submitted for LRCI funding to provide infrastructure once a suitable site is agreed upon. 	

2022/176 August Meeting	MAYORAL MINUTE – WESTERN WEIRS STRATEGY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	W3.1
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the status upgrade in respect of the Western Weirs Strategy as presented to Council by Ms Ingrid Emery, Water Infrastructure NSW on Monday, 22 August 2022 be noted. 	

2. That Council write to the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water, and the Hon. Kevin Anderson, MP, State Minister for Land and Water seeking support and funding to progress the next stage of the Western Weir Strategy being the Final Business Case for the proposed upgrading of the Bourke Weir to improve town water supply security.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Letter written by the Mayor to Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP, seeking support and funding to progress to the next stage of the Western Weir Strategy being the Final Business Case for the proposed upgrading of the Bourke Weir to improve town water supply security.
2. Letter also written to the Hon. Kevin Anderson, State Minister for Land and Water seeking support and seeking a meeting to discuss same. Minister's office advised that "the Minister will be unable to accept your request to meet."
3. Response dated 5 October 2022 received from Minister Anderson. The Minister advised that:
 - Infrastructure NSW (INSW) completed its Gateway 1 Review in December 2021 in respect of the Western Weirs Program. INSW is working with the Australian Government re: funding arrangements for a final Business Case.
 - Western Weirs Program has been incorporated into the Better Baaka Program. Better Baaka aims to protect rivers and floodplains with towns having "a secure water source into the future, and sustainable local communities, agriculture and industries can be supported."
4. Response dated 12 December 2022 received from Minister Plibersek advised that:
 - The NSW Government is responsible for water management in our region and is developing regional water strategies across the State.
 - The Western Weirs Strategy sits alongside these strategies.
 - The Australian Government's role as a significant investor in water infrastructure through the National Water Grid Authority, State and Territory Governments are responsible for water planning and water infrastructure delivery. Applications for National Water Grid funding must have support of the State Government.
5. State Minister for Land and Water, the Hon Kevin Anderson attended Bourke on 6 February 2023 and met with the Mayor and Acting GM. The Minister advised the Western Weirs Strategy will be abandoned as it is not well supported. However, the issue of water security will be included in the Better Baaka Program. The State and Federal Ministers are to meet for discussion in late February. The proposal aims to meet the Federal objectives but will require more time to adopt measures to ensure water consumption is not restricted at the same time. There are implications for a need for increased water storage capacity if weirs are not upgraded.
6. Correspondence sent to the Hon Tanya Plibersek, MP and the NSW Minister for Lands and Water, the Hon Kevin Anderson, MP in March 2023 seeking the status of weir proposals. In response, the acting CEO of the NSW Water Sector responded that "the strategic business case for the Western Weirs program was completed in November 2021" and further that "the NSW Government continues to work with the Australian Government on suitable funding arrangements to progress to a final business case." The Federal Government responded in April 2023 advising that "for the raising of the Bourke Weir to be eligible for National Water Grid funding consideration, a proposal must be submitted to the National Water Grid Authority by the NSW Government. You may wish to continue your engagement with the NSW Government so that a proposal may be brought forward, should it be prioritised by the NSW Government.
7. In response, a further letter was sent to acting CEO of the NSW Water Sector, April 2023, requesting confirmation that funding to progress to a final business case is an eligible project under the investment principles of the National Water Grid Fund and if so, what is the specific time frame for the NSW Government to submit an application that covers funding for a final

- business case to raise the height of the Bourke Weir.
8. Letter sent to the Hon Rose Jackson, Minister for Water, Housing and Homelessness, following March 2023 State election, advising of the issues and seeking support.
 9. Meeting of the Mayor and GM with Minister Jackson being pursued.
 10. Mayor discussed issues with the Hon Rose Jackson, NSW Minister for Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth and North Coast on Wednesday, 5 July 2023. Minister Jackson advised the Mayor she would come to Bourke in August 2023 to see the issues for herself. The Mayor and GM met with Roy Butler MP, Member for Barwon on Monday, 17 July 2023 regarding water security for Bourke, including the issue of the weir. On Tuesday, 18 July 2023 the GM spoke to Steph Cooke MP, NSW Shadow Minister for Water and Crown Lands who advised of a planned visit to Bourke in August 2023 to hear the concerns of the community.
 11. Details provided to the Mayor of Narromine, Craig Davies as Chair of the Alliance of Western Councils Board who will present to 200 water professionals regarding water issues in the area.
 12. Mayor and General Manager attended Murray Darling Association Annual Conference in Murray Bridge 27 and 28 September 2023. Representation were made both at and post the conference to the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP Federal Minister for the Environment and Water for water security at Bourke.

2022/235 October Meeting	DRAFT FAR WEST REGIONAL PLAN 2041
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY – MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NO	T1.5
RESOLUTION	
That Council note the information contained within the Draft Far West Regional Plan 2041 Report.	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Matter discussed regarding gaps in the plan relative to Bourke, linkages, tourism, health services, transport, small business and biodiversity. Hoping for changes to the draft. Opportunities to participate in workshops. 2. Continue to pursue amendments to the plan in respect of identified gaps. 3. Council’s submission lodged, awaiting response. 	

2022/238 October Meeting	GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES BOARD – THE POUND YARD
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	A2.1, A2.2.16, H3.3
RESOLUTION	
That Council advise the NSW Geographical Names Board that whilst it raises no objection to the name “Pound Yard”, it is considered imperative that the Board consult with appropriate Aboriginal persons before any decision is ultimately made.	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW Geographical Names Board advised of Council’s Resolution. 2. Aboriginal people who have been identified as residents of the Pound Yard have been suggested as the appropriate people to be consulted by the GNB. 3. Work in progress. 	

4. List of names received, contact details yet to be received.

2023/73 April Meeting	BOURKE FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN – MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	W2.1
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Bourke Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (Volumes 1 and 2) dated December 2022, be adopted. 2. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action in respect of implementing Measures 1-4 as identified in the Plan, being the measures “that could be implemented by Council with the assistance, where required, of the NSW SES”. 3. That in implementing Measures 1-2, being proposed revised planning controls, a further report on such measures be forthcoming to Council. 4. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action in respect of implementing Measures 5-10, as identified in the Plan, being the measures “that require the sourcing of Government funding” to progress such measures. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
Representation made to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).	

2023/94 May Meeting	RECOMMENCEMENT OF THE FLUORIDATION OF THE BOURKE WATER SUPPLY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN - MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	W2.1
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That pending the receipt of approval under Section 60 of the Local Government Act 1993, and approval from NSW Health, Council proceed to again include fluoride in the Bourke public water supply system. 2. That the Bourke community be advised by way of advertisement in the Western Herald and on Councils Facebook site, when the fluoride dosing of the Bourke public water supply system actually recommences following the receipt of the required approvals. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PWA being pursued re completion of required outstanding works and also DPE / Health for required approvals. Once approvals are forthcoming, advertising / Facebook advice to community of the restarting of fluoridation will be undertake. 2. Manager Works has contacted NSW Health, matter is progressing. 	

2023/122 June Meeting	PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARGO ANDERSON – EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
FILE NO	S6.29
RESOLUTION	
That Council notes the information received in relation to Pecuniary Interest Returns as presented to	

Council on Monday, 26 June 2023.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Returns paperwork distributed to Councillors and designated staff for completion and return to EA by 30 September 2023. Further report to be submitted to Council’s October 2023 meeting.
2. Report provided in October 2023 Business Paper.

2023/150 July Meeting	PROPOSED PROJECTS UNDER PHASE 4 OF THE LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (LR&CIP)
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	19895

RESOLUTION

1. That the following prioritised Part A Projects (Roads and community infrastructure projects) proposed for funding under Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LR&CIP) be submitted to the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government for assessment and approval:

Part A Projects - Roads and community infrastructure projects

Priority	Amount	Project Description
1	\$110,000	Replacement of splash pad surface – Bourke Pool
2	\$100,000	Tree planting program
3	\$100,000	Replacement footpath Warraweena St, adjacent to Spar Supermarket.
4	\$100,000	Public space/outdoor furniture/ signage
5	\$ 30,000	Garbage bin enclosures
6	\$ 80,000	Swimming Pool Club House upgrade
7	\$150,000	North Bourke Oval Fence
8	\$200,000	Camping Overflow and “Rest area” – Location to be determined.
9	\$ 40,000	Pool furniture
10	\$289,903	Secretary’s Office/Community Space – Stage 1/Stage 2: Renshaw Oval
Total	\$1,199,903	

2. That the Part B Project (Road only projects) as identified for funding under Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LR&CIP) in the report of the General Manager be submitted to the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government for assessment and approval.
3. That in the event of the Department deeming a Part A priority project, as submitted by Council, as an ineligible project, the Mayor in conjunction with the General Manager be authorised to determine replacement project(s) initially from the unprioritised list as provided in the General Manager’s Report, except in respect of the Secretary’s Office/Community Space – Stage 2: Renshaw Oval which has now been identified as a priority project, or, alternatively, should available funding for replacement projects not be sufficient to fund any of the identified replacement projects, the Mayor and General Manager be further authorised to determine relevant projects, at their discretion.
4. That in the event of the Department deeming the Part B priority project as submitted by Council

<p>as an ineligible project, the further sealing of Wanaaring Road be the replacement project.</p> <p>5. That Council make application to Racing NSW for \$60,000 in funding to undertake the Upgrading of the Race Callers Box at Renshaw Oval.</p>
<p>ACTION TAKEN</p>
<p>Applications for projects submitted to the Australian Government for the LRCI funding. Awaiting approval of projects.</p>

<p>2023/167 July meeting</p>	<p>PROPOSED SALE OF LAND TO BOURKE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION HEALTH SERVICE</p>
<p>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</p>	<p>LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER</p>
<p>FILE NO</p>	<p>A11.1, H1.1, H1.15</p>
<p>RESOLUTION</p>	
<p>1. That Council proceed to sell to the Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (BACHS), Lot 6 DP 35797, Lot 7 DP 35797, Lot 8 DP 35797, Lot 9 DP 35797 and Lot 10 DP 35797 all located in Mitchell Street, Bourke at a combined price of \$45,000 (Ex GST) for the purpose of the construction of a primary care clinic by the BACHS for the Bourke region.</p> <p>2. That the sale of such land be subject to development consent being forthcoming for the proposed primary care clinic.</p> <p>3. That in the event that no DA approved construction has begun on the site within a period of two (2) years of Councils resolution herewith, the land offer will be reassessed by Council.</p> <p>4. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to Council.</p>	
<p>ACTION TAKEN</p>	
<p>1. Letter forwarded to BACHS re Council resolution. Formal acceptance of offer from BACHS.</p> <p>2. Contract documentation prepared and submitted to Solicitor for BACHS. Still awaiting exchange of contracts.</p> <p>3. Meeting held with BACHS representatives re preparation of development application. Legal advice being sought as to the status of Council’s adopted Flood Study (April 2023) in respect of this proposed development for advice to planning consultants for BACHS.</p>	

<p>2023/218 September meeting</p>	<p>NORTH BOURKE BRIDGE RESTORATION</p>
<p>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</p>	<p>LEONIE BROWN</p>
<p>FILE NO</p>	<p>4373</p>
<p>RESOLUTION</p>	
<p>1. That Council endorse the series of desired outcomes to lead the restoration project, as follows:</p> <p>a) To make the bridge an attraction of choice to visitors, tourists, the local and surrounding communities, in conjunction with the historic Jandra Paddle Steamer tourist attraction.</p> <p>b) To restore the bridge to allow pedestrian and cyclist access and to provide for weddings and other similar community functions.</p> <p>c) To restore the wrought iron lift bridge span to a safe and accessible condition, with the lift span to remain fixed in position.</p> <p>d) To restore the iron structure where deemed necessary.</p> <p>e) To make safe the bridge decking, by removing the existing timber decking and replacing with new alternative decking material, that allows visibility to the iron trusses below and reduces</p>	

future deck maintenance costs.

- f) To demolish and replace the timber approach structures with other suitable access such as concrete or steel approaches (approx. 3-4m wide), and possibly accommodating a maximum loaded truck of 15 tonnes.
- g) Wherever possible, seek leverage with the current similar upgrade works being undertaken on the nearby Brewarrina Bridge, via FBE and TfNSW.
2. That Council acknowledge that an estimated \$1.2m in funding is required to undertake Stage 1 and Stage 2 design and documentation works (\$800,000) and the deconstruction of the timber approaches to the Bridge (\$400,000).
3. That Council note the advice of NSW Public Works regarding the deteriorated condition of the timber approaches to the North Bourke Bridge and the advice “that the approach spans should be demolished as early as practicable.”
4. That Council endorse the engagement of NSW Public Works and Focus Bridge Design (as a sub-contractor), with a view to:
 - a) the development of documentation, and a recommendation regarding the engagement of a contractor to undertake the deconstruction of the timber approaches to the bridge; and
 - b) the development of the necessary designs and documentation that would result in indicative restoration costs being identified that allow Council to seek grant funding to engage a contractor(s) to restore the North Bourke Bridge and further, ensure the project is “shovel ready” to proceed once a tender for the required restoration works is awarded, once grant funding is attained;

at a combined estimated cost of \$1.2m.
5. That NSW Public Works be requested to prepare a revised project brief, in conjunction with Focus Bridge Engineering, such that demolition of the timber approaches to the bridge are included in what were Stages 1 and 2 of their proposal dated 18 June 2023.
6. That Council note the actions taken by Staff to secure funding for the required design and deconstruction works.
7. That Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to take the necessary action in respect of the use of available Council funds, having regard to the success or otherwise of Councils various applications for funding for the design and deconstruction works.
8. That the General Manager be requested to report to Council, in due course, the outcome of its applications to Government for the required design and deconstruction works.
9. That the General Manager be requested to update the community on the status of the bridge project.
10. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to the Council.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Matter progressing.
2. Meeting held with Transport for NSW for additional funding through the Active Transport Fund. Application made to PWA for flood damage funding for damage sustained to the approaches of the bridge . Awaiting outcome of applications.
3. NSW Public Works requested to prepare revised project brief, in conjunction with Focus Bridge Engineering, such that demolition of the timber approaches to the bridge are included in what were Stages 1 and 2 of their proposal dated 18 June 2024. Awaiting revised brief.

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding Business Arising, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

13 ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Nil

14 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

14.1 ALCOHOL FREE ZONE - TOWNSHIP OF BOURKE

File Number:	H1.5
Author:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services
Authoriser:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments:	1. Proposed Alcohol Free Zone Map of Bourke

Background

The principal object of an Alcohol-Free Zone (AFZ) is to prevent disorderly behaviour caused by the consumption of alcohol in public areas in order to improve public safety. Alcohol-Free Zones are an early intervention measure to prevent the escalation of irresponsible street drinking to incidents involving serious crime.

An AFZ prohibits the consumption of alcohol in public areas within the designated area. In regard to the designated area in Bourke, please see the attached map. It includes all public roadways, footpaths and laneways within the levee bank.

Current Situation

It is proposed to continue the Alcohol-Free Zone within the township of Bourke for a further four (4) years from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2027. Council has notified all interested parties in accordance with the Ministerial Guidelines and advertised for public comment and consultation.

Council received no objections to the zone. The Anti-Discrimination Board and NSW Police Force have responded and have raised no objection to the continuation of the Alcohol-Free Zone in township of Bourke, on the basis that the Council has followed the Ministerial Guidelines in all respects.

The proposed AFZ for the township of Bourke is in accordance with the Ministerial Guidelines.

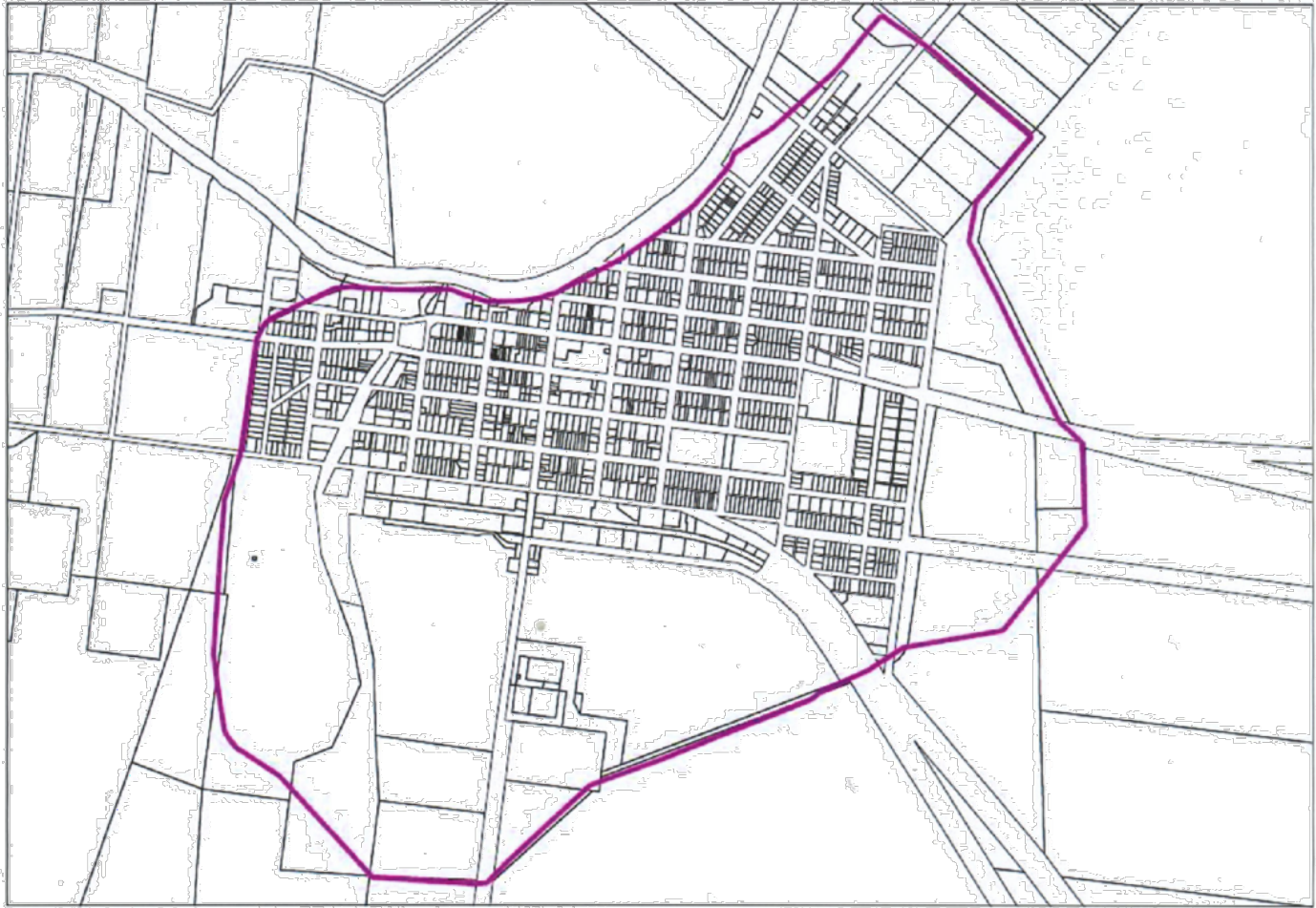
Financial Implications

The costs for the replacement of AFZ signage in Bourke has been budgeted for in Councils 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

Recommendation

That Council approves the continuation of the Alcohol-Free Zone within the levee of the township of Bourke from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2027 and to notify the public in accordance with the Ministerial Guidelines.

Proposed Alcohol Free Zone Map of Bourke



15 GENERAL MANAGER

15.1 *** CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR CLOSURE

File Number: A3.10.1
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

As a long-established practice in common with other Council's, Government Departments and Professional Practices, Bourke Shire Council has in previous years closed its main Office and Library during the period between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. All other facilities (including Swimming Pool, Waste Depot and Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre) are also closed on Christmas Day and re-open during the balance of the Christmas/New Year period but may operate with changes made to the hours and days of operation, as required.

Council continues to provide essential services to ensure the health and safety of the community, noting that Councils Road Crews are generally on leave during this Christmas/New Year Period and during January.

Over the 2022/2023 Christmas and New Year Period, due to the Public Holidays falling on weekends and the direction provided by the NSW Public Holidays Act, additional office closures were granted. During this period, the main Office and Library closed from 2.30pm Friday, 23 December 2022 and reopened at 8.00am on Monday, 9 January 2023, a period of 16 days.

Current Situation

The 16 day main Office and Library closure of the 2022/2023 Christmas and New Year Period appears to have had no ill effect on customer service over the period with no complaints received from community members or stakeholders. Additionally, staff appreciated the extra time off work to enable them to have a longer break.

January is traditionally a quiet period with many community members taking the opportunity of school holidays and leave to travel away to visit family or seek respite from the severe heat often experienced over the period.

The Council closure over this period will also include the Annual Union Picnic Holiday on Friday, 22 December 2023 in the holiday period.

In this regard, it will be recommended that the main Office and Library close for a similar period this upcoming Christmas / New Year period being from 4.30pm Thursday, 21 December 2023 and reopen at 8.00am, or the regular opening time, on Monday, 8 January 2024, a period of 17 days noting that during this proposed period, many people in the community are themselves still on leave.

Staff will be required to take appropriate leave during this period and Council will continue to provide appropriate on-call officers to respond to urgent maintenance work or emergency situations.

Financial Implications

Organisational leave liabilities must be managed at sustainable levels for minimum impact on funds in reserve required for other organisation requirements. Staff will be required to take their accrued leave during this period.

Recommendation

- 1. That Councils Shire Office and Library close at 4.30pm on Thursday, 21 22 December 2023 and re-open at their respective regular opening times on Monday, 8 January 2024.**
- 2. That Councils other facilities including the Memorial Swimming Pool, Waste Depot and Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre close for Christmas Day on Monday, 25 December 2023, and that dates and times of operation for these facilities during the remaining days of Christmas/New Year period be determined by the General Manager, having regard to demand and operational requirements.**
- 3. That it be noted that Council will maintain a skeleton crew to provide appropriate on-call staff to respond to urgent maintenance work or emergency situations during the holiday period.**
- 4. That the community be advised of Councils Christmas/New Year holiday arrangements.**

15.2 * COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON OUTBACK ARTS**

File Number: 20260
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Council at its meeting held on 25 September 2023 considered its representation on various Local Government Organisations, Inter Government Liaison Groups, Community Liaison Groups and Regional Advisory Groups (Item 8.4).

