



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

Date: Monday, 27 May 2024
Time: 9.15am
Location: Bourke Shire Council
29 Mitchell Street Bourke NSW

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting

27 May 2024

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 Peter 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 4.1 of 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**
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 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 ACTIVITIES

File Number: 1707
Author: Barry Hollman, Mayor
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

The Activities of the Mayor from 15 April 2024 to 17 May 2024 were as follows:

Date	Meeting	Location
16-17/04/2024	Murray Darling Basin Leadership Summit	Hyatt Regency, Sydney
22/04/2024	Bourke Shire Council Meeting	Council Chamber
22/04/2024	Meeting with Stephen Lawrence MLC, Councillors and Staff	Council Chamber
25/04/2024	ANZAC Day Memorial Service	Cenotaph Central Park
9/05/2024	Local Government NSW Regional and Rural Summit	State Library of NSW, Sydney
09/05/2024	Meeting with the Hon Rose Jackson, MP	State Library of NSW, Sydney
10/05/2024	Country Mayors Association Financial Sustainability Forum	Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney
10/05/2024	Meeting with the Hon Jenny Aitchison, MP	Theatrette, Parliament House, Sydney
16/05/2024	Meeting with Cr Lachlan Ford and GM regarding North Bourke Drainage	Council Chamber

Recommendation

That the information in the Mayoral Minute – Mayoral Activities Report as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

8 STARRING OF ITEMS

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting - 22 April 2024



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

22 April 2024

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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, 22 APRIL 2024 AT 9.15AM**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Leonie Brown (General Manager), Paul Flanagan (Manager Roads Services), David Mathews, (Acting Manager Works), Melanie Milgate (Economic Development Manager), Ang Pasang Rai (Manager Corporate Services), Mark Riley (Manager Special Projects, via A-V Link), Dwayne Willoughby (Manager Environmental 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:

Kathy Brown (Tiny Moore)	Megan Joan Kelly	Paul Mann
Terry Rankmore	Jim Rice	Donald Jeffrey Smith
Greg West		

The Mayor also requested that those in attendance maintain in their thoughts , those who died or were injured, at Westfield Shopping Centre, Bondi Junction on Saturday, 13 April 2024.

4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

A request to attend the meeting via Audio Visual Link was received from Cr Grace Ridge who was unable to attend the meeting due to personal reasons.

Resolution 2024/64

Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel

Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton

That Cr Grace Ridge be permitted to attend the meeting via Audio-Visual link given her inability to attend in person due to personal reasons.

Carried

6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Sarah Barton declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 11.1 of the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda: Notice of Motion – Proposed Motel. The reason for such interest is that Cr Barton and her husband own and operate an accommodation facility in Bourke, which the subject report relates to. In making this declaration, Cr Barton advised that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight during Councils consideration of Item 11.1 of the Council Agenda.

Cr Sarah Barton declared a significant non pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 12.3 of the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda: Business Arising, Mayoral Minute – General Manager Annual Leave. The reason for such interest is that Cr Barton is the daughter of Councils General Manager, which the subject report relates to. In making this declaration, Cr Barton advised that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 12.3 of the Agenda.

Cr Sally Davis declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 12.3 of the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda: Business Arising, North Bourke Storm Water Drainage and Item 22.1 of the Closed Council Meeting Agenda: North Bourke Drainage – April 2024 Workshop Discussions. 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 12.3 of the Agenda and that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight when Council considers Item 22.1 of the Closed Council Agenda.

Cr Grace Ridge declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 12.3 of the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda: Business Arising, North Bourke Storm Water Drainage and Item 22.1 of the Closed Council Meeting Agenda: North Bourke Drainage – April 2024 Workshop Discussions. The reason for such interest is that Cr Ridge and her family have a business relationship with the owner of the land detailed in the report. In making this declaration, Cr Ridge advised she would turn off her A-V Link and be out of sight should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 12.3 of the Agenda and that she would turn off her A-V Link and be out of sight when Council considers Item 22.1 of the Closed Council Agenda.