In respect of these representations, and specifically Councils representation on Outback Arts, a Local Government Organisation, it is advised that whilst Council resolved to maintain involvement in, and be represented on Outback Arts, it overlooked determining a delegate and an alternate delegate to this organisation.

In this regard, the relevant report to Council in September 2023 identified that both the delegate and alternate delegate positions on Outback Arts were vacant. These vacancies had come about following advice from the previous delegate, Ms Sally Torr, and the previous alternate, Mr John Thompson, of their retirement from the organisation.

Current Situation

It is appropriate that Council proceed to now determine its delegate and alternate delegate to Outback Arts, noting that Outback Arts has been formed "to promote the arts and arts related activities in outback western NSW."

Financial Implications

Provision has been made in Councils 2023/2024 Operational Plan (Budget) for the expenses relating to the attendance of a delegate at Outback Arts meetings.

Recommendation

- 1. That Council proceed to determine its delegate and alternate delegate to Outback Arts.**
- 2. That following Councils determination of the delegate and alternate delegate, Outback Arts be advised accordingly.**

15.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN WRITTEN RETURNS

File Number: C11.7,S2.29
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Clause 4.21 of Councils Code of Conduct provides, in respect of disclosure of interests in written returns, as follows:

A councillor or designated person must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the councillor's or designated person's interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:

- (a) becoming a councillor or designated person, and*
- (b) 30 June of each year, and*
- (c) the councillor or designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraph (a) or (b).*

Clause 4.25 of the Code provides that, *returns that are required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.21(a) and (b) must be tabled at the first meeting of the council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.*

Current Situation

Having regard to Clauses 4.21(b) and 4.25 of Councils Code of Conduct, Councillors and designated persons were required to disclose their interests in written returns to the General Manager by 30 September 2023 with such returns to then be tabled at the first meeting after this date.

Accordingly, the returns will be tabled at the October 2023 Council meeting, noting that all Councillors and designated persons have completed their written interest returns.

It is further advised that in accordance with Clause 4.27 of the Code, Council must make all returns of interests publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009 and any guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner. This is in respect of returns provided by Councillors and designated persons, being the General Manager and the Managers who report to the General Manager.

The Information Commissioner has issued Information Access Guideline 1 in relation to the publication of information contained in returns of interests. Guideline 1 states that councillors' and designated persons' returns of interests must be made publicly available free of charge on councils' websites, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the

information contained in them or to do so would impose unreasonable additional costs on the council.

It is open to councils to redact information from returns of interests (eg a person's signature and residential address) when publishing returns on their websites where there is an overriding public interest against the disclosure that information. Such action will be taken in respect of the various Bourke Council related returns prior to publishing on Council's website.

Financial Implications

There are no Financial Implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

- 1. That the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 October 2023, as detailed in the report of the General Manager, be noted.**
- 2. That as per Information Access Guideline 1, as issued by the NSW Information Commissioner, Council proceed to publish the tabled Disclosure of Interest Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons on the Council website, on the basis of addresses and signatures on each Return being redacted prior to publication.**

15.4 AUSTRALIA DAY

File Number: C2.3-C2.31
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

For many years consideration of the recipients for the annual Australia Day Awards has been undertaken by Councillors at a workshop held at the conclusion of a Council meeting. This report proposes for the schedule for the process for the nominations and determination of award recipients for Australia Day 2024.

Current Situation

With Council not scheduled to meet in January 2024, it is proposed that the award nomination process for the 2024 Australia Day Awards be held during November/December 2023 with a workshop of Councillors then being held at the completion of the December 2023 Council meeting to progress the matter. Such timing would result in the nomination process being advertised prior to local organisations and schools going into recess for the Christmas/New Year break.

As per previous years, it is proposed that the categories for the Awards be as follows:-

- Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Sportsperson of the year
- Junior Sportsperson of the year
- Village Service Award
- Emergency Services Volunteer of the year

Financial Implications

Funding is provided in Councils Operational Plan for its Australia Day Awards and activities.

Recommendation**1. That the award categories for the 2024 Australia Day Awards be maintained as follows:**

- **Citizen of the Year;**
- **Junior Citizen of the Year**
- **Sportsperson of the Year**
- **Junior Sportsperson of the Year**
- **Village Service Award**
- **Emergency Services Volunteer of the Year**

2. That nominations in respect of the 2024 Australia Day Awards open on Wednesday 1 November 2023 and close at 4.30 pm on Monday 4 December 2023.**3. That Council delegate to the General Manager the role of finalising the determination of the Bourke Shire Council Australia Day Award Recipients, having regard to deliberations to be undertaken as part of a Workshop of Councillors to be convened following the Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 18 December 2023.**

16 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

16.1 * BANK RECONCILIATION AND STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES - 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

File Number: F1.1
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 30 September 2023

Balances as per Bank Statement	\$502,077.67
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$3,808.11
Less: Unpresented Cheques	\$8,730.48
Balance as per Cash Book	\$497,155.30

Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 30 September 2023

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$33,074,968.92	\$200,000.00
Water	\$4,146,421.66	
Sewer	\$2,675,907.89	
Trust	\$124,146.46	
	\$40,021,444.93	

Reconciliation as at 30 September 2023

Balance as per cash book	\$497,155.30
Investments	\$39,524,289.63
Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger	\$40,021,444.93

** In accordance with Council policy and legislative obligations, a complete breakdown of investments will be provided in the investment report for the month.*

Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 September 2023

	Balance	Transaction	Balance
	31 July 2023		31 August 2023
General Fund	\$36,429,371.92	-\$3,354,403.00	\$33,074,968.92
Water Fund	\$4,276,042.14	-\$129,620.53	\$4,146,421.61
Sewer Fund	\$2,622,338.90	\$53,568.99	\$2,675,907.89
Trust Fund	\$126,625.45	-\$2,478.94	\$124,146.51
Investments	-\$40,285,528.47	\$761,238.84	-\$39,524,289.63
Totals	\$3,168,849.94	-\$2,671,694.64	\$497,155.30

Balance of all Funds as at 30 September 2023

Balance as at 31 August 2023	\$3,168,849.95
Add Receipts for	
(a) Rates	\$277,941.49
(b) Other Cash	\$1,984,024.05
Deduct payments for	
(a) Payments	\$4,425,173.23
(b) New Investment	\$508,486.96
Balance as at 30 September 2023	\$497,155.30

Recommendation

That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 September 2023 be noted.

16.2 * INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

File Number: F1.1
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

The Investment Portfolio 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

Legal Implications Including Directives and Guidelines

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

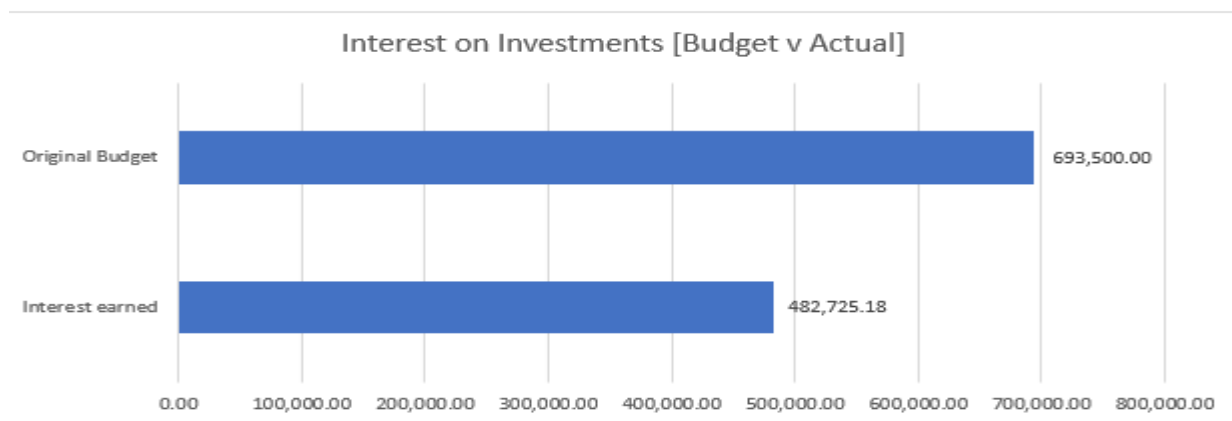
The management, of Council’s investments is delegated by the General Manager to the Manager Corporate Services.

Financial Implications/Consideration

The 2023/2024 Budget estimated the total investment revenue as \$693,500. This revenue was 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 of 30 September 2023 was \$ 39,524,289.63.

Investment income earned as of 30 September 2023 was \$482,725.18



It is anticipated that interest earned on investments will surpass the original budget due to a considerable increase in interest rates by the Reserve Bank of Australia and grants paid upfront, which were unanticipated at the time the budget was prepared. The variation will be closely monitored and reported accordingly during the Council's quarterly budget review.

Policy Provisions – Council Policy and Procedure

Policy 1.8.10(v7) – Investment Policy adopted 19 December 2022.

Ministerial Investment Order – 12 January 2011

Strategic Implications – Implications for Long Term Plans/Targets

Funds are invested in accordance with identified cash flow requirements.

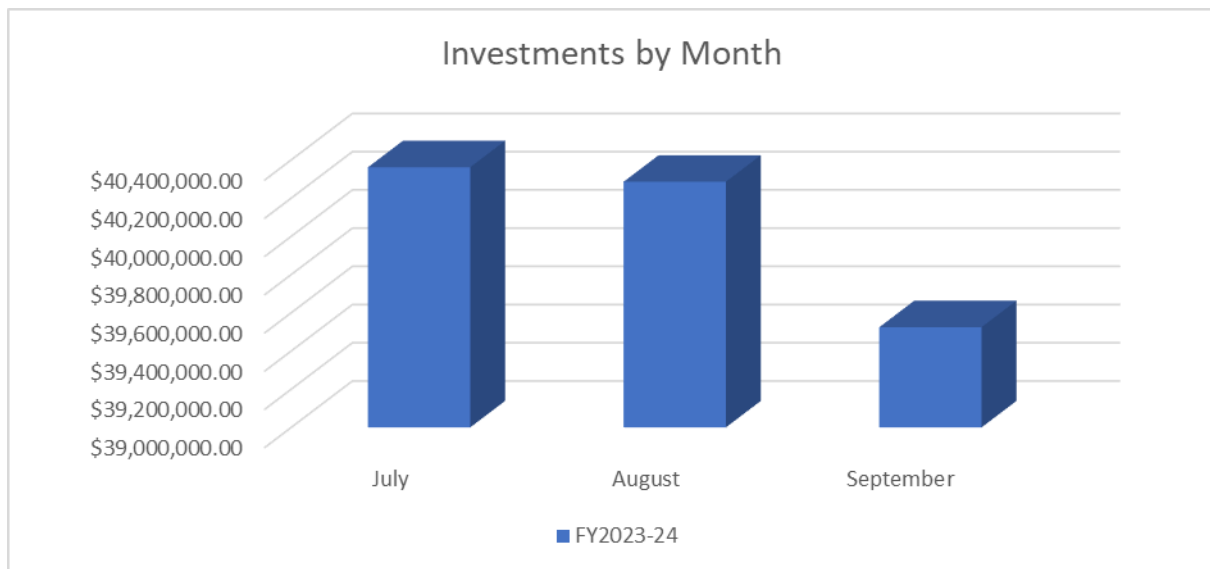
Investment Portfolio as at 30 September 2023

Institution	Invst#	From	Maturity Date	Amount	Rate	Days	S&P Rating
Commonwealth Bank	10	7/11/2022	3/10/2023	458,508.37	4.41%	330	A-1+
National Australia Bank	39	29/06/2023	27/10/2023	3,000,000.00	5.20%	120	A-1+
National Australia Bank	40	29/06/2023	27/10/2023	2,500,000.00	5.20%	120	A-1+
National Australia Bank	44	27/07/2023	31/10/2023	2,000,000.00	5.07%	96	A-1+
National Australia Bank	45	1/08/2023	30/10/2023	1,000,000.00	5.00%	90	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	46	1/08/2023	3/10/2023	2,000,000.00	4.52%	63	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	47	7/08/2023	6/10/2023	3,000,000.00	4.46%	60	A-1+
National Australia Bank	48	8/08/2023	8/11/2023	1,000,000.00	4.96%	92	A-1+
National Australia Bank	49	9/08/2023	9/11/2023	707,486.48	4.95%	92	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	50	21/08/2023	20/10/2023	2,000,000.00	4.44%	60	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	51	21/08/2023	20/11/2023	2,000,000.00	4.93%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank	52	29/08/2023	27/11/2023	3,000,000.00	4.90%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	53	29/08/2023	27/11/2023	3,000,000.00	4.90%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	54	4/09/2023	4/12/2023	2,000,000.00	4.90%	91	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	55	4/09/2023	4/10/2023	1,500,000.00	4.13%	30	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	56	4/09/2023	4/10/2023	1,000,000.00	4.13%	30	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	57	4/09/2023	6/11/2023	2,000,000.00	4.42%	63	A-1+
National Australia Bank	58	27/09/2023	27/12/2023	3,000,000.00	4.90%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank	59	27/09/2023	27/12/2023	3,000,000.00	4.90%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank			At Call	1,358,294.78	Flex		A-1+
Total Investments				39,524,289.63			

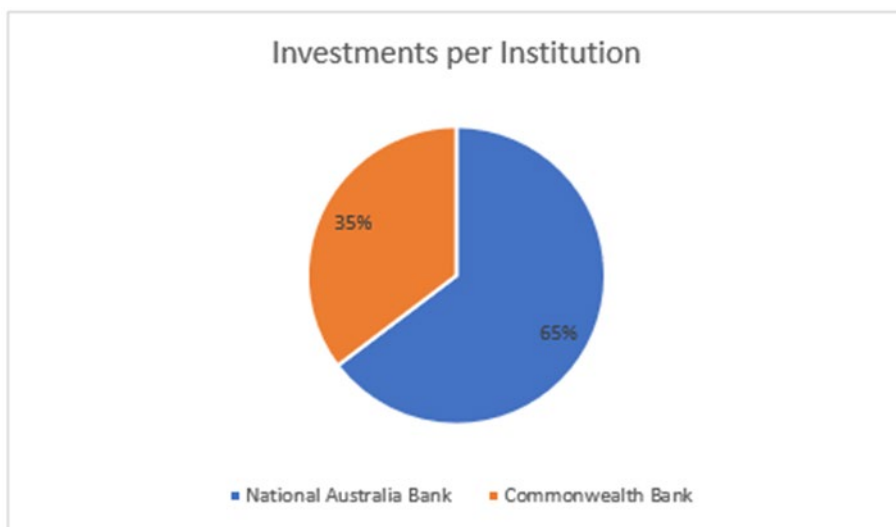
Term Deposits

Discussions/Comments

Compared to August 2023, there has been an decrease of \$761,238.84 in Councils Investment portfolio as at 30 September 2023.



The investment portfolio is invested in term deposits with the National Australia Bank and the Commonwealth 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 2021* and Council’s Investment Policy.

Ang Pasang Rai
Responsible Accounting Officer

Recommendation

- 1. That the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 September 2023, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted.**

16.3 CODE OF CONDUCT - ANNUAL SUMMARY

File Number: 2573
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Part 11.1 of the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct, as issued by the NSW Office of Local Government and as adopted by Council, requires the Complaints Coordinator (Manager Corporate Services) to report to Council within three months of the end of September each year on complaint statistics under Council's Code of Conduct as follows:

- a) the total number of code of conduct complaints made about councillors and the general manager under the code of conduct in the year to September (the reporting period);*
- b) the number of code of conduct complaints referred to a conduct reviewer during the reporting period;*
- c) the number of code of conduct complaints finalised by a conduct reviewer at the preliminary assessment stage during the reporting period and the outcome of those complaints;*
- d) the number of code of conduct complaints investigated by a conduct reviewer during the reporting period;*
- e) without identifying particular matters, the outcome of investigations completed under these procedures during the reporting period;*
- f) the number of matters reviewed by the Office during the reporting period and, without identifying particular matters, the outcome of the reviews, and*
- g) the total cost of dealing with code of conduct complaints made about councillors and the general manager during the reporting period, including staff costs.*

In addition, the Procedures (Part 11.2) require Council "to provide the Office with a report containing the statistics referred to in clause 11.1 within 3 months of the end of September of each year. "

Current Situation

It is advised that no Code of Conduct complaints were received during the reporting period from 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023. In addition, no costs were incurred. Accordingly, the statistics for items a) to g), inclusive, as above is NIL.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

- 1. That it be noted that no Code of Conduct Complaints were made about Councillors and the General Manager, or costs incurred, during the reporting period of 1 October 2022 till 30 September 2023.**
- 2. That the Office of Local Government be advised accordingly as per Part 11.2 of the Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct.**

16.4 AGENCY INFORMATION GUIDE AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY REVIEW

File Number:	P4.1
Author:	Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments:	1. 1.4.10(v4) Access to Information Policy - Final Draft 2. 1.4.11(v7) Agency Information Guide - Final Draft

Background

This report provides a brief on the review of Council's Access Information Guide in accordance with s. 21 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and seeks the approval of Council to adopt the revised Agency Information Guide. Also included is the Access to Information Policy with this Policy detailing how the information can be accessed.

Current Situation

Council is required under s 21 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* to annually review and adopt an 'Agency Information Guide' as part of its mandatory open access information. The Guide must contain information on Council's structure and functions; the way Council's functions affect the public; how the public may participate in Council's policy development; the kind of documents Council holds and how members of the public may access Council documents. The Information Guide must be available on Council's website.

Council staff have reviewed the Agency Information Guide and Access to Information Policy.

A copy of the amended Agency Information Guide and Access to Information Policy is included for Council's information and approval.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Agency Information Guide 2023 and Access to Information Policy for integration into operational controls in accordance with *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

SECTION No. 1
PART No. 4.10



Access to Information Policy

Policy No: 1.4.10 (v4)

Date Adopted: 23/10/2023

Minute No: 2023/xxx

Supersedes: 1.4.10 (v3)

Proposed Review Date: 24/10/2026

Responsible Officer: Manager Corporate Services

Verified by General Manager..... Verified by Mayor.....

1. Intent

The intent of this policy is to outline the Bourke Shire Council's guiding principles for handling requests for information access by the general public.

1.1 The objectives of this policy are to:-

- define and manage proactive, informal and formal information requests from the public under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (the GIPA Act)
- provide the public with a straightforward and fully transparent process to access information held by Council at minimal cost and/or delay
- provide access to information wherever possible via Council's website and Customer Service Centre
- define information which may be restricted from public access
- ensure customers are promptly advised of the information they are entitled to access and with clearly documented reasons if access to information is refused
- advise customers of their rights of review if access to information is refused.

2. Scope

The policy applies to all government and personal information held by the Council in the various forms, comprising all councillors, employees, consultants and contractors providing a service to Council.

3. Framework

This Policy, once adopted, will provide Council and Council staff with a process for handling requests for information access by the general public.

4. Provisions

4.1 Accessing Information

Any member of the public has the legal right to request access to the information the Council maintains by submitting an application to the Council. The Council also makes a lot of information available to the public upon request and publishes a wide range of information on its website.

The Council will provide copies of requested information in digital form wherever possible. Where copies cannot be made available in digital form, information may be available for viewing in the Council building's conference room.

The Council is required to issue Access Directions for all records older than 30 years under Part 6 of the *State Records Act 1998*. Access guidelines are created for record classes rather than specific records. Records that are subject to an access direction and available to the public must be made available upon request. Under the GIPA Act, access to records that have been closed under the *State Records Act 1998* is still possible. If access is denied in accordance with the GIPA Act, the review rights detailed below take effect.

4.2 Open Access Information and Proactive Disclosure

The GIPA Act requires the Council to make its "open access information" accessible to the general public. Information that is "open access information" is listed in Schedule 1 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and Part 3 of the GIPA Act.

The Council's 'open access information' is made available to members of the public via Council's website.

The proactive sharing of information upholds the public's right to information and shows that the Council is actively looking for ways to be open and accountable. In accordance with the GIPA Act, the Council aims to identify material to disclose in advance and encourages staff to periodically determine whether the information produced and gathered in their respective business areas would be useful to publish in advance.

4.3 Informal Access to Information

If a member of the public seeks access to information that is not posted on the Council's website, they will be advised on how to submit an informal information access request via email, or on a printable form.

The Council will grant access to information unless there is a compelling public interest to withhold it.

An informal information access request is free of charge, but a scanning or photocopying fee might be charged in accordance with the Council's Revenue Policy: Fees and Charges. Requests for information access will be handled as quickly as possible, usually within 10 working days.

4.4 Formal Access to Information

When the Council denies access to information in response to an informal information access request, the individual requesting access to the information will be informed of their right to file a formal access application under section 41 of the GIPA Act.

In accordance with Section 41 of the GIPA Act, a formal access application may be required to be submitted if:

- the information sought is of a sensitive nature, as defined by the Council's Sensitive and Security Classified Information Schema;
- the processes necessary to locate the information sought are highly complex;
- a substantial amount of information is sought; granting access would necessitate a thorough search;
- the information sought involves the personal or business information of third parties, the release of which requires their consent.

Applications for access under Section 41 (formal applications) must be submitted in writing and include a \$30 fee. Processing fees could also be charged based on the kind and volume of information requested. The GIPA Act controls the levying of processing fees.

An access application will get a written acknowledgement of receipt within five business days.

The processing of access applications will normally takes 20 working days. However, if a third party consultation or requirement to retrieve records is necessary, the decision period may be extended up to 15 working days. The statutory decision period could be prolonged in response to a request for an advance deposit.

The decision will be communicated to the applicant in writing. Any decision to deny access will be supported by justifications. If there are fees involved, access to the information won't be granted until the fee has been paid.

4.5 Review Rights for Section 41 (formal) Applications

Part 5 of the GIPA Act outlines a number of review rights. There are a variety of options available to the applicant if access to information is denied following a request made under section 41 of the GIPA Act, including asking for a review of the Council's decision:

- via an internal review by the Council;
- by the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC);
- by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

Applications for internal review must be submitted within 20 working days of the applicant receiving notice of the decision in writing and include a \$40.00 fee.

A senior official who was not involved in the initial decision-making process will carry out an internal review. Within 15 working days, the outcome of an internal review will be announced. If consultation is required, this may be extended by up to 10 working days.

As an alternative, an applicant may submit a request for review directly to the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT). To request this review, applicants must do so within 40 working days of receiving the initial decision. If the applicant has already received a review decision from the IPC, they have 20 working days from the date of the decision to submit an application to NCAT.

4.6 How Councillors are to request access to information

Councillors' general rights and obligations with regard to getting access to council information that is legitimately required for them to perform the duties of their civic office are covered explicitly in Part 8 of the Council's Code of Conduct.

Council members and their staff should use their official email addresses or letterhead to send any written requests for information to the Office of the General Manager or the relevant Executive Manager in order to carry out the duties of their civic office.

When other departments receive similar requests, they should immediately forward them to the Office of the General Manager or the appropriate Manager.

Council members and their staff should be certain when requesting information that:

- their requests clearly and concisely describe the information they seek
- the size and scope of requests for information are within reasonable limits.

The General Manager or appropriate Manager is required to exercise reasonable judgment when responding to a Councillor's request for information. If a request is denied, justification must be given in writing since a Councillor could need the information to carry out their public duties. Every information provided to one councillor while they are carrying out their civic responsibilities ought to be made available to every other councillor who wants it.

According to the Council's Code of Conduct, "Councillors and administrators who have a private interest in only council information have the same rights of access as any member of the public." When requesting information, council members and their staff should be clear about whether it is related to their job responsibilities or just a personal interest.

4.7 Copyright

A significant portion of the Council's information that is accessible to the public is protected by copyright and is the intellectual property of third parties. As an illustration, consider the plans and reports provided with development applications. According to the GIPA Act and other pertinent laws, such as the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the public has access to this information. This information is protected by copyright laws, thus users are urged to get the owner's permission before using any of the information in any way.

5. Accountabilities

The General Manager will delegate responsibilities to staff to determine applications under the GIPA Act, which is reflected in the Council's 'Delegations Register from the General Manager to staff'.

The Council's employees, council members, and contractors are accountable for respecting the policy's guiding concepts and procedures as necessary for their daily jobs.

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The following Council officers are responsible for the implementation and adherence of this Policy:

- General Manager
- Manager Corporate Services and Executive Services.

5.2 Support and Advice

The following Council officers are available to provide support and advice on this Policy:

- Manager Corporate Services and Executive Services.

6 Definitions

Term	Explanation
Government Information	Refers to information contained in a record held by a government agency i.e. Bourke Shire Council.
Record	Means any document, data or information created, compiled, recorded or stored in written form by electronic process, film or recordings, or in any other manner or by any other means that is evidence of or captures business activities and transactions.
Access Application (Approved Form)	Council has an approved form to be used for the purpose of formal request for information that is does not come under the categories of open access information. The approved from is to be accompanied by the required application fee.

7 Linkages

7.1 Applicable Legislation

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following:-

- *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*
- *Government Information (Public Access) Act Regulations 2018*
- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*
- *State Records Act 1998*
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- *Other subordinate legislation mentioned in the GIPA Act 2009*
- *Copyright Act 1968 (Cth)*

7.2 Related Policies and Procedures

Please refer to the following policies/procedures:

- *Council's Code of Conduct*
- *Council's Code of Meeting Practice*

8 Review

This Policy will be reviewed every three (3) years or as required in the event of legislative changes. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution or the approval of the General Manager.

9. Policy Amendments

Version	Date Approved	Description of Changes
1.4.10 (v3)	24/08/2020	New policy format.
1.4.10(v4)	23/10/2023	Minor revisions/ revised Policy format.



Agency Information Guide

Prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*

Policy No: 1.4.11(v7)

Date Adopted: 23/10/2023

Resolution No: 2023/

Supersedes: 1.4.11(v6)

Proposed Review Date: 22/10/2024

Responsible Officer: Manager Corporate Services

Verified by General Manager.....Verified by Mayor.....

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1. Structure and Functions of Council

1.1 Introduction

The role of the Council is to:

- direct and control the affairs of the Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, (the LG Act);
- provide effective civic leadership to the local community;
- ensure as far as possible the financial sustainability of the Council;
- ensure as far as possible that the Council acts in accordance with the principles set out in the LGA and the plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council;
- develop and endorse the community strategic plan, delivery program and other strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council;
- determine and adopt a rating and revenue policy and operational plans that support the optimal allocation of the Council's resources to implement the strategic plans (including the community strategic plan) of the Council and for the benefit of the local area;
- keep under review the performance of the Council, including service delivery,
- make decisions necessary for the proper exercise of the Council's regulatory functions;
- determine the process for appointment of the General Manager by the Council and to monitor the General Manager's performance;
- determine the senior staff positions within the organisation structure of the Council;
- to consult regularly with community organisations and other key stakeholders and keep them informed of the Council's decisions and activities; and
- be responsible for ensuring that the Council acts honestly, efficiently and appropriately.

The Mayor is the leader of the Council and a leader in the local community. He/she has a role to enhance community cohesion and is the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body.

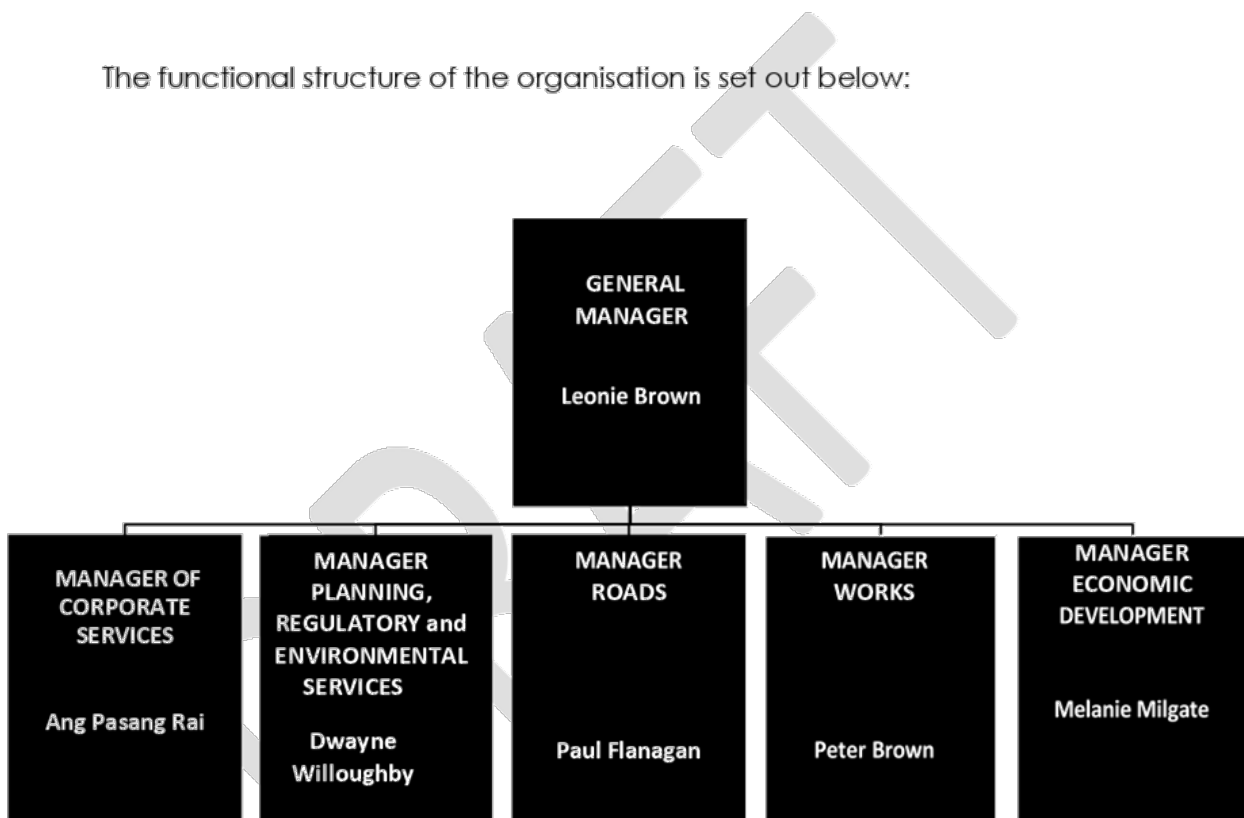
The Mayor presides at meetings of the Council, carries out the civic and ceremonial functions of the office, exercises, in of necessity, the decision-making functions of the governing body, between its meetings and performs any other functions that the Council determines. The Mayor also ensures the timely development and adoption of strategic plans, programs and policies of Council, promotes partnerships and provides strategic direction to the General Manager.

The Principal Officer of the Council is the General Manager. The General Manager is responsible for the efficient operation of the Council's organisation and for ensuring the implementation of Council decisions. The General

Manager is also responsible for the day-to-day management of the Council, the exercise of any functions delegated by the Council, the appointment, direction and where necessary, the dismissal of staff; as well as the implementation of Council's Workforce Management Strategy, exercise functions delegated by Council and provide advice to the Mayor and Councillors regarding Council's Strategic Plans, Programs, Strategies and Policies.

1.2 Organisational Structure

The functional structure of the organisation is set out below:



1.3 Council Functions

Council has functions conferred or imposed on it by the Local Government Act 1993. These functions are outlined below:

- Service Functions

Council provides services and facilities to the public. These include Community health, recreation, education and information services.

- Regulatory Functions

Council regulates developments and buildings to ensure they meet certain requirements affecting community amenity and safety. This includes issuing development and construction or demolition approvals, orders and building certificates.

- Ancillary Functions

Council undertakes various ancillary functions. These include the resumption of Land and Powers of entry & inspection.

- Revenue Functions

Councils Revenue functions include revenue sourced from rates and other charges paid by the public. These funds help fund the services and facilities the Council provides for the community. These functions include levying rates, charges and fees as well as borrowings and investments.

- Administrative Functions

Council's administrative functions include employing staff, developing management plans and financial and performance reporting (eg Annual Report).

- Enforcement Functions

Enforcement functions include matters such as the pursuit of the non-payment of rates and charges, environmental planning or companion animal offences, The Council may issue penalty notices or initiate legal proceedings.

As well as the Local Government Act 1993, Council has powers under a number of other Acts including, but not limited to:

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
Commons Management Act 1989
Community Land Development Act 1989
Companion Animals Act 1998
Contaminated Land Management Act 1997
Conveyancing Act 1919
Crown Lands Act 1989
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
Fire Brigades Act 1989
Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1957
Food Act 2003
Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
Heritage Act 1977
Impounding Act 1993
Library Act 1939
Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
Public Health Act 2010
Recreation Vehicles Act 1983
Roads Act 1993
Rural Fires Act 1997
State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989
State Emergency Service Act 1989
Strata Schemes Development Act 2015
Strata Schemes Management Act 2015
Swimming Pools Act 1992
Unclaimed Money Act 1995

In order to undertake its functions, Council has identified the following Principal Activities and Functions:

Principal Activities	Functions
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Management Accounting Services • Financial Accounting Services • Human Resource Services • Information Technology Services • Administrative Services • Technical Support Services • Rates and General Revenue • Customer Services • Commercial Activity • Risk Management • Asset Services • Strategic Activities • Community and Social Consultation • RTA Agency • Depot Services • Works Services • Fleet Management
Economic Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Development • Tourism and Area Promotion • Special Projects • Economic Development • Community Development • Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre, PV Jandra, Crossley Engine • Saleyards and Markets • Industrial Development
Public Order and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Protection • Animal Control • Emergency Services • Other Public Order and Safety • Abandoned Buildings
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental and Health Services • Environmental Support Services • Land use Services • Other Health • Noxious Plants
Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged and Disabled Services • Education • Youth Services • Other Community Services
Housing and Community Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Town Planning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Approval and Control • Domestic and Trade Waste Management Services • Street Cleaning • Urban Stormwater Drainage • Cemeteries • Community and Village Amenities • Environmental Protection
Water Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourke and Villages Water Supply
Sewerage Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewerage Services
Recreation and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Services • Community Centres • Public Halls • Sporting Grounds and Facilities • Other Cultural Services
Public Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourke Olympic Swimming Pool
Recreational Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks, Gardens and Reserves
Mining, Manufacturing and Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and Building • Quarries and Gravel Pits
Transportation and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Network • Town and Village Streets and Lanes • Aerodromes • Footpaths and Cycle ways • Traffic Management • Street Lighting • Kerbing and Guttering • Street Trees

2. How Council functions affect members of the public

As a service organisation, the majority of the activities of Bourke Shire Council have an impact on the public. The following is an outline of how the broad functions of Council affect the public.

Service functions affect the public as Council provides services and facilities to the public. These include provision of human services such as libraries, halls and community centres, recreation facilities, infrastructure and the removal of garbage.

Regulatory functions place restrictions on developments and buildings to ensure that they meet certain requirements affecting the amenity of the community and not endanger the lives and safety of any person. Members of the public must be aware of, and comply with, such regulations.

Ancillary functions affect only some members of the public. These functions include, for example, the resumption of land or the power for Council to enter onto a person's land. In these circumstances, only the owner of the property would be affected.

Revenue functions affect the public directly in that revenue from rates and other charges paid by the public is used to fund services and facilities provided to the community.

Administrative functions do not necessarily affect the public directly but have an indirect impact on the community through the efficiency and effectiveness of the service provided.

Enforcement functions only affect those members of the public who are in breach of certain legislation. This includes matters such as the non-payment of rates and charges and unregistered dogs.

Community planning and development functions affect areas such as cultural development, social planning and community profile and involves:

- Advocating and planning for the needs of our community. This includes initiating partnerships; participating on regional, State or Commonwealth working parties; and preparation and implementation of the Community Plan.
- Providing support to community and sporting organisations through provision of grants, training and information.
- Facilitating opportunities for people to participate in the life of the community through the conduct of a range of community events such as NAIDOC Week, Youth Week, Seniors Week, as well as promoting events of others.

3. Council policy development & functions – public participation

There are two (2) broad ways in which the public may participate in policy development and, indeed, the general activities of the Council. These are:

3.1 Representation

Councils in New South Wales are generally elected every four (4) years. The next general elections are scheduled to be held in September 2024. All residents of the area who are on the electoral roll are eligible to vote. Property owners who live outside of the area and rate paying lessees can also vote, but must register their intention to vote on the non-residential roll. Voting is compulsory.

Residents are able to raise issues with, and make representations to, the elected Councillors. The Councillors, if they agree with the issue or representation, may pursue the matter on the resident's behalf thus allowing members of the public to influence the development of policy. Councillors only have a decision-making role when they formally meet as a Council.

3.2 Personal Participation

Members of the public are able to attend Council meetings, with Bourke Shire Council meeting on the 4th Monday of each month. The exception to this is the December meeting, which is determined each year to coincide with Christmas, with no meeting being held in January.

Members of the public are able to make submissions for Council's consideration in relation to the development of its Community Strategic Plan, Operational Plan and Delivery Program as well as on proposals relating to development, subdivision and building applications. In addition, members of the public can present to a Public Forum session held prior to the monthly Council meeting.

4. Documents held by Council

Council holds government information (hard copy and electronic form) that relate to a number of different issues concerning the Bourke shire Council area. These documents are grouped into three categories:

1. Electronic documents
2. Physical files
3. Policy documents

4.1 Files – both “physical” and electronic

Council's files are not available on the website however information from these files may be made available either by informal release or via an access application, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of

the information. This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (the GIPA Act).

Members of the public who require an informal release or an access application can do so by contacting Council.

4.2 Policy documents

Council's policies are maintained in a policy register – required documents are available on the website.

5. How to access Council information

There are four (4) ways in which Council information is made available to the public under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act):

5.1 Open access information

This information is mandatorily available in accordance with the GIPA Act. The public is entitled to inspect these documents either on Council's website (www.bourke.nsw.gov.au) (unless there is an unreasonable additional cost to Council to publish these documents on the website) or at the offices of the Council during ordinary office hours or at any other place as determined by the Council. Any current and previous government information of this type may be inspected by the public free of charge. Copies can be supplied for reasonable copying charges, subject to copyright. The list of government information held by Council is set out below:

5.2 Information about Council

- Council's adopted Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Annual Report
- Annual Financial Reports
- Auditor's Report
- Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan
- EEO Management Plan
- Policy concerning the Payment of Expenses Incurred by, and the Provision of Facilities to Councillors
- Annual Reports of Bodies Exercising Functions Delegated by Council
- Any Codes referred to in the LGA
- Returns of the Interests of Councillors, Designated Persons and Delegates
- Agendas and Business Papers for any meeting of Council or any Committee of Council
- Minutes of any meeting of Council or any Committee of Council
- Departmental Representative Reports presented at a meeting of Council

- Land Register
- Register of Investments
- Register of Delegations
- Register of Graffiti removal works
- Register of current Declarations of Disclosures of Political donations
- Register of Voting on Planning Matters

5.3 Plans and Policies

- Local Policies adopted by Council concerning approvals and orders
- Plans of Management for Community Land
- Environmental Planning Instruments, Development Control Plans and Contribution Plans

5.4 Information about Development Applications

Development Applications and the following associated documents received in relation to a proposed development:

- Home Warranty Insurance documents
- Construction Certificates
- Occupation Certificates
- Structural Certification Documents
- Town Planner Reports
- Submissions received on Development Applications
- Heritage Consultant Reports
- Tree Inspections Consultant Reports
- Acoustic Consultant Reports
- Land Contamination Consultant Reports
- Records of decisions on Development Applications including decisions on appeals
- Records describing general nature of documents that Council decides to exclude from public view including internal specifications and configurations, and commercially sensitive information.

5.5 Approvals, Orders and Other Documents

- Applications for approvals under part 7 of the LG Act
- Applications for approvals under any other Act and any associated documents received
- Records of approvals granted or refused, any variation from Council Policies with reasons for the variation, and decisions made on appeals concerning approvals
- Orders given under Part 2 of Chapter 7 of the Local Government Act, and any reasons given under section 136 of the LG Act
- Orders given under the Authority of any other Act
- Records of Building Certificates under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Plans of land proposed to be compulsorily acquired by Council
- Compulsory Acquisition Notices

- Leases and Licenses for use of Public Land classified as Community Land
- Performance improvement orders issued under Section 6 of Chapter 13 of the LG Act

In addition to the above the following government information known as "open access information" is also publicly available:

- Council's current agency information guide,
- Information about the Council contained in any document tabled in Parliament by or on behalf of the Council, other than any document tabled by order of either House of Parliament,
- Council's policies
- Council's disclosure log or access applications
- Council's register of government contracts
- Council's record of the open access information (if any) that it does not make publicly available on the basis of an overriding public interest against disclosure,
- such other government information as may be prescribed by the regulations as open access information.

5.6 Proactive release

Council is encouraged to make as much information of public interest as possible publicly available free of charge or at minimal cost, such as frequently requested information or information of special public interest. The information to be proactively released is decided at Council's discretion. It is published in an appropriate manner and either free of charge or available at a reasonable cost.

Council makes the following information of public interest available on its website:

- Council events information
- Council news updates
- Fees and Charges
- Government submissions
- Community Information Directories, Publications and Services
- Infrastructure Program Updates
- Major Projects Updates

5.7 Informal Release

Council is authorised to release information in response to an informal request, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information, such as if another person's personal information is included in the information. A written application is required to request information informally.

5.8 Formal Release

You are also able to request access to Council information, including information not available as open access, proactive release or informal

release, by lodging a Formal Access to Information Request.

You will need to lodge a formal application if:-

- You are requesting another person's personal information (e.g. complainant's details)
- You are requesting information relating to an insurance claim
- Your request will involve retrieval of a large number of documents or files (five files or more)
- You are requesting information relating to companion animals

For an application to be considered valid, it must:-

- Be in writing
- Have the \$30 application fee paid upon lodgement
- Include a postal address within Australia
- Contain enough details to allow the required information to be identified.

The \$30 application fee will cover the first hour of processing. Subsequent time spent processing the application will incur a charge of \$30 per hour. You will be informed of the estimated total cost of your application within five days of the application being received.

6. How members of the public may access and amend Council Government Information concerning their personal affairs

As mentioned previously, Council has a vast range of documents that can be accessed in varying ways. Most documents require an appointment to be accessed, in order to allow files to be retrieved from Council's off-site storage facility. Appointments can be made to view documents at Council's Administration Office, 29 Mitchell Street, Bourke, between the hours of 8.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (except public holidays); Telephone: 02 6830 8000.

If a fee for photocopies of documents provided under the GIPA Act is payable, it will be listed in Council's adopted Schedule of Fees and Charges and GST is included.

6.1 Public Officer and Right to Information Officer

Amongst other duties, the Public Officer may deal with requests from the public concerning the Council's affairs and has the responsibility of assisting people to gain access to public documents of the Council. If you have any difficulty in obtaining access to Council documents, you may wish to refer your enquiry to the Public Officer who is responsible for determining applications for access to documents.

If you believe that a Council record is incorrect, and you would like to have this amended it is necessary for you to make written application to the Public

Officer in the first instance.

Enquiries should be addressed as follows:

General Manager
 Bourke Shire Council
 PO Box 21
 Bourke NSW 2840

Email: bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au

7. Further information

If you require any other advice or assistance about access to information you may contact the Information and Privacy Commission using the following details:-

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner NSW
 Industrial Relations Commission Building
 Level 3, 47 Bridge Street
 Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 1800 472 679

Fax: (02) 8114 3756

Email: ipcinfo@ipc.nsw.gov.au

Website: <https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/information-access>

Data NSW

Email: datansw@finance.nsw.gov.au

Website: data.nsw.gov.au

OpenGov NSW

Email: opengov@records.nsw.gov.au

Website: opengov.nsw.gov.au

8. Amendments

Version	Date Approved	Description of Changes
1.4.10 (v6)	27/09/2021	Minor revisions.
1.4.10 (v7)	23/10/2023	Minor revisions.

17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

17.1 HISTORICAL HOTEL TOUR

File Number:	2897, 3283
Author:	Melanie Milgate, Manager Economic Development
Authoriser:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments:	Nil

Background

Across the local government areas of Bourke, Cobar and Walgett there are hundreds of sites where hotels once stood. Whilst many of the sites are inaccessible it was considered important by the three (3) councils that the fascinating stories attached to them are recorded and available to be told. With an ever-increasing number of domestic tourists travelling the far northwest of the State, by making these historical records available, the existing tourism-based attractions within the area could be enhanced. This enhancement has the potential to further build tourist numbers which have become increasingly important to each of the local economies of the three (3) councils.