Cr Nathan Ryan declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 12.3 of the Ordinary Council Meeting 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 (BACHS), providing yard and property maintenance to Doctor's houses. In making this declaration, Cr Ryan advised that should Council separately consider this matter as part of Item 12.3 of the Agenda he would remain in the Chamber but would not contribute during Council's consideration of the matter.

Council's General Manager, Leonie Brown, declared a pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 11.1 of the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda: Notice of Motion – Proposed Motel. The reason for such interest is that Mrs Brown and her husband own and operate a commercial accommodation facility in Bourke, which the subject report relates to. In making this declaration, Mrs Brown advised that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight during Councils consideration of Item 11.1 of the Council Agenda.

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORAL ACTIVITIES

File Number: 1707

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

Resolution 2024/65

Moved: Cr Barry Hollman

That information in the Mayoral Minute – Mayoral Activities Report as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

8 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 2024/66

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the recommendations as detailed in the un-starred items as contained in the agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council, held on Monday, 22 April 2024, be adopted.

Carried

9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution 2024/67

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 March 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the General Manger.

Carried

10 RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

At this juncture Cr Barton and the General Manager left the meeting, the time being 9.26am

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 *** NOTICE OF MOTION - PROPOSED MOTEL

File Number: 1718

The Council had before it the Notice of Motion - Proposed Motel from Cr Lachlan Ford.

Resolution 2024/68

Moved: Cr Lachlan Ford

Seconded: Cr Robert Stutsel

- 1. That Council proceed to take the necessary action to develop a scope of works leading to the inviting of quotations from suitably qualified consultants to prepare a Business Case report and accompanying required report(s) in respect of the proposed building of a Motel at the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre site.*
- 2. That following the receipt of quotations, a report on the matter be provided to Council, inclusive of the availability of funding to progress the required studies*
- 3. That Council investigate grant funding opportunities to meet the cost of the required studies.*

Carried

At this juncture Cr Barton and the General Manager returned to the meeting, the time being 9.31am

12 BUSINESS ARISING

12.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

File Number: C12.6

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

Resolution 2024/69

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the General Manager regarding the Calendar of Events, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

12.2 INFORMATION TO COUNCILLORS

File Number: C12.1

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

Resolution 2024/70

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the General Manager regarding Information to Councillors, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

12.3 *** BUSINESS ARISING REPORT

File Number: C12.1

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

Resolution 2024/71

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Lachlan Ford

That the report of the General Manager regarding Business Arising, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

13 ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Nil

14 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Nil

15 GENERAL MANAGER

15.1 * PROPOSED NAMING OF ROAD - NORTH BOURKE**

File Number: R7.1

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Proposed Naming of Road - North Bourke.

Resolution 2024/72

Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel

Seconded: Cr Sam Rice

- 1. That the proposed road name, Buster Lane, be approved by Council for the un-named road off Sid Coleman Drive, North Bourke as per the locality plan.**
- 2. That the proposed name be notified in the Western Herald newspaper for a period of 28 days and Relevant Parties notified in accordance with Section 162 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 7 of the Roads Regulation 2018.**
- 3. That a further report be submitted to Council following the notification period.**

Carried

16 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

16.1 * BANK RECONCILIATION AND STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES - 31 MARCH 2024**

File Number: 2108

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Bank Reconciliation and Statement of Bank Balances - 31 March 2024.

Resolution 2024/73

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Robert Stutsel

That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31 March 2024, be noted.

Carried

16.2 * INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

File Number: 2101

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Investment Portfolio Report as at 31 March 2024.

Resolution 2024/74

Moved: Cr Victor Bartley

Seconded: Cr Robert Stutsel

1. That the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding Council's Investment Portfolio as at 31 March 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be received and noted.
2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted.

Carried

16.3 * QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 MARCH 2024**

File Number: 2023

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Corporate Services regarding the Quarterly Budget Review to 31 March 2024.