With these outcomes in mind, the Far Northwest Joint Organisation of Councils (FNWJO), comprising the Shires of Bourke, Cobar and Walgett, agreed to utilise State Government provided funding to pursue the development of a formal Historical Hotel Tour. This project would package together a significant amount of information regarding the many historical hotel sites across the Joint Organisation area in a format that is attractive to the travelling public. The project would focus on the history of the region and the fact that hotels, to a large degree, were a result of economic success such as with the wool booms and river traffic. There are however many other reasons that saw the development of hotels and the subsequent demise of these establishments as times changed. Once complete the Historic Hotel Tour would look to recreate the wonders of yesteryear by bringing these villages back to life, at least on paper, and be able to relay their importance to the development of the far west as we know it.

These stories form an important part of the area's history and should not be lost. The legacy of their existence and the sites of what remains are like remote monuments to the development of modern Australia and the identity of the Outback.

To progress this vision, a brief was developed and the FNWJO undertook a public tender process with a view to engaging a contractor to bring the project to fruition. As a result of this tender process, the FNWJO contracted Poetry on a Plate, trading as Gidgee Media, to undertake the development of an Historical Hotel Tour encompassing the three (3) local government areas of the FNWJO.

Current Situation

Following their engagement, Gidgee Media has undertaken a considerable amount of research by trawling through old newspapers held by repositories such as Trove. Old photographs are being

pursued to assist with the visual story and provide an indication in relation to the types of building these hotels were and in turn how they contributed to the landscape of each location.

The project is a large undertaking but one that has gained the support of a variety of people and stakeholders across the footprint of the local government areas which comprise the Far North West Joint Organisation.

The project aims to be completed by mid-2024 and will see the development of a dedicated website detailing the locations of many of the hotels and the history attached there to. The project is unique and will enhance the experience of those who visit the area in an attempt to absorb the history and reflect on the hardships and challenges faced by those who had the courage to move to what were deemed inhospitable areas.

The Historic Hotel Tour will see a blending of history and current technology with areas of interest identified by signage that in many instances will provide a “QR” code enabling those visiting the site the ability to hear about the history on a specially designed app.

Financial Implications

Funding for the project is provided through grant funding awarded to the FNWJO.

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Economic Development regarding the Historic Hotel Tour, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

18 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Nil

19 POLICIES

Nil

20 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

20.1 *** ROTARY CLUB SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY

File Number: 1725, 4188
Author: Margo Anderson, Executive Assistant
Authoriser: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Attachments: 1. Request for In Kind Contribution to Seniors Christmas Party

Background

The Bourke Rotary Club is planning to host a Christmas Party for Senior Citizens residing in Bourke on Saturday, 25 November 2023.

Current Situation

Council has received an application from Lisa Crothers, Secretary Treasurer of the Bourke Rotary Club Inc requesting in kind support for the hire of the Back O' Bourke Function Centre for a Christmas luncheon.

Financial Implications

It is proposed the Rotary Club contribute the \$1,000 towards the cost of the event and Council waive the hire fee \$350 for the hire of the Back O' Bourke Function Centre. Albeit the application requests in kind support to the value of \$350, the event is being held on a Saturday which incurs an additional cost, being \$500.

Recommendation

That Council accede to the request of the Bourke Rotary Club Inc, for financial assistance in the amount of \$500 to cover the hire costs of the Back O' Bourke Function Centre to assist the Club as it hosts a Christmas Party for Senior Citizens residing in Bourke on Saturday, 25 November 2023.

To be eligible, organisations must:-

- submit an application on the prescribed form
- meet the criteria and the guidelines set out in this policy, and
- explain why their request was not submitted through the annual process



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

Name of applicant organisation:	ROTARY CLUB OF BOURKE INC
Postal Address:	PO BOX 411 BOURKE NSW 2840
Contact person:	LISA CROTHERS
Position:	TREASURER / SECRETARY
Phone number:	0419 291979
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: bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au

INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Please provide a brief overview of your group /organisation:-
NOT FOR PROFIT COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANISATION

Is the Group/organisation based in Bourke Shire?:- Yes/No
If no, where is it located?

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

Purpose for which the donation will be used:-
HOST CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN BOURKE - LUNCHTIME 25-11-2023 @ BOBEL FUNCTION CENTRE ROTMAY TO PROVIDE MEAL & BEVERAGES

If not stated above, briefly describe the way in which this donation will benefit Bourke Shire:-
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Has your group/organisation received financial or in kind support from Bourke Shire in the last 12 months? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
If yes, please provide amount and details of purpose: IN-KIND ASSISTANCE IN PREPARATION OF THE WOOL BALE ROLLING COMPETITION HELD AS PART OF THE EASTER ACTIVITIES
Has your group/organisation received any grants from the State or Federal Government in relation to the project for which this donation is sought? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
If yes, briefly list details and amount of grant
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	No
Does your group / organisation have an ABN (Australian Business Number)?	Yes	No
Is your group / organisation incorporated?	Yes	No
If yes, please quote your ABN		
If yes, please quote your Incorporation No		
Does your group / organisation have Public Liability Insurance?	Yes	No
If yes, please attach a Certificate of Currency		

To be completed for "in kind" support:-
 (Please arrange appointment with appropriate Council staff to obtain a quote where necessary)

ITEM	Applicant's Contribution	Support sought from Council
A. Monetary	1000	
Total (A)		
B. Equipment costs		
Total (B)		
C. Labour costs		
Total ©		
D. Other project costs		
USE OF FUNCTION CENTRE @ BOBEL 25-11-2023		350
Total (D)		
TOTAL COSTS (A+B+C+D)	1000	350

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: *[Signature]*

Name: *LISA CROTHERS*

Position: *SECRETARY / TREASURER*

Date: *19 / 09 / 2023*

21 ACTIVITY REPORTS

21.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES - ROAD WORKS AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: E7.1
Author: Paul Flanagan, Manager Roads
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

The following information outlines works undertaken during September 2023.

ENGINEERING SERVICES - Road Works – Works Undertaken		
Michael Willoughby – Roads Supervisor		
NORTH SECTOR – Denis Tiffen, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
RLR-28	Gravel re-sheet	N
SOUTH SECTOR - John Reed, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
State Highways	Heavy Patching	N
Showground	Carpark	Y
Back 'O Bourke Exhibition Centre	Walking Track	Y
TRANSPORT SECTOR - Simon Wielinga, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
RLR-28 Janbeth Road	Gravel re-sheet	N
BITUMEN SECTOR – Phillip Harvey, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Bourke Township	Pothole patching	Y
Regional Roads	Pothole patching	Y
State Highways	Pothole patching	Y
SH 7 South of Bourke	Control vegetation (ongoing)	N
MR 421 Kidman Way	Control vegetation (ongoing)	N
CONTRACTORS		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
RLR-27 (Burrawantie Road)	Maintenance grade (NAK)	Y
RLR-14 (Avondale Road)	Maintenance grade (Sandford)	N
RLR-10 (Idalia Road)	Gravel re-sheeting (Sandford)	N
MR-404 (Milparinka Road)	Maintenance grade (NAK)	N

WORKSHOP – Works Undertaken		
Colin Kiley, Team Leader, Tradesman Plant Mechanic		
Plant no	Plant Type	Work Completed
46	Hino Tipper	Removed and replaced blinker switch assembly. Removed and replaced left hand door lock assembly. Removed and replaced gearbox rear main oil seal, drained and refilled gear box.
49	Hino Tipper	Removed and replaced bull bar blinkers and fog lights. Completed repairs for registration.
50	1116 Kenworth T409SAR	Completed 430,000 km service. Removed and replaced faulty air switch for tipping valve.
68	2011 Moore Road Train B Double X5 08 02	Repaired damaged axle, fitted new bearings and adjusted brakes to specifications.
76	2004 Moore Road Train Tipper	Diagnosed slow hydraulics. Removed and replaced dirty and worn valve, replaced air valve and cleaned hydraulic pump. Replaced trap battery and charged old one.
77	2008 Case 590PCI-1A580	Removed rear differential and ordered parts.
122	2021 Mazda CX-5	Completed 20,000 km service.
147	2020 Trailer	Diagnosed and repaired faulty wiring under dash affecting lights and air conditioning.
149	Moore Triaxle Tipper	Removed and replaced trap battery, charged old battery.
188	John Deere 670g	Removed and replaced blown hydraulic hose.
190	2020 Mazda BT-50	Completed 50,000 km service.
261	Ford Ranger	Completed 75,000 km service.
265	Isuzu NQR 450	Removed and replaced damaged wiper arm assembly.
271	2022 Ford Ranger	Completed 65,000 km service.
288	2022 Ford Ranger	Completed 20,000 km service.
298	Caterpillar Compactor	Repair ignition system.
310	2014 Caterpillar 432F	Diagnosed movement in front differential, found pivot pin hanging out. Adjusted differential and shims and completed refit.
404	2010 Isuzu 500 Short FRR	Completed 190,000 km service. Diagnosed power take off (pto) problem, found faulty clutch pedal switch. Cleaned and repaired switch while awaiting ordered parts to arrive. Removed , manufactured and reassembled bent tail gate hinges.
506	Kenworth Primemover	Completed 280,000 km service.
520	2018 Moores Road Train B Double YN 03 BI	Removed and replaced worn control valve.
521	2018 Moores Road Train B Double YN 04 BI	Removed and replaced trap system and battery. Removed and replaced worn control valve.

Jandra Paddle Boat	Fitted battery carries and covers.
Miscellaneous and Hire	Completed electrical testing and tagging of RMS shed and crib room.
Small Plant	Carried out repairs and serviced small plant.
Registration Checks	Registration checks completed on BSC plant and external vehicles.
Welding	Manufactured door for workshop and undertook various works in the store room.
Staff Training	
TAFE	Ben Dorrington and Denzel Jackson.
Electrical Test and Tag Training	Ben Dorrington and John Laycock.

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Roads regarding Engineering Services - Road Works and Workshop Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

21.2 ENGINEERING SERVICES - PARKS AND GARDENS, TOWN SERVICES, WATER AND WASTEWATER ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: E7.1
Author: Peter Brown, Manager Works
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

The following information outlines works completed for the month of September 2023.

Current Situation

PARKS & GARDENS – Frank Hollman, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
General	All parks, sporting grounds and gardens - regular mowing and maintenance completed. Sporting grounds facilities cleaned and maintained. Public toilets cleaned and maintained. Facilities cleaned. General graffiti removal carried out on Council facilities.
Louth	Mowing and maintenance completed. Public toilets cleaned and maintained. Facilities cleaned.
Small Plant	Maintenance and service carried out on all ground plant.
Works Requests	Actioned and ongoing.
Town Streets	General maintenance carried out. Mowed and cleaned footpaths.
Wharf	General maintenance carried out.
Council Office	General maintenance carried out.
Renshaw Complex	General maintenance carried out. Grounds and facilities cleaned and maintained.
Coolican Oval	General maintenance carried out.
Davidson Oval	General maintenance carried out.
Central Park	Skate Park - regular mowing and maintenance carried out, graffiti removal.
Villages	Mowed grounds, facilities cleaned and maintained.
Airport	General maintenance carried out.
Darling Park	General maintenance carried out.
Boat Ramp	General maintenance carried out.
Fishing Reserve	Inspection and general maintenance carried out.
North Bourke Truck Stop	General maintenance carried out. General graffiti removal carried out on Council facilities.
Staff Training	Nil

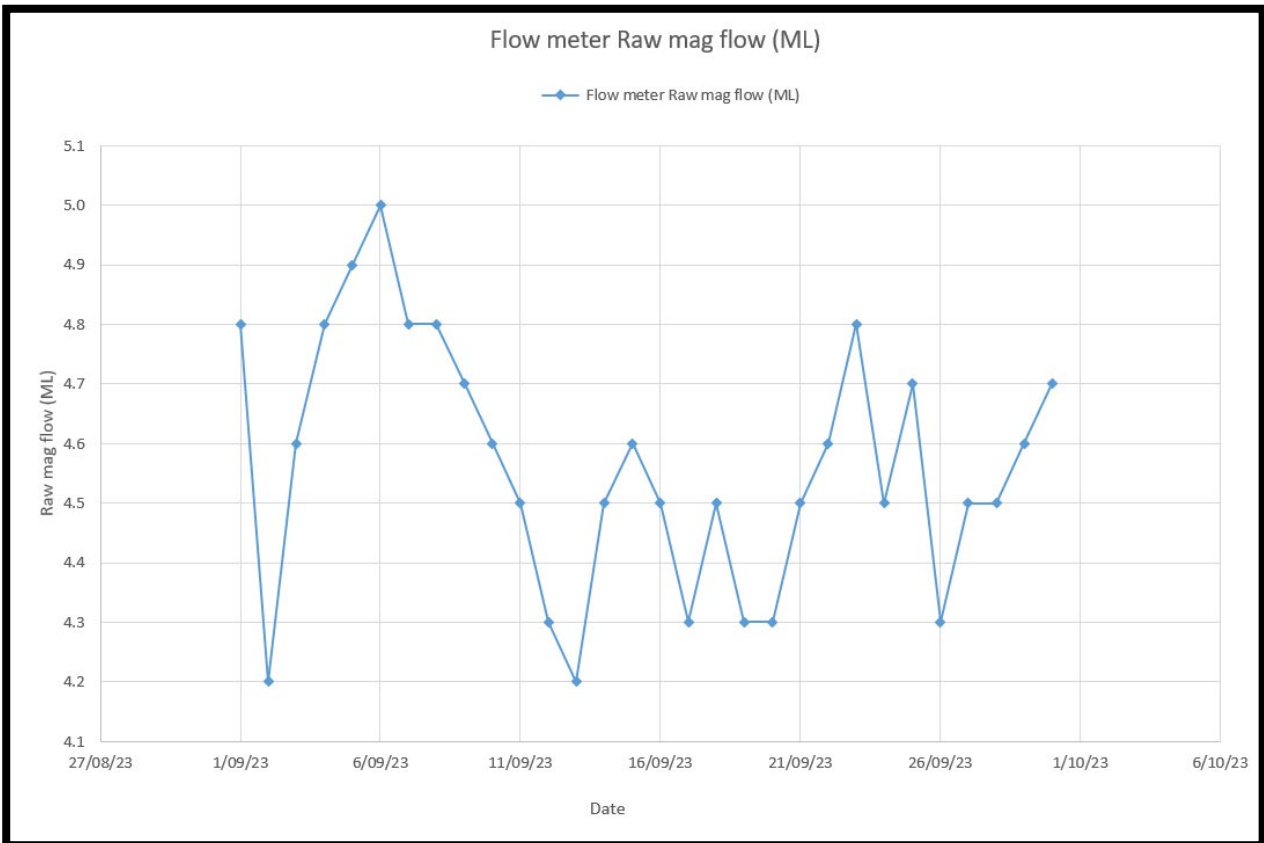
TOWN SERVICES– Troy Hayman, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing.
	Weekly sand footpaths.
	Weekly Town mowing.
	Relieving staff in garbage truck.
	Daily Main Street Program.
	Daily airport Inspections.
	Airport slashing and mowing.
	Town slashing and laneways.
	Town poisoning.
	Prune trees along footpath in Darling Street.
	Monthly airport inspections Louth and Wanaaring.
Cemetery	Prepared graves:- 1/09/2023 and 06/09/2023.
Rest Areas	Weekly cleaning and water pressure clean of new toilets - 65km Cobar Road.
	Monthly service and roadside rubbish removal.
Staff Training	Nil.
General Works	Removed car from water’s edge at Bourke Weir.
	Delivered mulch to Bourke High School.
	As a result of diggings from plumbing works, patched holes within town streets with gravel.
	Poisoned footpaths in the main street.
	Delivered crane to sundry debtor x 2.
	Delivered crusher dust to sundry debtor.
	Removed concrete tables from the wharf.
	Cleaned up Louth Oval precinct (oval and around fence).
	Watered trees.
	Craned blocks at Percy Hobson Park.
	Applied sand to footpaths.
	Installed two tables at the Fishing Reserve.
	Removed a fallen tree from the footpath in Darling Street.
	Removed burnt out vehicle from Weir Road.
Delivered and spread sand at the wharf precinct.	
Removed tree branches from BOBEC.	

WATER & WASTEWATER – Shane Hopley, Team Leader	
Water Treatment Plant	
Byrock	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
Stony Rise Bore	Replaced butterfly valve and float valve.
Showground	Repaired leaking solenoid valve on irrigation system. Connected water trough at yards. Repaired water leak at horse stables. Pulled out and repaired sewer pump at bar SPS. Fenced around septic tank at Gun Club.

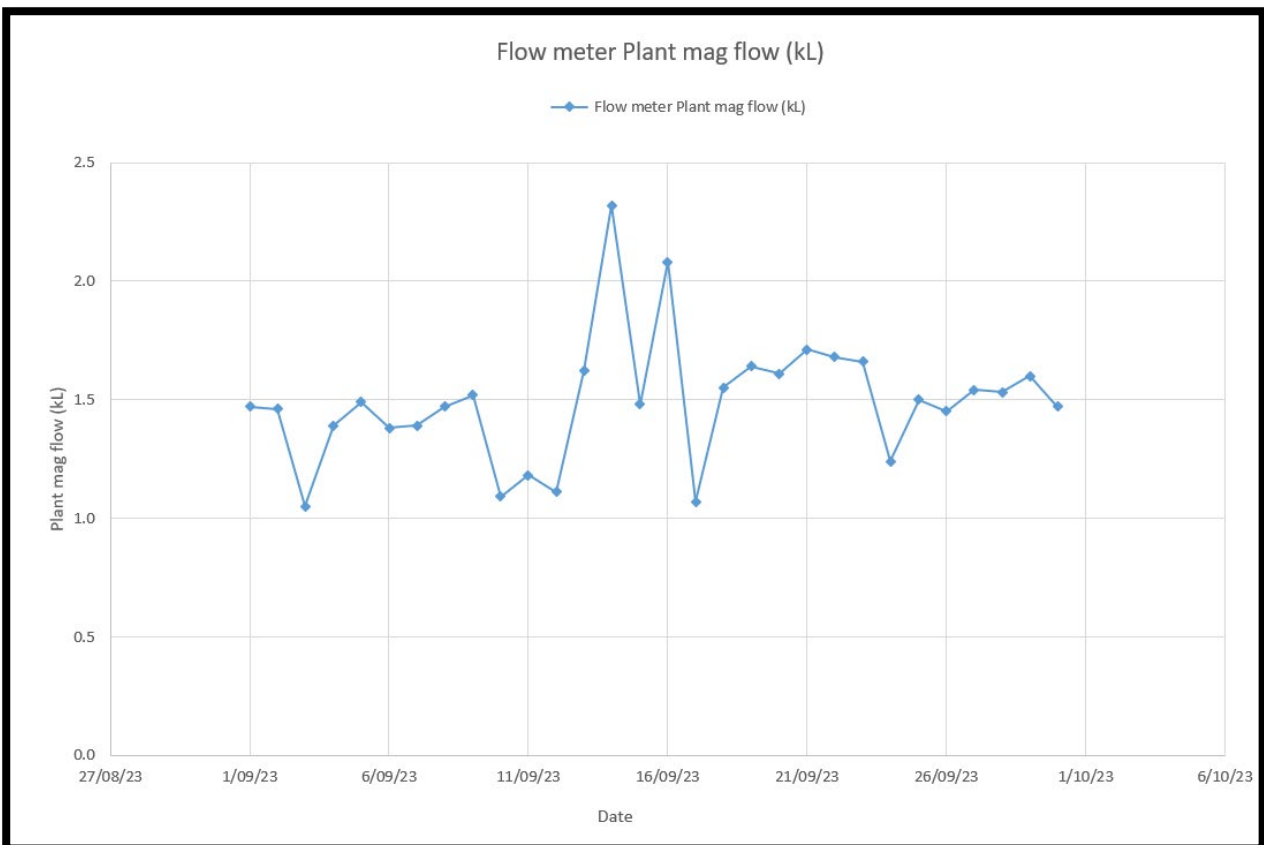
	Connected new toilets at Gun club.
Depot	Repaired filter water leak at wash bay.Installed storm water pit behind store.
RFS Shed	Connected storm water to water tank.
Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre	Repaired overflowing urinal.
3 Short Street	Replaced rear filtered water tap.
Airport Terminal	Repaired leaking filtered water taps.
Sale Yards	Dug 50mm raw water main and repaired leak.
Pool	Unloaded roof panels. Delivered chemicals. Reconnected water sewer for toilets. Repaired 50mm water line. Cleaned out sand filters on Learn to Swim pool. Cleaned out drains on Learn to Swim pool and Splash Park. Repaired leaking toilets and showers.
Wharf	Repaired broken solenoid valve on irrigation system.
Rotary Park	Replaced sprinklers and water line on irrigation system. Repaired broken solenoid valve on irrigation system. Repaired filtered water tap in public toilets.
North Bourke Truck Stop	Repaired leaking toilet.
Cemetery	Dug 50mm raw water main and repaired leak.
65 Darling Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
Central Park	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
103 Oxley Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
12 Oxley Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
16 A Meek Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
104 Hope Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
104 Hope Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
1 Becker Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
4 Tarcoon Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
20 Tarcoon Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
32 Tarcoon Street	Dug 100mm filtered water main and repaired main.
91 Anson Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
99 Mertin Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
Railway Park	Dug 50mm filtered water main and repaired main.
49 Oxley Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
9 Adelaide Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
41 Mitchell Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
14 Darling Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
20 Hope Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
74 Mitchell Street	Dug 100mm filtered water main and repaired main.
33A & 33B Tudor Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
12 Oxley Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
37 Darling Street	Dug 50mm filtered water main and repaired main.
98 Macquarie Street North Bourke	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.

82 Short Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
Central Park	Capped line at raw water service at Central Park.
72 Mertin Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
5 Short Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
Becker Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
49 Oxley Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
Macquarie Street North Bourke	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
3 Short Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
96 Hope Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
72 Mertin Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
Airport	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
Airport	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
19 Mertin Street	Repaired raw water leak internal.
34 Green Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
2/111 Anson Street	No raw water pressure - blow out and cleared.
24 Hope Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
Railway Park	Dug 50mm raw water main and repaired leak.
Tankard Drive	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre	Repaired 100mm backwash water line.
11 Warraweena Street	No raw water pressure - blow out and cleared.
60 Anson Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
North Bourke pump site	Installed new flow meter.
3 Church Street	No raw water pressure - blow out and cleared.
Railway Park	Repaired leaking 50mm raw water service.
18 Mertin Street	No raw water pressure - blow out and cleared.
31 Mertin Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
28 Oxley Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
85 Tudor Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired leak.
36 Short Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
6 Wilson Street	Sewer Choke.
20 Meek Street	Sewer Choke.
20 Hope Street	Sewer Choke.
48 Tudor Street	Sewer Choke.
162 Anson Street	Sewer choke. Dug sewer main and cleared choke.
47 Anson Street	Sewer Choke.
20 Hope Street	Sewer Choke.
107 B Mitchell Street	Sewer Choke.
Central Park	Sewer Choke.
Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre	Sewer Choke.
Mitchell Street	Sewer Choke.
Riverside Motel	Sewer Choke.
Warrweenia Street Well	Sewer Choke.

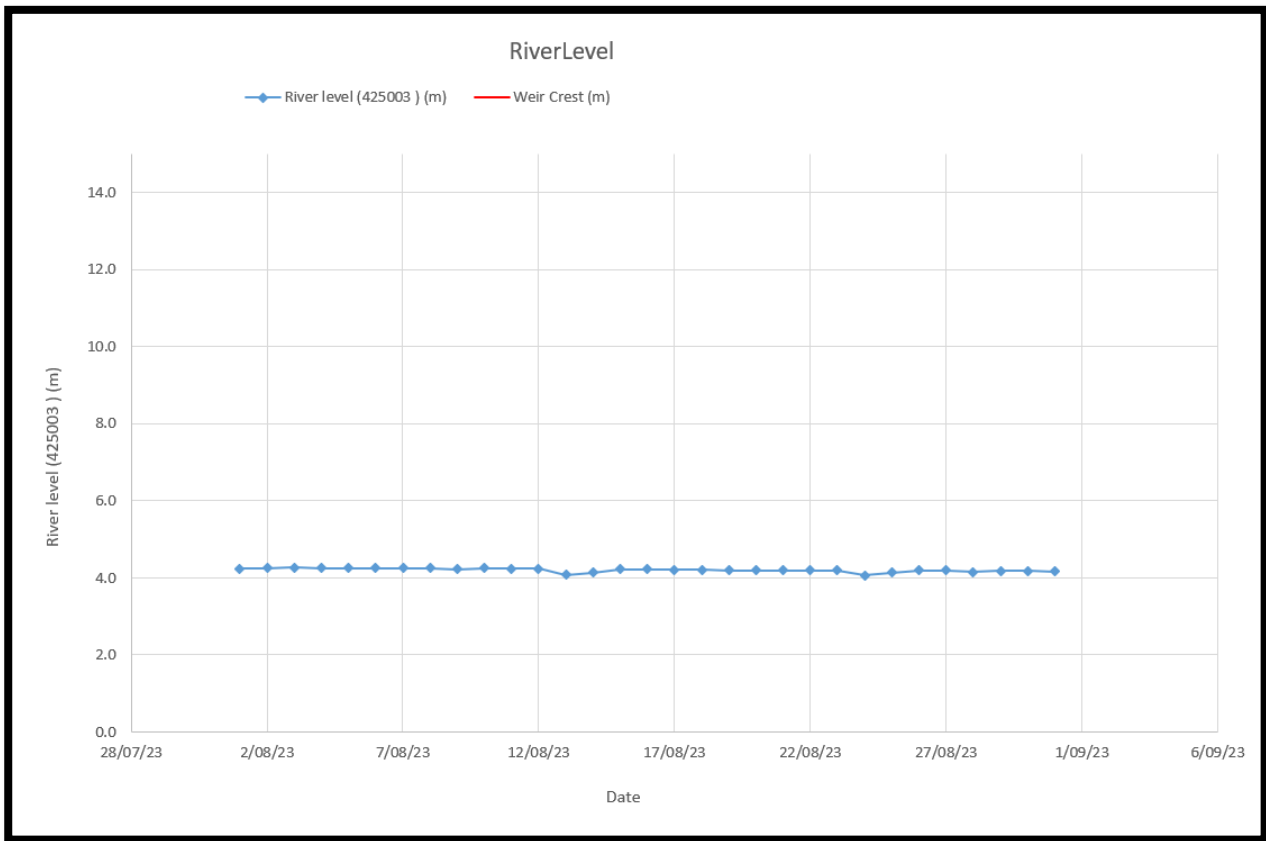
Raw Flow Meter



Plant Flow Meter



Current River Levels



Monthly Readings

Month	Raw water ML	Filter magflow pump 2 ML	Raw Water North Bourke KL	Filter Water North Bourke KL
January 2023	178	45	22,546	1,254
February 2023	170	43	32,365	1,534
March 2023	179	54	30,210	1,325
April 2023	138	44	29,421	1,526
May 2023	87	41	11,944	2,130
June 2023	75	41	10,125	2,135
July 2023	71	40	8,850	1,832
August 2023	99	38	11,568	1,996
September 2023	137	42	27,685	1,865

Council’s Water Access Licences – WAL’s

Work Approval	Extraction Site	Site Name	Start meter read 01/07/2023	Meter read Sep-23	usage Year to Date			Comment
85CA753414	ESID 121627	Water Plant TWS	16043.5	16349.74	306.24	ML	3200ML	
85CA753420	ESID 121630	North Bourke TWS	1930.965	1985.666	54.701	ML	300ML	
85CA753421	ESID 121630	North Bourke Abs	34.023	38.239	4.216	ML		
85CA753599		Wanaaring Station	23.298	30.121	6.823	ML	25ML	
85CA751207	24634	Engonia Village TWS	47.653	57.504	9.851	ML	150ML	
85CA753412	ESID 121626	(LWU Louth)	34.09	39.827	5.737	ML	25ML	
85CA751215	24639	Fords Bridge TWS	3.701	4.31	0.609	ML	2ML	
85CA751240	32585	Walken Bore No1	19.005	19.005	0	ML	100ML	
	148936	Walken Bore No2	128.567	128.567	0	ML		
	148937	Belvedere Bore	29.469	31.004	1.535	ML		Road Works
	209518	Stoney Rise Bore	26.844	40.523	13.679	ML		
	222419	Toll Bore			0	ML		No Meter Not Active
85WA753906		Gumbalie			0	ML		No Meter Required Road works Bore
90WA836011	208200	Rainbar or Tichaluka			0	ML		No Meter Required Road works Bore
90WA836179	211161	Rainbar or Tichaluka			0	ML		No Meter Required Road works Bore
85CA753031	ESID 12002	Golf Course			0	ML	320ML	No Meter Not Active
85CA752937	ESID 119950	Exhibition Centre			0	ML	29ML	No Meter Not Active

Water Quality Data Summary

Process	Parameter	Minimum	Average	Maximum	Lower critical lim	Upper critical lim	No. of samples
River level	River level (425003)	4.08	4.11	4.15	3.9		30
Raw Water	pH	7.54	7.74	8.01			30
Raw Water	turbidity	14.00	37.03	79.00			30
Filtered water	pH	7.05	7.28	7.62	6.5	8.7	30
Tower	Free Cl2	2.03	2.63	3.42	0.2	5.0	30
Bourke High Schoo	Free chlorine	1.70	1.70	1.70	0.2	4.0	1
Bourke High Schoo	pH	7.50	7.50	7.50	6.5	8.5	1
Bourke High Schoo	Turbidity	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.0	0.5	1
WTP	Free chlorine	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.2	4.0	1
WTP	pH	7.46	7.46	7.46	6.5	8.5	1
WTP	Turbidity	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.0	0.5	1
Bourke Primary Sch	Free chlorine	1.20	1.20	1.20	0.2	4.0	1
Bourke Primary Sch	pH	7.53	7.53	7.53	6.5	8.5	1
Bourke Primary Sch	Turbidity	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.0	0.5	1
Meadows Rd	Free chlorine	1.60	1.75	1.90	0.2	4.0	2
Meadows Rd	pH	7.50	7.53	7.56	6.5	8.5	2
Meadows Rd	Turbidity	0.18	0.21	0.23	0.0	0.5	2
Mitchell St	Free chlorine	1.90	1.90	1.90	0.2	4.0	1
Mitchell St	pH	7.42	7.42	7.42	6.5	8.5	1
Mitchell St	Turbidity	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.0	0.5	1
Alice Edwards Villa	Free chlorine	1.00	1.05	1.10	0.2	4.0	2
Alice Edwards Villa	pH	7.55	7.58	7.60	6.5	8.5	2
Alice Edwards Villa	Turbidity	0.20	0.23	0.25	0.0	0.5	2

Health Guidelines

Bourke drinking water supply scheme CCPs - summary				
Parameter	Frequency	Target Limit	Alert Limit	Critical Limits
CCP 1 Filtration				
Turbidity (NTU)	Continuous	<0.2	>0.45	>0.5
CCP 2 Chlorine Disinfection				
Free chlorine (mg/L)	Continuous	1.5 – 2.5	<1.0	<0.6mg/L winter <1.2mg/L summer
CCP 3 Fluoridation (future)				
Fluoride (mg/L)	Continuous	0.95 - 1.05	<0.95 or >1.2	>1.5
CCP 4 Integrity of Reservoirs				
System integrity (sealed and secure)	Weekly	No evidence of integrity breach	Integrity breach	Visual evidence of contamination
Bourke drinking water supply scheme OCPs - summary				
Parameter	Frequency	Target Limit	Alert Limit	Critical Limits
OCP 1 Oxidation				
Iron (mg/L)	Weekly	<0.05	>0.05	>0.1
Manganese (mg/L)	Weekly	<0.05	>0.05	>0.1
OCP 2 Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification				
Turbidity (NTU)	Continuous	<1	>2.5	>5
UV Transmittance (%)	Continuous	>80	70 - 80	<70
OCP 3 UV Disinfection				
Status	Continuous	Operational	Operational but alarming	Offline

Treatment Plant EPA Licence Compliance

Record of Effluent Analysis

Pollutant	Unit Of Measure	Licence 100 Percentile Concentration Limit	September 2023 Test	August 2023 Test	July 2023 Test
Oil & Grease	mg/L	10	<2	<2	<2
pH		6.5-8.5	9.1	9.2	8.39
Nitrogen (total)	mg/L	15	9.1	6.6	8.5
Phosphorus (total)	mg/L	10	2.21	2.9	3.02
Total suspended solids	mg/L	20	108	71	134
Biochemical oxygen demand	mg/L	15	16	17	2

Council notes the provisions of clause L2.5 (a) and (b) of its licence conditions of a chlorophyll exemption due algal growth, which also exempts the above exceedances.

- Rainfall in Bourke for September 2023 was 0 mm.
- Hottest day for September 2023 was 29.6 degrees.
- Coldest day for September 2023 was 10 degrees.

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Works regarding Engineering Services - Parks and Gardens, Town Services and Water and Wastewater Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

21.3 PLANNING, REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: D3.1-A11.1-A8.1-S10.1
Author: Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Current Situation

Development Approvals			
Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No.	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Delegated	DA 2023/0025	Lot 3, Section 28, DP758144 9 Wortumertie Street, Bourke	Installation of Transportable Dwelling and Associated Structures
Total value of Approved works for September 2023			= \$709,000
No. of Development Application Approvals for September 2023			= 1
No. of Complying Development Application Approvals for September 2023			= 0

Building Services Report	
Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing
Training	As required
Contractors	Maintenance works completed as required Upgrade works completed as per Operational Plan
Buildings	Maintenance works completed as required
Airport	Maintenance works completed as required

Animal Control		
Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	0	0
Seized Animals	7	0
Surrendered Animals	1	2
Total	8	2
Euthanised	0	0
Released from Pound	0	0
Rehomed/Adopted	0	1
Escaped from Pound	0	0
Died in Pound	0	0
Animals Remaining at End of Month	8	1
Total	8	2
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	163	

- Attended complaints regarding 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, as required.
- Patrols of Councils Reserves.

Swimming Pool Attendance for September 2023	
Adults	379
Children (2+)	979
Children (<2)	141
School Groups/Other	0
Total for Month	1499

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

21.4 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: G2.1
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

28 September 2023

Local Roads Congress

Mayor Barry and Councils Roads Manager, Paul Flanagan recently joined with local government leaders, engineering and works staff from across Australia who gathered in Canberra for the 2023 National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress. Both the Mayor and Paul agreed that the congress provided participants with a forum to learn from each other and address urgent issues relating to all things roads, transport and infrastructure.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) estimates that the cost of repairing flood damaged roads across NSW, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia is \$3.8 billion. For many regional, rural and remote councils, like Bourke Shire, undertaking these repairs will not be possible without increased support from other levels of government. In this regard, Congress delegates were happy to hear that ALGA had committed that it will continue to advocate for the \$500 million federal Roads to Recovery fund be increased to \$800 million per year, and Financial Assistance Grants to be restored to at least one percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

The Mayor and Paul advised that this year's Congress included a broader focus on community infrastructure, with sessions on emissions reduction, housing, active transport, disaster response and recovery, waste and recycling, telecommunications infrastructure, and affordable housing. Councils need more funding to build, maintain and revitalise the local infrastructure vital for liveable and productive communities, and extending the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – or replacing it with an untied funding stream – will deliver long lasting benefits for all Australian communities. Delegates at the Congress affirmed their commitment to working with state, territory and federal governments towards building better, more resilient infrastructure that will serve all Australians, and help build communities that are safer, stronger and smarter.

Wild dog control

Wild dogs significantly impact on livestock and native animals and restrict production options in many areas. The economic impact of wild dogs has been estimated to be up to \$111 million per annum nationwide, with up to \$22 million of this cost attributed to NSW. With work progressing on the NSW Wild Dog Fence Extension Project, Western Local Land Services is set to undertake its spring aerial baiting program for the control of wild dogs, foxes and feral cats. This important program is scheduled to occur between 25 September and 8 October 2023, with 1080 (pronounced 'ten eighty') poison meat baits issued along pre-determined bait lines with the rate of application being 10 baits per kilometre.

The area to be covered through the program is from Enngonia in the north-east, to Broken Hill in the west, near Pooncarie in the south-west and to Mt Hope in the south-east. Following the aerial baiting campaign, ground baiting will be carried out. On behalf of Council, thanks are extended to participating landholders and stakeholders for their involvement in the program. To find out more you can contact Western Local Land Services via 1300 795 299 or www.lls.nsw.gov.au.

Murray-Darling Basin Plan

The Australian, NSW, South Australian, Queensland and ACT governments have agreed to a package of measures, including the extension of delivery deadlines, that will enable “the Murray-Darling Basin Plan to be implemented in full.” The Australian Government’s proposed extension of the 30 June 2024 delivery deadline for various major water infrastructure projects under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan has required changes to Commonwealth legislation to give effect to the agreement. Once the amending legislation has been determined, government is of the view that the new deadline will provide a more realistic pathway and timeframe as well as a budget for delivering the work NSW has committed to under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. The NSW Government has advised that it is focused on meeting its commitments under the Basin Plan and they continue to work with the Australian Government and other states in the Basin to deliver on these commitments with alternative programs and water efficiency projects rather than buybacks. A copy of the agreement can be accessed at:
<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/policy/mdb/basin-plan/agreement2023>

Groundwater Rules

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is seeking stakeholder views on proposed changes to the Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2020. These changes relate to current rules for the distance that new bores can be placed from other bores or features and may affect water supply works (bore) approvals. The proposed amendment seeks to correct and improve drafting and address unintended restrictions imposed on the placement of bores for basic landholder rights and other groundwater users. These changes would allow the department to place greater focus on local site conditions when processing bore applications, making the plan consistent with other inland groundwater sharing plans across the state.

With the Warrego Groundwater source effectively extending from north of the Darling River in the Bourke Shire to the NSW/Queensland border, landholders are encouraged to have their say on the proposed changes to the water sharing plan during the public consultation period, which will run until 1 October 2023. Further information is available by accessing the DPIE website at <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au> and then by searching “great-artesian-basin-groundwater.”

Referendum Staff

The Australian Electoral Commission, the independent federal agency responsible for the management of federal Australian elections, by-elections and referendums, has put out a “shout out” in Bourke looking for staff to be employed at the Bourke Pre Poll and on Polling Day itself, for the upcoming national referendum to be held on 14 October 2023. With the AEC having advised that they have 100,000 employment opportunities available in cities, regional and remote areas across Australia, the agency is seeking 11 staff in Bourke, including the role of Officer-in-charge. If you work well in a team, enjoy working in a fast-paced team and are comfortable talking to

people, this opportunity may be of interest to you. All jobs are paid, and training is included. If you are interested, please go to aec.gov.au/electionjobs and learn more about the various roles.

Fire Ants

Red imported fire ants (fire ants) are invasive introduced ants that cause serious social, economic, and environmental harm. They are aggressive and have a severe, burning sting with large numbers of ants swarming onto a person or animal, stinging over and over, causing the sensation of being on fire. Stings can become infected and in rare cases lead to fatal allergic reactions. Infestations restrict the use of backyards, parks, playgrounds, beaches and sporting fields and can damage electrical, irrigation and agricultural equipment. Fire ants feed on seeds, insects, spiders, lizards, frogs, birds and mammals. They can displace or kill off native plants and animals and change whole ecosystems beyond repair. All in all, they certainly don't sound very pleasant.

Fire ants are a prohibited matter under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*. Their possible movement is regulated under the *NSW Biosecurity (Invasive Ant Carriers) Control Order 2023*. The NSW Control Order defines 'fire ant infested areas' as being land within a Queensland fire ant biosecurity zone AND land within a 5km buffer around known fire ant nests. The following items are considered 'fire ant carriers' for the purposes of the order: organic mulch, soil and anything with soil on it, baled material, potted plants, turf, agriculture or earth moving machinery, and mining and quarrying materials. An Interstate Biosecurity Certificate or equivalent must accompany 'fire ant carriers' that have been procured from a Fire Ant infested area and brought into NSW.

Whilst fire ants are thankfully not known to occur in NSW, they currently infest a large area of southeast QLD with nests having been found very close to the NSW border. With numerous NSW councils in the far north of the state and the inland local government areas of Inverell, Gwydir, Moree Plains and Tenterfield already on alert in respect of the above Control Order, as a shire also adjacent to the NSW/Queensland border, residents should as a minimum be aware of the threat that Fire Ants pose. Relevant information is available at:

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/insect-pests/fire-ants>

Quote: "I'm a bit used to it mate, and after that I probably deserve a bit more. They should be throwing, what do they throw here, baguettes, croissants at me. It's not good enough so I deserve whatever I get mate." Wallabies coach Eddie Jones after losing to Fiji at the Rugby World Cup.

5 October 2023

Mayoral Election

As most readers would be aware, Councillor Barry Hollman and Councillor Lachlan Ford have been returned, unopposed, as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively, of Bourke Shire Council. This follows the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor being part of the agenda for Councils meeting held on Monday 25 September 2023.

With the Mayor at Bourke Shire being elected by Councillors, the office holder would normally hold the position for a two-year period with the Local Government Act requiring Councils to hold mid-term mayoral elections in the month of September, based on a four (4) year election cycle. However, due to the postponement of the 2020 ordinary council elections to 4 December 2021,

due to the 'stay at home' provisions in place in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the term of the current Council was reduced to a period of less than three (3) years. This has resulted in the mayoral terms for the period December 2021 to September 2024 (being the next Council election), comprising an initial 21-month term and following a "mid-term" mayoral election as required to be held in September 2023, a further period of 12 months.

Given this, Councillor Hollman's election as Mayor at the mid-term mayoral election in September 2023 will see him hold office until the day of the Council's next ordinary election on 14 September 2024 when the civic office of the Mayor and all Councillor will expire. The term of the Deputy Mayor mirrors that of the Mayoral term. I congratulate the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on their re-election.

Demerit Points

Drivers with demerit points on their driver licence could have a demerit point removed sooner as a reward for driving safely. This follows recent changes by the NSW Government to the NSW Demerit Points Scheme with the introduction of a trial which will mean that more than 1.7 million NSW drivers who have a full NSW driver licence and who have incurred demerit points as a result of an offence can have the point wiped if they haven't had any offences since January 17, 2023, and continue to have spotless behaviour until 16 January 2024. Normally, it takes three years to wipe demerit points from a driving record from the date of the offence. You can find out how many demerits you have by accessing either your MyServiceNSW Account or the Service NSW app on your phone. Further information is available from the Service NSW website (<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au>).

In an ideal world, drivers would not offend, and a demerit point system would not be required. Such an idyllic scenario is obviously not the case, however. Whilst one point doesn't sound a lot, I would imagine that if you're sitting on 11 or 12 demerit points and you must wait say 2-3 years to get your points back, with a minor indiscretion potentially pushing you past 13 points and onto a period where your licence is suspended, the return of 1 point could be most handy.

J B Mauney – Bull Rider

With the upcoming Back O' Bourke Stampede-Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo, I was interested to read of the recent retirement from competitive bull riding in the USA, of J B Mauney. Described as the "greatest of all time", Mauney announced his retirement in mid-September 2023 after being bucked off a bull and landing on his head, resulting in him breaking his neck.

Reports on Mauney describe him "as a true competitor", known for generally picking the rankest bull (ie the hardest to ride) when there was a draw, especially in the championship round of most events. He and three-time world champion bull "Bushwacker" are reported to have been matched up 13 times. Mauney apparently always picked "Bushwacker" in the elite rounds with "Bushwacker" never entered in any rounds that weren't elite. Mauney once said, "If you are going to be the best, you've got to ride the best."

Following surgery that required the removal of a disk, Mauney wrote on his Instagram page that "Unfortunately with the surgery, it ended my bull riding career." To me, it seems that bull riders are like anyone who plays contact sports (eg footballers). Their longevity in their chosen sport is linked to the extent of their injuries. For Mauney, at age 36, he has had plenty of injuries. These

have included facial lacerations, numerous concussions, a broken jaw on more than one occasion, dislocated shoulder, broken hand, feet, shoulder blades, and ribs, a lacerated liver, bruised kidney and spleen, fractured hip, a torn acl in his knee and two (2) broken legs, and of course now, a broken neck. Whilst his earnings have undoubtedly been very significant throughout his career, his body has taken an absolute pounding over the years, and he will certainly pay a significant price as he gets older.

Whilst J B Mauney obviously won't be at the Back O' Bourke Stampede-Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro Rodeo on 14 October 2023 at the Renshaw Oval facility in Bourke, I am sure that many of Australia's top riders will attend the Australian Professional Rodeo Association affiliated event. I certainly trust that a large crowd will be on hand as riders take on the Garry McPhee and Gill Bros Rodeo supplied livestock. Gates for the event open to the public at 10.00am on the day in time to view the preliminary rides. At 3pm, the live musical entertainment commences and at 6pm, the main events get underway. Food and trade stalls will be on hand along with a licenced bar and fireworks display.