Resolution 2024/75

Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

1. That the document titled "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – 31 March 2024" be received and noted.
2. That the variations of income and expenditure as identified in the "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – 31 March 2024" be adopted.

Carried

17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Nil

18 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Nil

19 POLICIES

Nil

20 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

21 ACTIVITY REPORTS

21.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES - ROAD WORKS AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 1945

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

Resolution 2024/76

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the Manager Roads regarding Engineering Services - Road Works and Workshop Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

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

File Number: E7.1

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Works regarding the Engineering Services - Parks and Gardens, Town Services, Water and Waste Water Activity Report.

Resolution 2024/77

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

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, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

21.3 PLANNING, REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 1102, 1322, 1059, 1165

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

Resolution 2024/78

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

21.4 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 4170

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

Resolution 2024/79

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the General Manager regarding General Manager Activity for March 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

21.5 LIBRARY ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 2780

The Council had before it the report of the Library Manager regarding the Library Activity Report.

Resolution 2024/80

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the Library Manager regarding Library Activity for the month of March 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

21.6 TOURISM AND EVENTS ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: T4.3

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

Resolution 2024/81

Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

That the report of the Coordinator Tourism regarding Tourism and Events Activity for March 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 22 April 2024, be noted.

Carried

22 CLOSED SESSION

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

Resolution 2024/82

Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel

Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton

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

22.1 *North Bourke Drainage - April 2024 Workshop Discussions**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (c) 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 person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Carried

Council proceeded into closed session with the livestreaming of the meeting being paused at 9.52am.

At this juncture Councillors Davis and Ridge left the meeting, the time being 9.53am.

22.1 ***NORTH BOURKE DRAINAGE - APRIL 2024 WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

File Number: D6.1, D6.2, V1.6

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Special Projects regarding the North Bourke Drainage - April 2024 Workshop Discussions.

Resolution 2024/83

Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel

Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley

1. That Council confirm its previously resolved position to pursue the construction of a stormwater detention basin and required infrastructure on 2.21ha of land fronting Warrego St, North Bourke owned by Mr Robert and Mrs Sally Davis 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.
2. That Council continues to seek the formal agreement of Mr Robert and Mrs Sally Davis for the purchase by Council of a 2.21 ha portion of Lot 212 Deposited Plan 787811, as owned by them.
3. That it be noted that a new valuation in respect of the value of the 2.21ha of land has been sought.
4. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and General Manager be requested to further meet with Mr and Mrs Davis in respect of the proposed land acquisition, following the receipt of the updated valuation for the proposed land.
5. That where agreement is reached for the acquisition of this 2.21ha of land, a further report be provided to Council which details the agreement between the parties for Councils resolution.
6. That in the event of no formal response being received or a response not agreeing to the sale of the land by 30 June 2024 from Mr and Mrs Davis, Council further consider its position in respect of the land matter at its July 2024 meeting.
7. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to Council.

Carried

At this juncture Councillors Davis and Ridge returned to the meeting, the time being 10.08am

Resolution 2024/84

Moved: Cr Sarah Barton

Seconded: Cr Cec Dorrington

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

Carried

Open council resumed at 10.08am.

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 10.10am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 May 2024.

.....

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
2024				
May	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
June	11	2.00pm	Traffic Committee Meeting	Council Chamber
June	13 - 14		Western Division Meeting	Cobar
June	13 - 14		Country Mayor's Association Meeting	Kempsey
June	TBC	9.00am	Alliance of Western Councils Board Meeting	Western Plains Cultural Centre, Dubbo
June	24	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
July	2 - 4		Australian Local Government Association Conference	Canberra
July	8 - 11		Murray Darling Basin Association Conference	Tamworth
July	22	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
July	23 - 25		Water Management Conference	Goulburn
July	26		Border Regional Organisation of Councils	Lightning Ridge
August	9		Country Mayors Association	Sydney
August	15	8.30am	ARIC Meeting	Conference Room
August	26	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
September	14		Council Elections	Bourke