Wallabies

Whilst I wasn't overly confident as to how far the Wallabies would progress in the current Rugby World Cup (GM's Column 14 September 2023) the "pile-on" in the media and on social media in response to the Wallabies loss against the Welsh has been most interesting. All appear to have some form of an opinion as to the ills currently afflicting the Wallabies. Whilst the results are not great, and the expectations of so many are very high, I very much feel for the players. No one at that level, or any level for that matter, goes onto the playing paddock wanting to lose. Rather, they give it their best and the challenge for these players now is to regroup in readiness for the future. What the future holds for Coach Jones is yet to be seen. I would like to see the powers that be get behind him and the players, find a balance between experience and youth and get on with the job. I know it's not that easy, with many factors at play in the overall rugby mix. Interesting times.

Intergenerational Report

The Australian Government recently released the sixth Intergenerational Report (<https://treasury.gov.au>) which provides an insight into the economic and societal trends predicted to shape the nation's future and influence public policy to 2063. The report considers that five (5) major forces will be affecting Australia in the coming decades. These are an ageing population; technological and digital transformation; climate change and the net zero transformation; rising demand for care and support services; and geopolitical risk and fragmentation.

The report forecasts a 50% growth in population to 40.5 million people in the next 40 years, with an increase in older demographics within the community. The number of people aged 85 and over will triple, and those aged 65 and over will likely double. This will result in the need for more government spending in the care economy and investment in health and aged care. In terms of the labour force, more people are participating in paid work than ever before, and the labour force participation rate is at near record highs. However, as the population continues to age over the next 40 years, the report predicts that the overall work participation rate will decline gradually from 66.6 per cent to 63.8 per cent in 2062–63. Average hours worked is also expected to decline slightly. The gender gap in participation is expected to continue to narrow.

Another interesting finding from the report was the increased demand for critical minerals and the impact of climate change. Australia is the largest producer of lithium, an essential mineral required to produce renewables like solar power, wind turbines and electric vehicles. The demand for other critical minerals such as nickel, zinc and bauxite could increase by 350% by 2040.

Quote: “Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking. There are too many people who think that the only thing that's right is to get by, and the only thing that's wrong is to get caught.” J C Watts-American Politician.

12 October 2023

Murray Darling Association

Put simply, the Murray-Darling Basin Plan was developed to return water from irrigation to environmental use. At the time of the Plans development, considerable discussion was had as to how much water was actually needed for a sustainable river basin with the final amount of 2,750GL being legislated in 2012. The actual water recovery figure was subsequently reduced in the 2018 Basin Plan amendment to 2,075GL. This action reduced water recovery in the northern basin and implemented a sustainable diversion limit adjustment mechanism offset, made up of supply and efficiency projects.

My understanding is that to appease South Australia – which, as the downstream state, argues that they suffer the most negative consequences of a declining river system – an extra 450GL was included as an additional target in 2012. This was to be achieved solely through efficiency measures such as upgrading irrigation infrastructure from gravity-fed to drip irrigation or reducing evaporation from irrigation delivery channels. This approach has had minimal success with only a few gigalitres of this additional 450GL figure being achieved, hence the current approach of the Federal Government to pursue further water buy backs.

With these buy backs at front of mind, Mayor Barry and I recently travelled to Murray Bridge in South Australia to attend the 2023 National Conference of the Murray Darling Association. The Association exists to *provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Murray Darling Basin resources by providing information; by facilitating debate and by seeking to influence government policy.* Such was the range of high-profile speakers and leaders from across the Basin, the Mayor and I considered it important that we attend, represent Bourke. If the opportunity arose, the Mayor was certainly keen to progress Councils ongoing attempts in respect of securing Bourke’s water supply and seek to again raise our concerns as to the potential impact of further water buy backs across the basin. Speakers at the conference included the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water; Senator Perin Davey, Federal Shadow Minister for Water; Dr Simon Banks, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder; Mr Daniel Blacker, Deputy Inspector-General for Water Compliance; Mr Andrew McConville, CEO Murray- Darling Basin Authority and Ms Claire Miller, CEO NSW Irrigators Council.

Mayor Barry certainly took the opportunity to publicly raise concerns at the water buy backs and their potential impact on Bourke directly with Minister Plibersek as part of a question period following the Ministers address to the Conference. In her response to the Mayors question the Minister advised that Bourke was one of the towns that she thinks of in terms of the impact that the millennium drought had.....” when the riverbed was dry for more than 400 days. Shocking.”

She spoke of the catastrophic environmental impacts and the devastating psychological impacts of such dry times on the whole community. The Minister advised that there will be more droughts and we need to best prepare for that. She further advised that “no community is more important than any other.” The Minister stated that “the whole purpose of the plan is to try and have those little bits of water that keep towns like Bourke alive during the driest times so that when the rain comes again you have been hanging on to what you need to make it through the dry times. That’s our whole intention and our whole purpose here.....” In concluding her response, the Minister also advised that “the Government is trying to take (water) where we can with the least impact so that we can give everywhere, when it’s necessary.”

For those who may be interested, the conference sessions may be viewed by going into You Tube and searching Murray Darling Association Conference 2023 or by typing the following address into the search engine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZHDonat0-0>

Later in the day, the Executive of the Association met with Minister Plibersek where the issue of water security in Bourke was again raised, this time on Bourke’s behalf by NSW based Association Board Members. Post conference, the Mayor has written to the Minister to support his concerns as raised at conference, made a submission to the Basin Plan and last week attended a meeting convened by the Member for Parkes, Mark Coulton MP, on the Basin Plan at Moree.

Environmental Water Deliveries

Prior to attending the Murray Darling Association Conference, I met in Bourke with Dr Simon Banks, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) and Dr Michael Peat, who is the Director, Northern Basin, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. The CEWH manages water for the environment on behalf of the Australian Government to support the rivers and wetlands of the Murray-Darling Basin. At the meeting, Dr Banks and Dr Peat were able to share with us information on environmental water deliveries in the northern Basin which will assist in water hopefully continuing to flow over the weir at Bourke for a period, thus delaying the imposition of water restrictions in town.

Dr Banks advised that the CEWH has deliveries of water underway in the Gwydir, Namoi and Macquarie catchments that will provide connectivity and native fish outcomes in the Barwon-Darling this spring. In this regard, the flow at Bourke (around 400 ML/d) is coming from the Macquarie catchment and is made up of Commonwealth and NSW environmental water. The flow is below the “commence to pump rate” for A class licence holders, so no water is being diverted for irrigated agriculture. In early October 2023 around 100ML/d of Commonwealth water started to flow out of the Namoi River into the Barwon River at Walgett, which will be protected under active management. Some of this water will reach Bourke. Flows from the Namoi will continue until early November and will contribute around 8 GL to the Barwon. In mid-October, there will be connection flows from the Carole Creek and Mehi River into the Barwon, which will be made up of Commonwealth and NSW environmental water. We are advised that up to 8 GL will flow into the Barwon from the Gwydir catchment by late October.

Whilst some of the volumes and timing that are mentioned above may be adjusted slightly over the coming weeks to work in with irrigation orders in the tributaries, flow event updates can be sourced from the CEWH website (<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/cewo/catchment/northern-fish-flow-2019>). In addition, the NSW Water Insights portal (<https://waterinsights.waterrsw.com.au/>) provides regular updates on the water protected in the

Barwon-Darling under management. I take the opportunity to say thank you to Doctors Banks and Peat for their travel to Bourke and their update in this important matter.

Grand Finals

It was certainly a footy filled long weekend for many, with the NRL and NRLW Grand finals and the 2023 Koori Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout on the Central Coast occupying a lot of television time over the weekend. I don't think I was alone when I say that I thought Penrith "were gone" when Brisbane led 24 -8 after scoring 3 quick tries and the Penrith playmakers Jarome Luai and Isaah Yeo were off the ground due to a reoccurring shoulder injury and head injury assessment, respectively. The Nathan Cleary led turn around in the last 20 minutes was great to watch and you could just see the game turn. Back-to-back-to-back Premierships is certainly an impressive feat.

In respect of the Koori Knockout, bad luck to the Bourke Warriors who lost out at the quarter final stage of the competition. The ultimate winners of the knockout were the Walgett Aboriginal Corporation team in the men's and Newcastle Yowies in the women's competition. With Walgett winning, it is understood that next year's knockout will be held in Dubbo over the 2024 October long weekend. Last played in Dubbo in 2014 after Walgett were victorious the previous year, I would suggest that participants plan and arrange their accommodation well in advance. With more than 60 teams playing at the knockout, accommodation will undoubtedly be at a premium.

Referendum

If you are 18 years of age and are enrolled to vote, it is compulsory to vote in Saturdays referendum as to whether Australia's Constitution should be altered "to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice." Pre poll voting today and tomorrow is available at the Bourke PCYC whilst on Saturday, being Polling Day, the poll in Bourke will be at the Bourke Public School from 8.00am to 6.00pm.

Quote: "Heat records were being broken every week and would probably continue to tumble for the rest of the year." Climate Council Research Director, Dr Simon Bradshaw.

19 October 2023

Back O Bourke Stampede

Leading into last weekend's very successful Back O' Bourke Stampede-Peter Simmonds Memorial Pro-Rodeo, I was buoyed to read that the Nevertire Rodeo, held on 1 October 2023, was attended by many, with the Dubbo Daily Liberal newspaper reporting that "a huge crowd had descended on the small village for the event." Our Stampede – Memorial Rodeo was also a great success with action aplenty for the large number of attendees.

What I find amazing, and I have seen it on many occasions in Bourke, is the tremendous support that events such as the Stampede receive from members of our community. Whether such support is provision of manpower including volunteering your time to host the event, equipment or machinery or through direct financial support, the hard-working Committee should be very pleased with the outcome of their considerable efforts. I thank them accordingly. To those who assisted with equipment, or direct financial support a big thank you also goes out to you on behalf of the Bourke community. I am not going to name any individual. That is one for the Committee.

The people who contributed obviously know who they are and they should be very content in themselves for their contribution in providing Bourke residents and visitors a fantastic event. Importantly, they have also assisted in recognising one of Bourke's sons and one of Australia's finest saddle bronc riders, the late Peter Simmonds, in a most fitting manner.

It would be remiss of me not to also thank the NSW Government for their significant financial contribution towards the staging of this event. Funded under the Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program, funding was provided to Council to promote social and economic recovery following the extended COVID-19 restrictions across regional NSW back in 2021 and 2022. Originally planned for Saturday 15 October 2022 and then on Saturday 3 December 2022, the Pro- Rodeo was postponed on two occasions due to the spate of wet weather and flooding that was occurring across Western NSW at the time. After a 12-month delay, the event was well worth waiting for. What a fantastic event the rodeo was for Bourke.

Community Assets Program

The Community Assets Program (CAP) is a co-funded program between the Australian and NSW Governments that exists to ensure that disaster impacted communities have “what they need to thrive.” Under the nations Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, communities like Bourke receive support to repair essential public assets like roads. However, these funding measures do not necessarily extend to repairing damaged community infrastructure such as parks, playgrounds, walkways, and places of cultural heritage, all of which contribute to our community's sense of wellbeing.

The \$70 million Community Assets Program, which is administered by the Department of Regional NSW, seeks to support the social recovery of eligible storm and flood affected local government areas (LGAs) by providing funding for the repair, restoration, and betterment of community infrastructure. In respect of this program, I am delighted to advise that following the submission of a funding application, Council has received funding through the CAP of \$1,615,680 to undertake remediation works to the Bourke Wharf. The wharf sustained damage during the protracted flooding of 2022, including the undermining of the structure.

It is rather easy to forget just how much water was in the river this time last year. Reflecting some 12 months on, from early August 2022, the river rose from approximately 7.2 metres to a high of 13.95 metres in late November 2022 before dropping back to a height of some 4.5 metres in January 2023. In addition to the height of the river, the intense flows of the river over a protracted period have been damaging, especially to the base of structures with timber supports, such as the wharf. At a flow rate of 30,000 megalitres in early August 2022 through to a high mark flow of some 225,000 megalitres in November 2022, such flows have been significant and damaging, having regard to the constant force of the water associated with these flows. A megalitre of water weighs 1,000 metric tonnes.

Whilst the existing Bourke Wharf is a replica of the original three (3) wharves that once stood in Bourke, the wharf both reflects the design of wharves located up and down the Darling River back in the 1850s and provides a link back to a time when Bourke was the largest inland port in the world. It is a most important structure in terms of Bourke's tourism product.

October Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Monday, 23 October 2023, commencing at 9.15am in the Council Chamber. All Ordinary meetings of Council are open to the Public, the exception being certain matters which comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act that are deemed to be considered in Closed Council, confidentially. Where this is the case, following the Council having determined a matter in closed Council, and before the closure of the Council Meeting, the Mayor will request that the General Manager reads to the meeting, in open Council, the outcome or resolutions as a result of Councils deliberations.

A Public Forum is scheduled at each Council Meeting at 9.00 am. It would be appreciated if you wish to address the Public Forum, that you please contact Councils Executive Assistant, Margo Anderson on 68308000 or by email at ea@bourke.nsw.gov.au, by 4.00pm tomorrow, Friday 20 October 2023, so that your item can be placed on the agenda and if necessary any background information can be obtained.

Small Business Month

Small businesses are such an important component of our community and essential to the prosperity of the wider region. With some 275,000 small businesses based in regional NSW, these businesses account for 33% of all NSW small businesses. These small businesses create jobs, drive innovation and provide goods and services to local communities. By supporting small businesses, we can be part of creating a more vibrant and sustainable economy in our town.

October is NSW Small Business Month, an initiative of the NSW Government which aims to increase the profile and recognition of the importance of small business in the community. The theme for October 2023 is "My Small Business." The NSW Government will provide free assistance and tips on how small businesses can strengthen their business in seven key areas – branding and marketing, cyber security, business health, e-commerce, current market conditions, resilience and teams. Small Business Month events are being held across the region and online, featuring business experts from the private and government sectors, industry leaders and successful small business owners. Many events also allow small-business people to come together, connect and collaborate. It's all about providing an opportunity for small businesses to take the time to work on their business in October. For further information on planned activities during October, access the following link: www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au.

Agritourism Business Guide

I have previously advised that the NSW Department of Planning and Environment had introduced clearer planning terms for agritourism with an amending State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) having been made by the NSW Government in August 2023. This resulted in local environmental plans being amended to expand the permissibility of agritourism across NSW and making it easier for farmers to know how they can use their land for new income streams.

I had mentioned that the Department of Planning would shortly be making guides available to assist interested landowners with the setting up of an agritourism business. It is advised that such a guide is now reality. Titled "Setting Up an Agritourism Business - A Guide to Planning Approvals", the 50 plus page document is a comprehensive "how to" to work through the agritourism

legislative and planning processes. A copy of the Guide can be accessed from the NSW Planning website at: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au> and search for agritourism guide.

Portuguese Rugby

I saw the end of the Rugby World Cup game between Portugal and Fiji where Portugal scored basically on the bell and kicked the conversion to beat Fiji by one point. Whilst the win by Portugal wasn't by enough points to see the Wallabies slide into the quarter finals of the Cup, and we didn't really deserve it anyway, but it was the raw emotion of the Portuguese players on the final bell that struck me. 120-kilogram Portuguese players with tears running down their faces, such was their elation and joy.

Quote: "This is an abhorrent attack on Israel. This is indiscriminate. Civilians being targeted, killed and murdered, and as well, many of them being taken as hostages." Prime Minister Albanese on the current hostilities in the Middle East.

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding General Manager Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

21.5 LIBRARY ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: L4.1
Author: Jodi Hatch, Library Manager
Authoriser: Melanie Milgate, Manager Economic Development
Attachments: Nil

Current Situation

The following items for the September 2022 and September 2023 period are presented for information.

Item	September 2022	September 2023
Loans	594	591
New Members	8	4
Internet/Word Processing	34	52
Wireless Tickets	16	30
Number of Visitors	641	652
Scans	23	24
Information Requests	67	97
Technical Assistance / Printing	53	48
Faxes/ Laminating	0	0

- September was another busy month for the Library with children enjoying the spring and pirate crafts, making parrots, pirate ships and cherry blossom trees.



- The Hawaiian Homicide Murder Mystery Party at the Library was well supported. The new castors on the shelving allowed them to be moved to create a bigger space for the event. The Library was decked out with sand and palm trees. Staff put a big effort into making a lot of decorations for the evening, and a great time was had by all attending.



Recommendation

That the report of the Library Manager regarding Library Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

21.6 TOURISM AND EVENTS ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: T4.3
Author: Ben Nott, Coordinator Tourism Operations
Authoriser: Melanie Milgate, Manager Economic Development
Attachments: 1. BOBEC Statistics September 2023
 2. BOBEC Website Statistics September 2023

Background

The Tourism and Events Report provides Council with a status report for September 2023, relating to the activities of the Tourism Team through visual data including graphs and statistics to allow for the measurement of the team’s progress and performance.

Current Situation

During the month of September 2023, the Tourism and Events Team participated in the following activities:

Back O’ Bourke Information and Exhibition Centre

Performance Indicator	August 2023	September 2023	Trend	% Difference
Vend Turnover (ex GST)	\$98,936.90	\$93,224.32	▼	5.9 %
Visitor Numbers	2559	2234	▼	13.5 %
Email Enquiries	359	431	▲	18.2 %
Incoming Calls	595	464	▼	24.7 %
Website Enquiries	2,400	2,200	▼	8.7 %
Exhibition Tickets	814	713	▼	13.2 %
PV Jandra Tickets	1,194	1,217	▲	1.9 %
PV Jandra Cruises	50	56	▲	11.3 %
Café Turnover (ex GST)	\$33,533.45	\$33,380.73	▼	0.5 %
Café Event Catering	6	5	▼	18.2 %
Functions	5	4	▼	22.2 %
Mt Oxley Tickets	145	162	▲	11.1 %
Tour Groups	3	8	▲	90.9 %
Financial YTD Turnover (ex GST)	\$182,619.63	\$275,843.95		

Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre

BOBEC continued operations 7 days per week in September 2023. The Café opening hours are Monday to Sunday from 9.00am to 3.00pm and the Exhibition Centre opening hours are Monday to Sunday from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

September was another busy month for the Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre garden staff who attended general maintenance on site. The artesian bore has been completed and is functional.

The gardens at the Centre entered the 2023 Garden Club competition with results yet to be announced. A wedding was conducted within the grounds during the month with feedback regarding how great the grounds and gardens are looking.

The “Wellbeing Area” down towards the river has been commenced with construction of a road / path underway. The Sculptures from the standing stories have been marked out ready for relocation from the BOBEC garden to the river site. Next month work will commence on the stairs leading to the new pontoon.

The Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre hosted a small concert night for the Catholic Parish who enjoyed singing with Samoan families visiting from Melbourne.

The site was again very busy overall during September 2023, thanks again to all the staff. BOBEC are always on the lookout for more staff.

Café and Functions

The Café provided catering for five (5) functions during the month. These included two (2) function centre bookings and three (3) tour group bookings for breakfast.

There were four (4) Function Centre bookings in September 2023, two (2) private gatherings and two (2) organisations being; Climate Friendly and NSW Police.

Coach Bookings

There were eight (8) tour group bookings during September 2023. These included Sinclair Travel, Outback by Air x 2, Villa Carlotta Travel, Pitts Coaches, Vagabond Travel, Coopers Travel and Live Better Cobar.

Crossley Engine

Maintenance on the Crossley engine continued with 1 engine still out of action. Staff are currently starting the Crossley engine daily.

PV Jandra

Since 30 March 2023 when the Jandra again became operational, there have been 6,197 passengers aboard 291 cruises. The Jandra Sunset Cruises commenced in September 2023. There were two (2) cruises with 58 passengers on the first cruise and 97 passengers on the second. This generated well over \$5000 in ticket sales (\$30 each) and grazing boxes (\$20 each). There was one private Jandra cruise in September.

Visitor Numbers to the Back O’ Bourke Tourist and Information Centre

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	448	560	325	326	302	348	386	782	1109	816	603	609
Feb	157	397	271	373	391	220	282	1043	386	630	725	557
Mar	570	1500	1051	1342	1612	1245	1274	1021	412	1389	1100	1006
April	2144	3103	3146	3849	3118	3114	4024	3166	0	2387	2323	1709
May	2891	3758	3988	4602	4073	3983	4770	3693	0	2564	2016	1713
June	3216	4492	4275	5437	5199	4754	5634	4490	993	2366	2227	1971
July	4643	5173	6241	6002	5941	5982	7614	6834	2570	1068	2998	2520

Aug	4162	4410	4793	5078	4951	5051	5548	4052	1898	255	2557	2559
Sep	5074	4275	4764	4489	4532	4246	4676	3601	3325	0	2203	2234
Oct	3967	2383	2486	2370	2475	2463	3574	2222	5246	409	1094	
Nov	930	789	671	610	1031	876	1014	1220	1989	866	710	
Dec	347	207	242	272	281	255	630	860	1194	897	586	
Total	27649	31044	32253	34750	33906	32537	39454	32984	19122	13647	19142	

Events

Sunset Cruises

To celebrate spring the Back O’ Bourke Tourism Team along with Captain Mike Weston, trialed a Sunset Cruise on Friday, 8 September 2023 with 58 passengers and three (3) crew. The second cruise on Friday 22 September 2023 hosted 97 passengers and three (3) crew. Feedback has been positive with the Sunset Cruises proving to be popular.

The 2-hour cruise is an opportunity for residents and visitors to Bourke to enjoy the views from the Jandra while the taking in a beautiful Darling River sunset. The tourism team also prepare nibble boxes for passengers to enjoy.

Sunset Cruises will run from September to October each fortnight.



Community Christmas Markets

Planning has commenced for the 2023 Community Christmas Markets to be held at Central Park on Friday, 8 December 2023 from 5:30pm – 8.00pm, in partnership with Maranguka. A mix of activities including unique gifts from local producers, crafts, food treats, Santa visit, slippery slide and much more. The Tourism Team are expecting large numbers and advertising the event will start early November to encourage new stall holders.



Spring School Holiday Activities

Council continues to support the community and other agencies during periods of school holidays.

The NSW Regional Office of Youth provided funding to support the Spring Holiday activities. The Totem Skateboarding team came back to Bourke to present education sessions to the youth of Bourke. The team had prizes and giveaways and included a professional skater demonstration. A community BBQ lunch was also held during the activity. Thanks to PCYC and Maranguka for their continued support in providing school holiday activities.

Planning has commenced for the Summer School Holiday calendar. Fortnightly meetings are being held to coordinate services and working groups to provide activities during the summer break.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

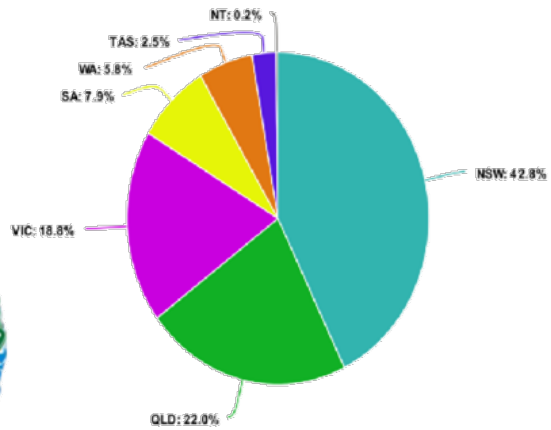
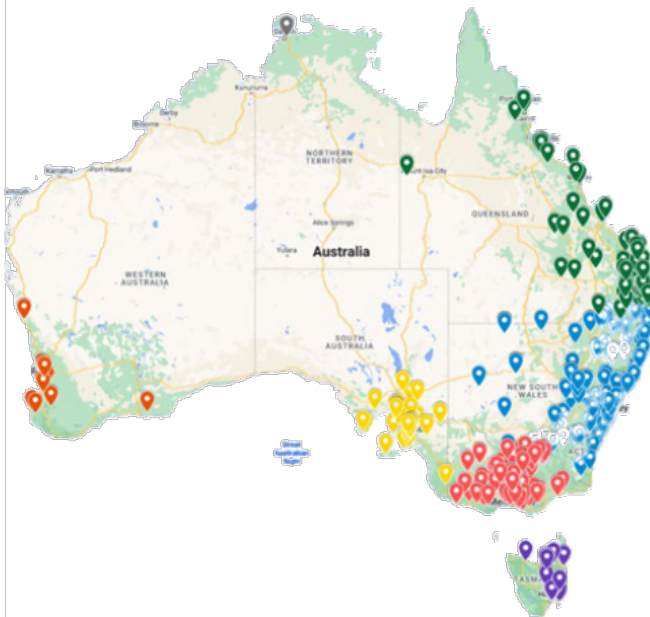
Recommendation

That the report of the Coordinator Tourism regarding Tourism and Events Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 23 October 2023, be noted.

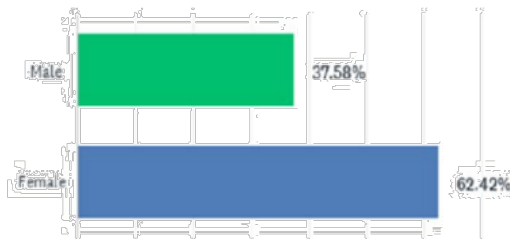


SEPTEMBER 2023

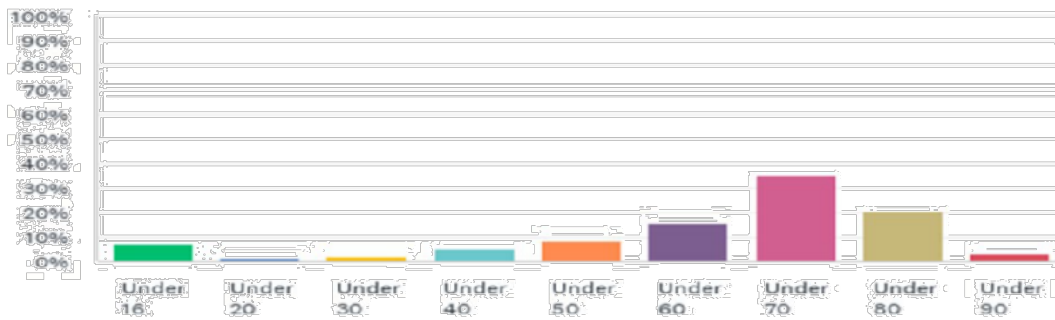
WHAT IS YOUR HOME POSTCODE?



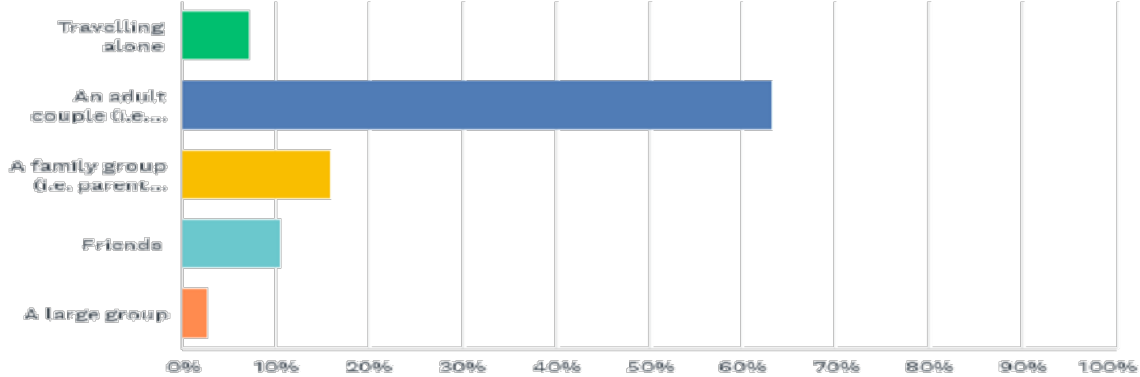
ARE YOU MALE OR FEMALE?



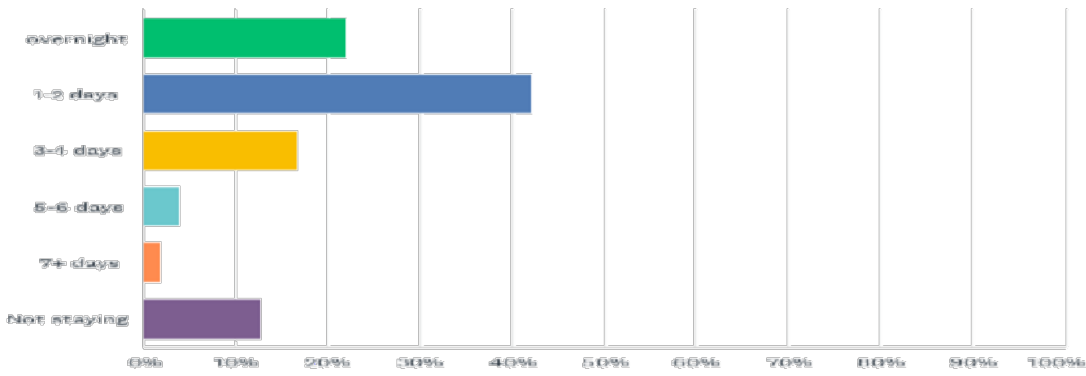
WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



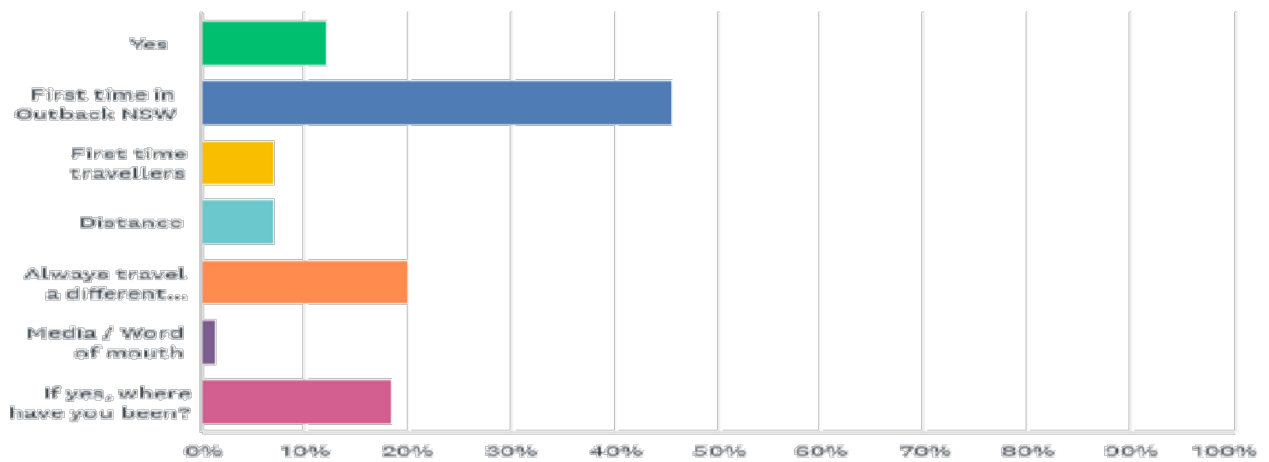
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR IMMEDIATE TRAVEL PARTY?



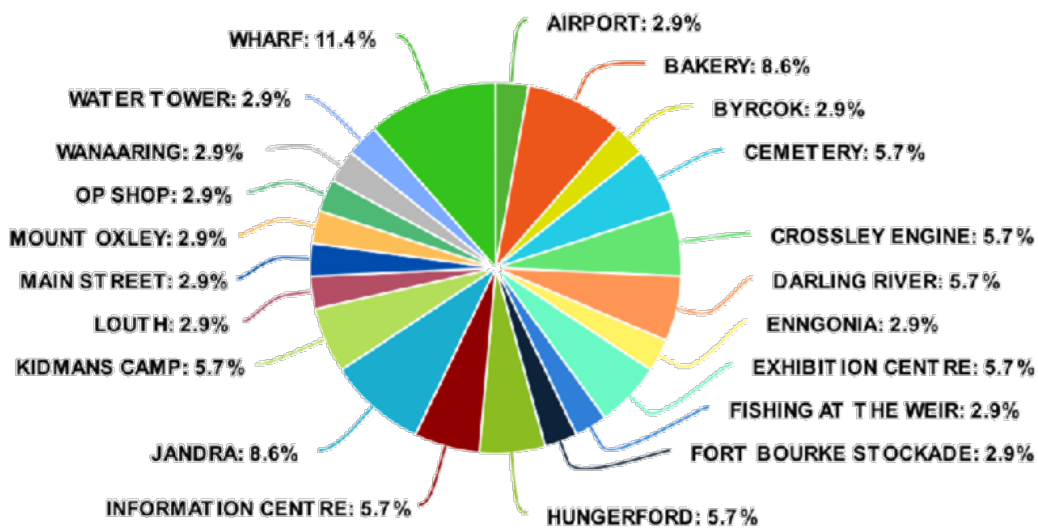
HOW LONG ARE YOU STAYING FOR?



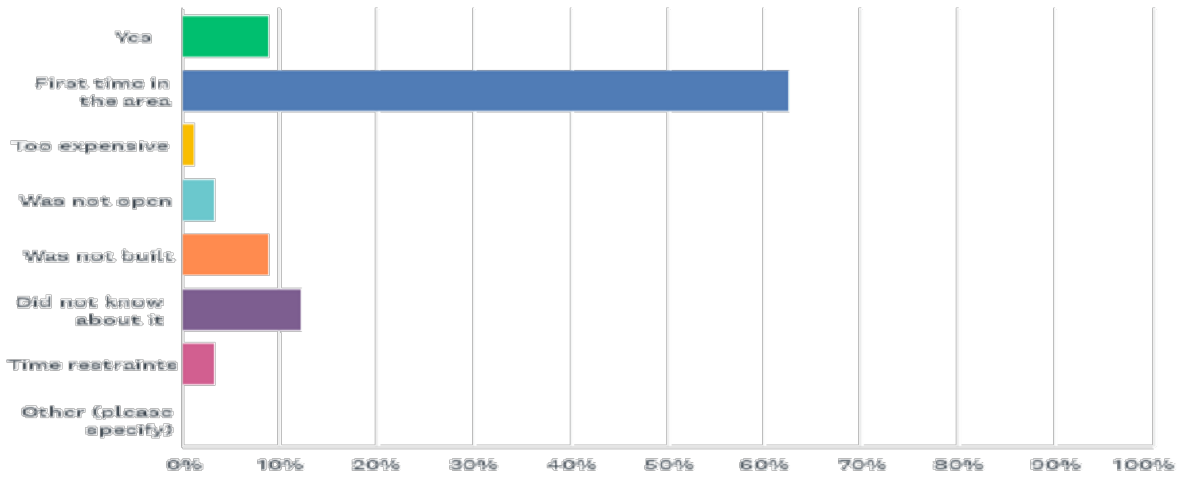
HAVE YOU BEEN TO BOURKE BEFORE?



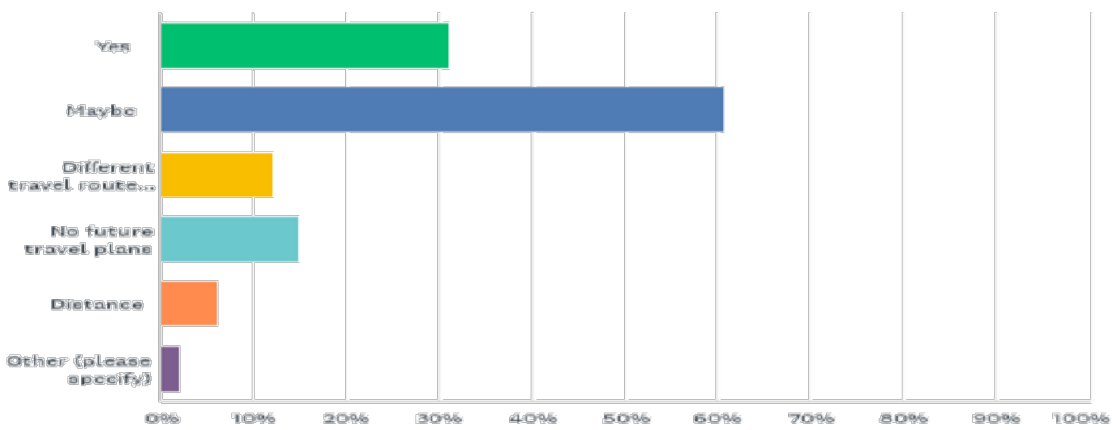
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?



HAVE YOU BEEN THROUGH BACK O BOURKE CENTRE?

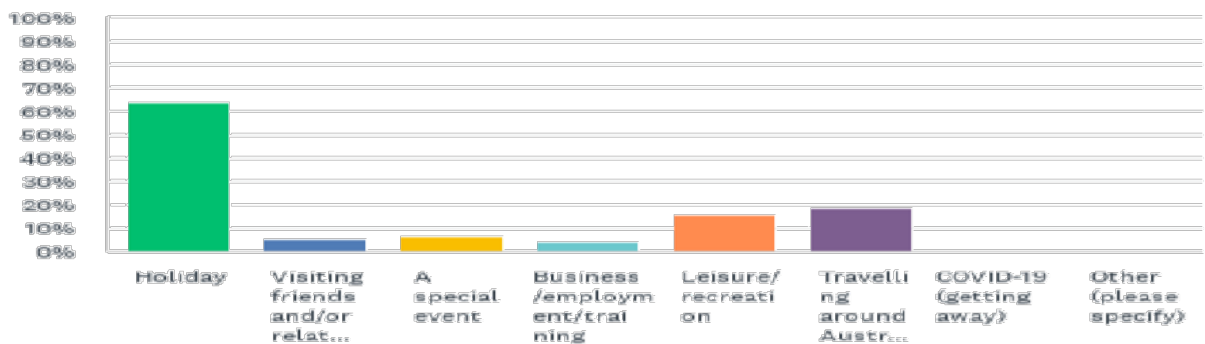


WILL YOU BE RETURNING TO BOURKE?

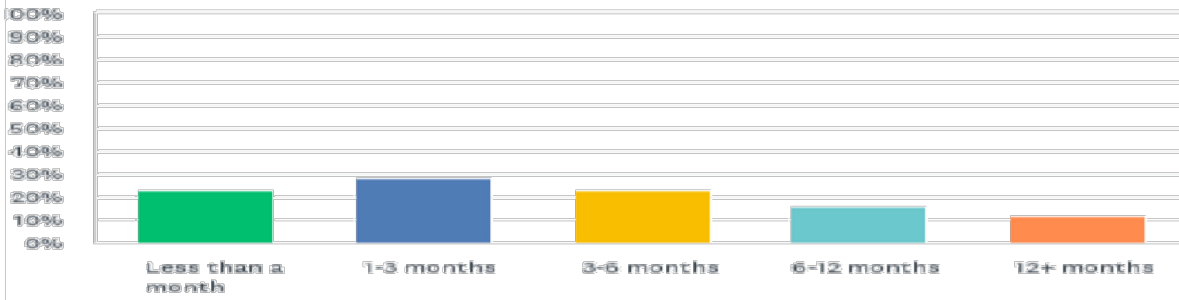


Only one answer to other: "getting too old to travel anywhere"

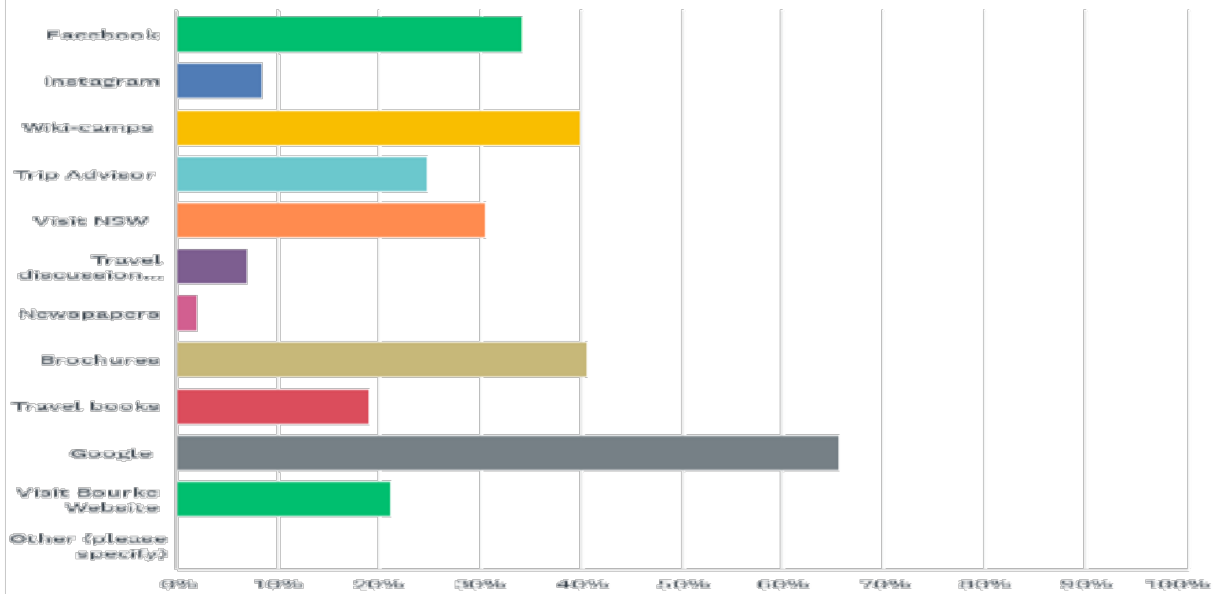
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP?



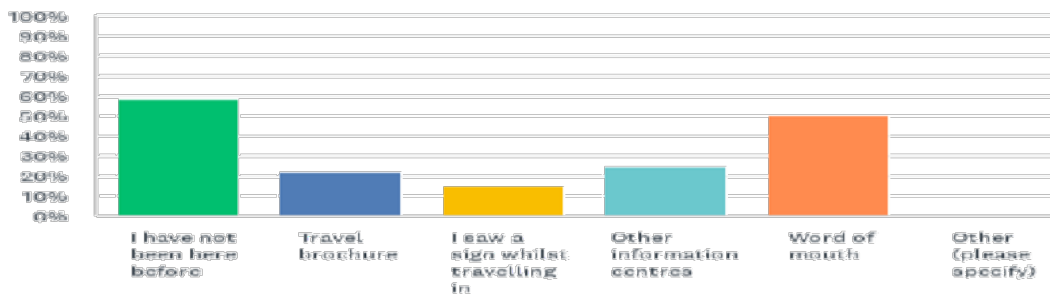
HOW LONG AGO DID YOU PLAN FOR THIS TRIP?



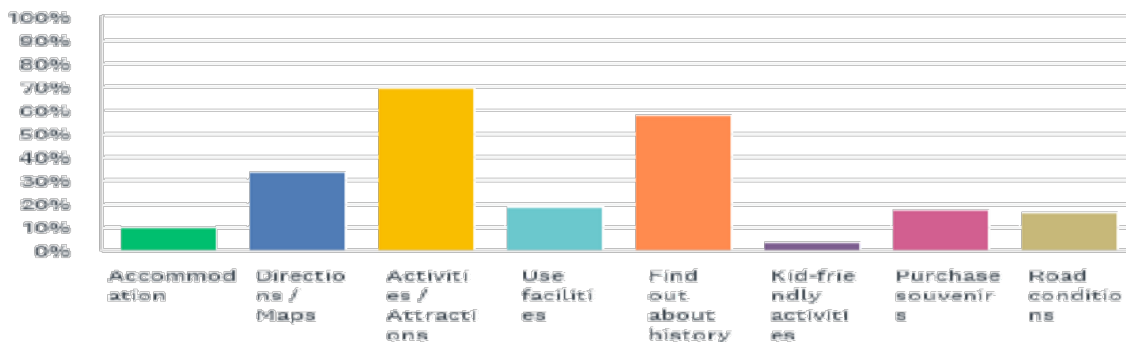
WHAT FORMS OF MEDIA DO YOU USE TO FIND INFORMATION?