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding the Calendar of Events, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, 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 15 April to 17 May 2024 follows:

Date	Information Sent	Author	Email
16/04/2024	Coulton's Catch Up - Monday 15 April	Mark Coulton, MP	✓
16/04/2024	LGNSW Advocacy Update – April 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
16/04/2024	News from the Barwon Electorate	Roy Butler, MP	✓
16/04/2024	The Weekly Newsletter, 16 April 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
17/04/2024	GMs Column for publication – 18 April 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
17/04/2024	Macquarie Home Stay Autumn Newsletter 2024	Macquarie Home Stay	✓
19/04/2024	Business Papers for the April Ordinary and Closed Session Council Meeting on Monday 22 April 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
20/04/2024	Stephen Lawrence MLC visit to Bourke on Monday, 22 April 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
23/04/2024	Various items of interest to Local Government	RDA Orana	✓
24/04/2024	GMs Column for publication – 25 April 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
24/04/2024	The Basin State	Benjamin Allmon	✓
24/04/2024	Minutes of the April 2024 Council Meeting	Leonie Brown	✓
24/04/2024	Release of “Work in Bourke” Recruitment video	Leonie Brown	✓
29/04/2024	Shoalhaven City Council Election of Deputy Mayor	Shoalhaven City Council	✓
29/04/2024	The Weekly Newsletter, 23 April 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
01/05/2024	Fish Passage in the Northern Basin – join our information session	Leonie Brown	✓
04/05/2024	Jandra Captain	Leonie Brown	✓
08/05/2024	GMs Column for publication – 9 May 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
08/05/2024	The Weekly Newsletter, 30 April 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
09/05/2024	Basin Bulletin Issue 66	Murray Darling Association	✓
09/05/2024	The Weekly Newsletter, 07 May 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
09/05/2024	Murray Darling Association Communique: The Matter of Water with the MDA	Murray Darling Association	✓
09/05/2024	OLG's monthly newsletter - 9 May 2024	Office of Local Government	✓
13/05/2024	Coulton's Catch Up - Monday 13 May	Mark Coulton, MP	✓

16/05/2024	GMs Column for publication – 16 May 2024	Leonie Brown	✓
16/05/2024	Various items of interest to Local Government	RDA Orana	✓
17/05/2024	The Weekly Newsletter, 15 May 2024	Local Government NSW	✓
17/05/2024	Country Mayors Communique - General Meeting 10 May	Country Mayors Association	✓
17/05/2024	Upcoming workshops for Councillors	Local Government NSW	✓

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding Information to Councillors, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, 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	MED MANAGER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2021/355 December Meeting	ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PAUL FLANAGAN – ROADS MANAGER
FILE NO	R7.1, R7.4.3

RESOLUTION

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:
 - RLR 5 – Caronga Peak to Wilga Downs (23km / no bridge);
 - RLR50 - Moleyarrh 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

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.

5. The General Manager made contact with Minister Aitchison’s office and arranged a meeting with the Minister 23 November 2023 in Sydney.
6. Meeting held with Minister in Sydney 23 November 2023.
7. Meeting held with Minister Aitchison in Bourke Monday 8 January 2024 who requested previous reclassification report be forwarded to the Ministers office for information. Report forwarded.