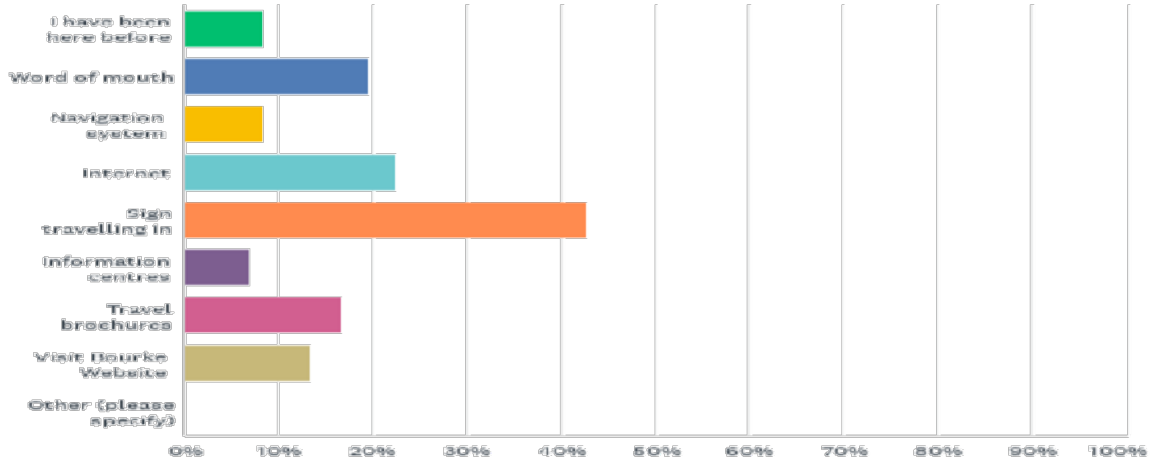
WHAT DETERMINES YOUR DECISION AS TO WHERE TO GO?



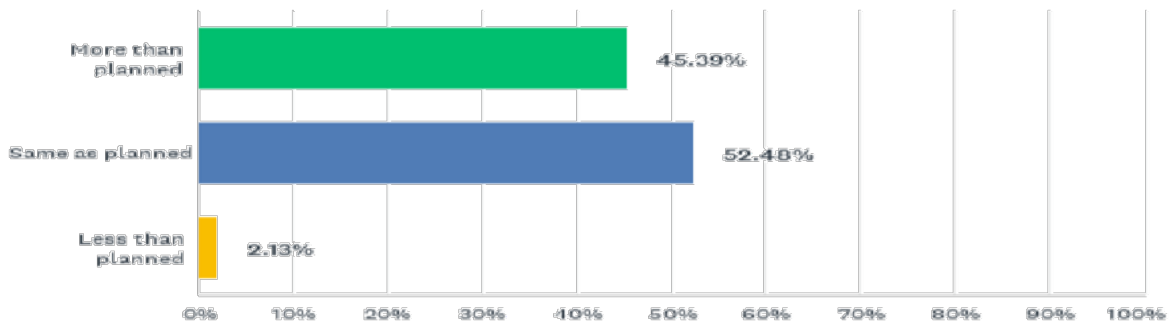
WHAT INFORMATION ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AT THE INFORMATION CENTRE?



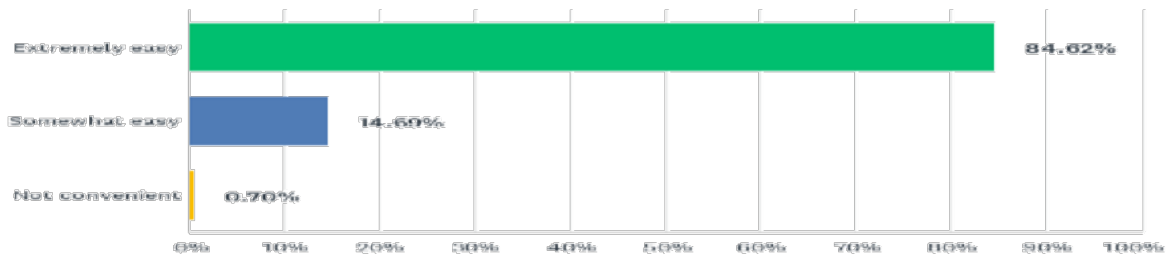
HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS INFORMATION CENTRE?



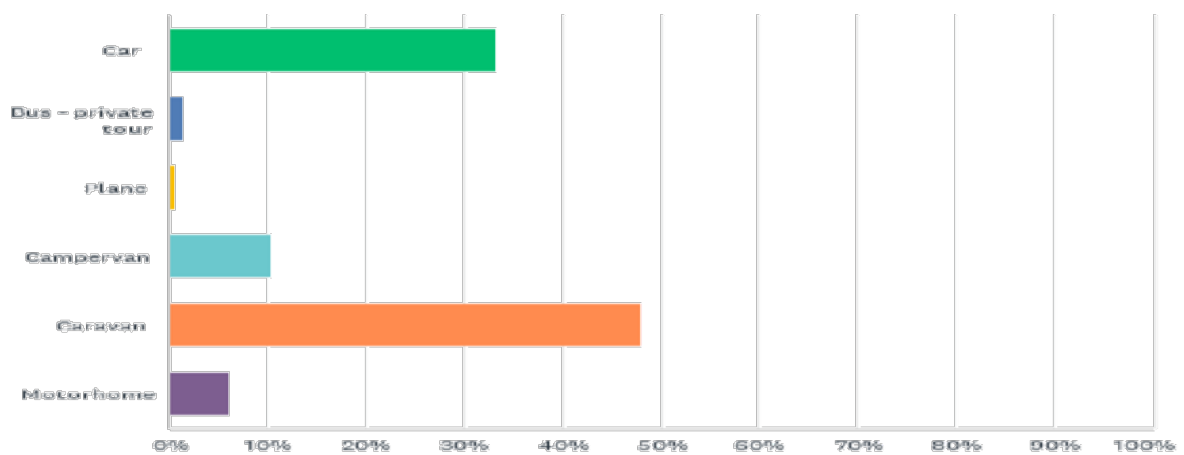
HOW DO YOU THINK THE INFORMATION THAT YOU GAINED FROM THE CENTRE MIGHT INFLUENCE HOW LONG YOU STAY AND THE ACTIVITIES YOU DO?



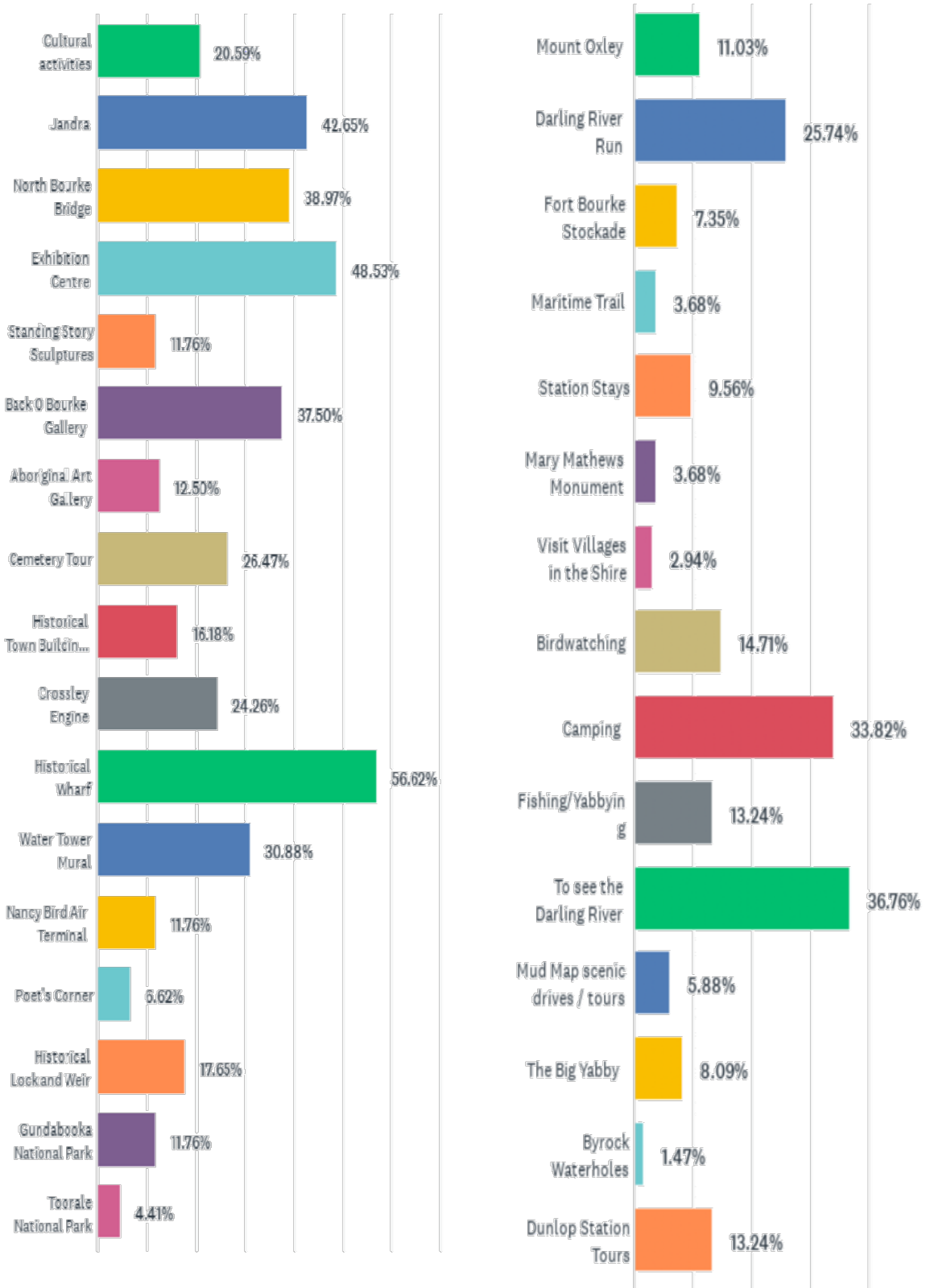
IN YOUR OPINION, HOW EASY WAS IT TO FIND OUR LOCATION?



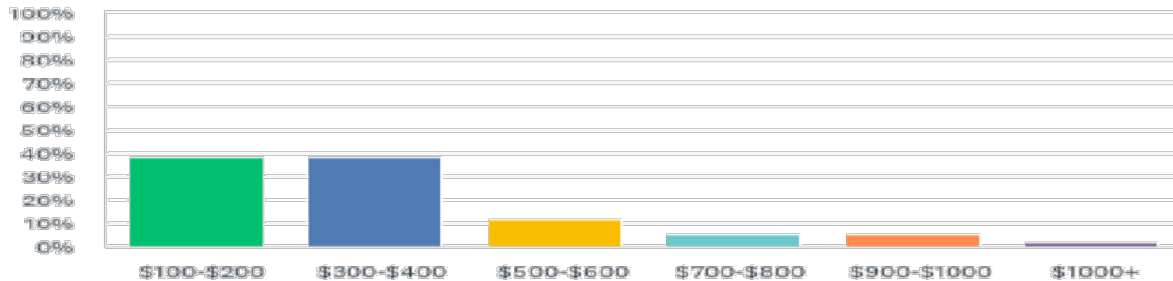
HOW DID YOU TRAVEL TO BOURKE?



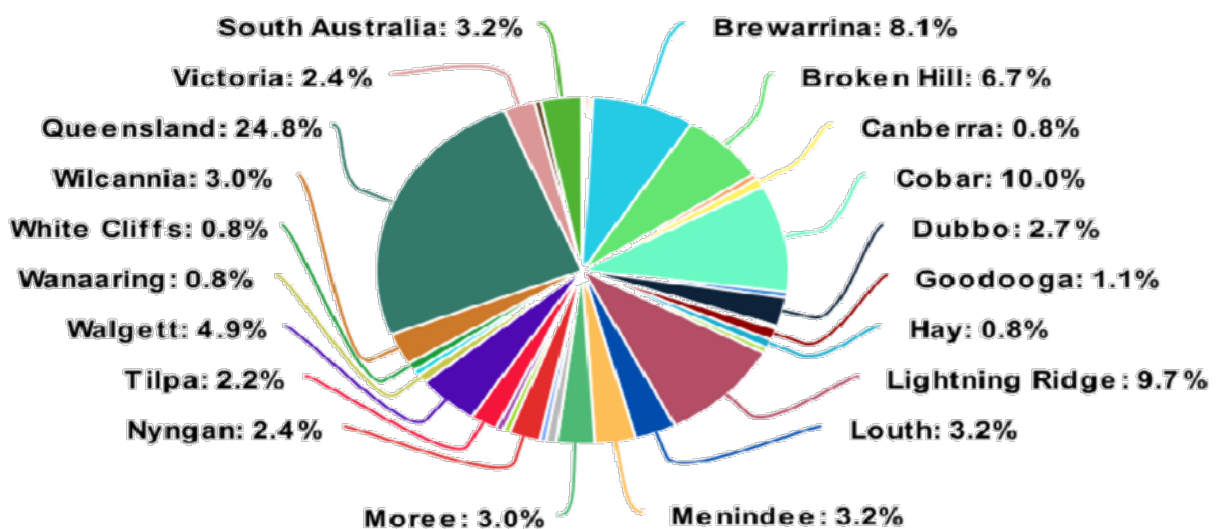
WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE OR PLAN TO DO DURING YOUR STAY?



OVER THE ENTIRE STAY IN BOURKE, HOW MUCH IN TOTAL, INCLUDING ACCOMMODATION, DO YOU ESTIMATE YOU HAVE/WILL SPEND IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS?



WHAT TOWNS HAVE YOU VISITED, OR ARE YOU PLANNING TO VISIT ON THIS TRIP?



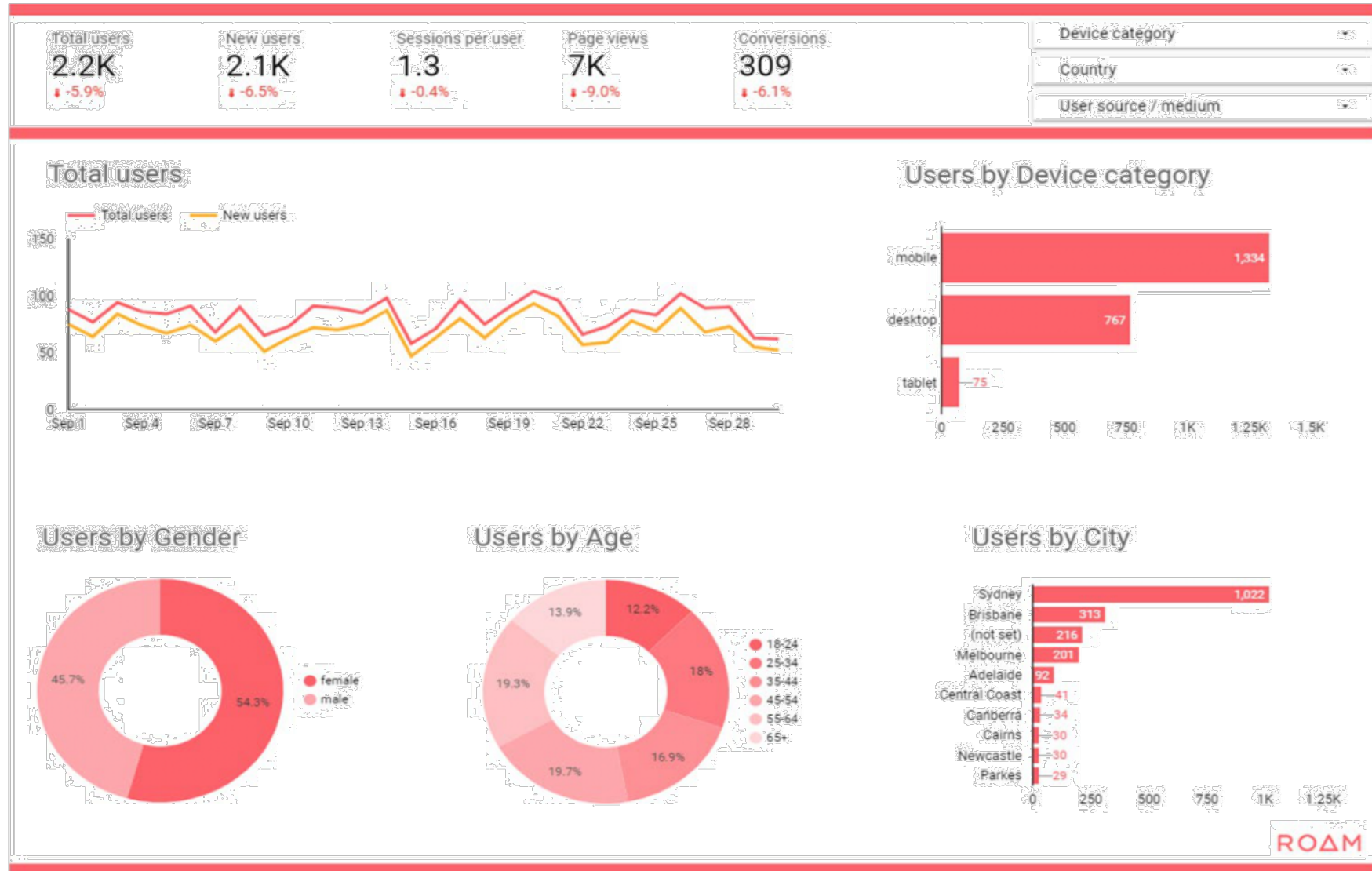
PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT ANY FEEDBACK YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR STAY

- "Mitchell caravan park – courteous friendly relaxing lots of interesting sites and things to do and visit"
- "café very slow waited 20 mins for 2 coffees"
- "Tourist centre very nice town needs bit more LOV. Some rubbish, broken glass etc around"
- "200 metres from info centre sign – misleading as once you turn left it is more than 20-0 metres"
- "great place but people stay away glad we didn't listen"
- "this exhibition is great lots of information"
- "lovely town and people keep up the good work"
- "fine"
- "trilby station stay extra good"
- "Kidmans camp – well worth it"
- "staying darling river motel – bakery excellent"
- "enjoying it so far"

- "enjoying it so far"
- "would recommend you put the blue info sign on the road so it can be seen from the road"
- "great centre"
- "The girl was rude at reception. As we just had the day and arrived last night she said don't do the exhibition centre. We said we're disappointed as did the paddle boat this morning but now having to pay double as no option to book both online and if arriving at night can't pay at the information centre first as it doesn't open till 9 which is the same time as the river boat going. As a family wanting to learn but also support to stay the day in Bourke but found these things out when researching the night we arrived. Also hand held audio systems like what is used in Gundagai and Cockatoo Island and Stockman's in Longreach would be better for exhibition as we missed out in listening to lots because other people using and staying for ages. Also works better with kids as they can press numbers in areas that are of interest for them. This is a fantastic place, we loved it but just some suggestions. FYI we did both pubs yesterday when we arrived and will do fuel and lunch before we go. So have spent quite a few dollars in less than 24 hours to support the town. Better booking system would be appreciated"
- "I have none, very friendly and nice"
- "if you arrive after dark visitors centre, can't call and get combined tickets with paddle steamer and exhibition centre as both only open @9am. So have to pay double, makes very expensive for family. Not likely to do both if on a budget. Will cut one attraction. Rude staff"
- "very pleasantly surprised well run centre"
- "great information at the back o Bourke exhibition"
- "Fantastic centre. Need at least 3 hours if you actually read, watch, and listen to everything! Very interesting and well presented"
- "Arrived at Bourke instantly like the place! 😊"
- "Awesome area we have done the Darling River run, fantastic!"
- "information to get to info centre excellent service"
- "Awesome area, we have done the darling river run. Fantastic"
- "We stayed at Anthony and Jenny's accommodation Pell Rio 86 Macquarie St, North Bourke. Fabulous accommodation and really nice hosts/. Very helpful Airbnb. The staff at the info centre were also really helpful with advice answering our many questions about the area. We've enjoyed our visit to Bourke."
- "great but main street needs attention"
- "have only been here one day so far"
- "no feedback"
- "nice place"
- "we are just exploring so no suggestions. Enjoyed the station stay. Love the wharf. Caravan park is as it needs to be"
- "great, love history. Really looking forward to seeing everything in and around Bourke"
- "finding everyone really friendly and helpful, the caravan parks have been clean and knowledgeable in their areas"
- "fabulous and very informative"
- "accommodation @ Mitchell caravan park good"
- "rose isle station highly recommended – Samantha is very welcoming and facilities are clean and lovely"
- "Kidmans camp – excellent"
- "all good"
- "everything has been great and if things aren't totally what we expect, it just adds to the adventure"
- "I love the 20 minute film that starts the exhibition centre tour. Best thing I've seen on my travels. Excellent"
- "very good"
- "Kidman caravan park nice"
- "lovely stay, good history, very helpful staff at info centre"
- "good history tour for us all"
- "Gardens have lovely trees and landscaping but not one is able to tell me about the lovely tree. A map of the landscaping features including sculptures with pictures would be great"

- "It would be good if the back o Bourke exhibition was free or requested a donation. It was amazing but we were the only people in there for an hour and a half. Educational and entertaining."
- "Very friendly, great place to stop. Thanks for the free wifi"
- "mays bend very good as I am a travelling pensioner. I am always looking for a bargain. I was disappointed as there wasn't a welcome Bourke sign coming in from Cobar end"
- "seems like a nice town. Back o Bourke centre does a lot for first impressions, nice clean, tidy centre with aircon (hooray!). And lots of great info about the area. Thank you 😊, and yummy coffee!! 😊"
- "More light on information walls so that you can read what is written. Overall lighting is fine but not for reading"
- "please open bakery/coffee café/ massage on weekends"
- "kill the carp"
- "loved the movie"
- "Mitchell Caravan Park was excellent. The bakery and cooee café have good coffee. We enjoyed the Jandra paddle vessel trip on Friday evening. Frances at the information centre was very helpful"
- "the centre is very well done and very informative"
- "We called at the back o Bourke gallery on our way through. Didn't realise there were so many other attractions here and will have to plan another trip to do them"
- "love experiencing the history of the outback"
- "The phone was never answered and the voice mailbox was full. I called the number that I saw published – 68721321 – this should tell you something"
- "very friendly staff – great centre thanks"
- "Walk at Gundabooka np e.g. valley of the eagles wasn't well signposted or informative, aboriginal artwork – no details/ signs at actual artwork. Price of exhibition centre is too expensive"
- "not well sign posted to get here road signs"

BOBEC Website Statistics September 2023



22 CLOSED SESSION

Recommendation

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

22.1 * Tender for Provision of Linemarking Services**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (d)(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

22.2 * Mayoral Minute - General Managers Performance Review**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