2022/96 and 2023/60 April and March Meetings 2024/62 March Meeting 2024/83 April Meeting	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. <p>March 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a workshop of Councillors be convened for the purpose of considering options to progress and ultimately address the stormwater drainage issue in North Bourke, with a view to a report being submitted to Council at its April 2024 meeting. 2. That the documents and consideration in this matter remain confidential to Council. <p>April 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council confirm its previously resolved position to pursue the construction of a stormwater detention basin and required infrastructure on 2.21ha of land fronting Warrego St, North Bourke owned by Mr Robert and Mrs Sally Davis 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. 2. That Council continues to seek the formal agreement of Mr Robert and Mrs Sally Davis for the purchase by Council of a 2.21 ha portion of Lot 212 Deposited Plan 787811, as owned by them. 3. That it be noted that a new valuation in respect of the value of the 2.21ha of land has been sought. 4. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and General Manager be requested to further meet with Mr and Mrs Davis in respect of the proposed land acquisition, following the receipt of the updated valuation for the proposed land. 5. That where agreement is reached for the acquisition of this 2.21ha of land, a further report be provided to Council which details the agreement between the parties for Councils resolution. 6. That in the event of no formal response being received or a response not agreeing to the sale of the land by 30 June 2024 from Mr and Mrs Davis, Council further consider its position in respect of the land matter at its July 2024 meeting. 7. 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.
15. Meeting to be held with Mr and Mrs Davis 29 November 2023 to further discuss technical advice received.
16. Meeting held and advice discussed. Awaiting advice from landowners as to intention to sell 2.21ha of their land to Council for the purpose of Council constructing a retarding basin.
17. See report included in February 2024 Business Paper.
18. Due to lack of quorum at the February 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council for this report, the matter was referred to the March Ordinary Meeting of Council. Report included in March 2024 Closed Council Business Paper.
19. Workshop held Thursday, 4 April 2024 and, report submitted to April 2024 Council meeting. Letter provided to Mr and Mrs Davis.
20. Revised valuation received. Further letter provided to Mr and Mrs Davis 17 May 2024.

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

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

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.
 - 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.
9. Funding application approved by LRCI – staff are reviewing suitable sites with a further report to be prepared and submitted to Council for consideration.
10. Discussions held with planner 16 May 2024; concept plan being developed.

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	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
 13. On 30 October 2023 the General Manager made contact with Minister Jackson’s office and arranged for a meeting with the Minister 23 November 2023 in Sydney.
 14. Meeting held with Ministers Chief of Staff in Sydney on 23 November 2023.
 15. Further report submitted to Councils December 2023 meeting.
 16. No further update on application made by DPIE in regard to application for funding to complete the final business case.
 17. Advice received from DPIE on 26 February 2024 that the submission was sitting with the Commonwealth for consideration as part of the National Water Grid funding program.
 18. Mayor and General Manager met with NSW Water Minister, the Hon Rose Jackson in Sydney on 9 May 2024. Raising of the Bourke Weir discussed.

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

1. Representation made to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).
2. Legal advice received regarding impact of Flood study on developments in Bourke. Advice under consideration.
3. Meeting held with Lyall and Associates 6 March 2024 to identify the impact of the Flood Study on development in Bourke. Further report to be prepared and presented to Council to determine the required planning controls.
4. Further discussions held with Lyall and Associates regarding the impact of the Flood Study on a proposed development in Meadows Road, Bourke.

2023/94 May Meeting	RECOMMENCEMENT OF THE FLUORIDATION OF THE BOURKE WATER SUPPLY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN - MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	W2.1

RESOLUTION

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

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.
3. Following a directive in April 2024 from NSW Health to various rural and remote NSW Councils, Bourke Shire Council notifying residents that its water supply hasn't been fluoridated since 2016 when the fluoridator at the old plant broke down.

2023/167 July meeting	PROPOSED SALE OF LAND TO BOURKE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION HEALTH SERVICE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	A11.1, H1.1, H1.15

RESOLUTION

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.
2. That the sale of such land be subject to development consent being forthcoming for the

<p>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>4. Correspondence received from BACHS regarding clean-up of block and sealing laneway. See report in November 2023 Business Paper.</p> <p>5. Council resolved to assist with tipping fees and sealing of rear lane. Instructions issued to Councils Solicitor re amending of contract. Awaiting exchange of contracts.</p> <p>6. Due to the higher than anticipated level of construction costs, BACHS has applied for additional funding from the Commonwealth. Sale of land on hold pending outcome of funding application.</p> <p>7. Further letter of support provided to BACHS on 3 April 2024 for funding application.</p> <p>8. As at 16 May 2024, Council still awaits further advice from BACHS re the proposed sale of land.</p>

2023/218 September meeting	NORTH BOURKE BRIDGE RESTORATION
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	4373

<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 future deck maintenance costs.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>g) Wherever possible, seek leverage with the current similar upgrade works being undertaken on the nearby Brewarrina Bridge, via FBE and TfNSW.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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</p>

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.
4. Additional funding of \$200,000 received from Transport for NSW to complete Business Case. PWA continue to seek funding for additional deconstruction work.
5. Public Works and sub consultant engaged with necessary work underway and progressing.
6. General Manager has updated the community on the status of the bridge project. In this regard, an extensive piece on the bridge was included in a GM’s Column which was followed by an article in the Western Herald.
7. Community updated at Community meetings in Byrock, Bourke, Louth, Wanaaring, Enngonia and Fords Bridge.
8. Work by consultants/sub consultants on project continuing.
9. Council has received confirmation from the NSW Office of Local Government that its application for disaster funding (AGRN 1030/1034) in the amount of \$400,000 for the deconstruction of the timber approaches to the bridge has been successful. Total grant funding for this planning, design and deconstruction project totals \$800,000, being \$400,000 from TfNSW and \$400,000 from disaster funds.

2023/222 October Meeting	MAYORAL MINUTE – CROSS BORDER MOU – BULLOO SHIRE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	BARRY HOLLMAN - MAYOR
FILE NO	C6.7, T4.1, A3.32
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MOU signed with Paroo Shire Council 10 November 2023. Meeting yet to be held with Bulloo Shire Council. 2. MOU with Bulloo to be signed following the Queensland Local Government Elections which were held on 16 March 2024. 	

2023/257 November Meeting 2024/13 February Meeting	NAMING OF NORTH BOURKE OVAL
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	1355
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be noted that responsibility for the naming of places in NSW, including reserves, rests with the NSW Geographical Names Board. 2. That consideration of the proposal to name the North Bourke Oval, “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” be deferred until the February 2024 Council meeting, noting the requirement of the Geographical Names Board’s Naming Policy requires that any commemorative naming is to be done posthumously, at least one year after the decease of the person. 3. That in the intervening period, the General Manager be requested to ascertain further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement and importantly, seek the thoughts of Mr Simpson’s family to the naming proposal, for a full report to Council on the matter. 4. That Mr Les Bunyan be advised of Councils resolution. <p>February 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council proceed to seek community feedback on the proposal to renaming the cricket ground at North Bourke to “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” as per the Guidelines of the geographical Names Board. 2. That a further report be submitted to Council in respect of the outcome of such consultation, for a Council resolution in respect of submitting the naming proposal to the Geographical Names Board or otherwise. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter written to Mr Les Bunyan outlining timeframes and actions according to the requirements 	

- of the Geographical Names Board.
- 2. Further enquiries to be undertaken in the New Year.
- 3. Report included in February 2024 Business Paper. Council resolves to undertake community consultation on naming proposal prior to final decision being made to lodge application to the Geographical Names Board.
- 4. Letter written to Mr Les Bunyan providing an update of progress.
- 5. An advertisement is to be placed in the Western Herald edition of 21 March 2024 and 4 April 2024, on Councils Facebook Page, at the North Bourke Hotel and North Bourke Store. Letter being written to local cricket clubs and Bourke Cricket association re proposal.
- 6. Advertising undertaken in the Western Herald, Facebook, Public notices placed in the North Bourke Hotel and North Bourke Store, with letter provided to the Cricket Association for distribution to Cricket Clubs. Submissions close midday Wednesday, 17 April 2024.
- 7. Report to be submitted to May 2024 meeting re matter.

2023/289 December Meeting	MURRAY DARLING BASIN PLAN
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	R6.1

RESOLUTION

- 1. That the report of the General Managers regarding the ‘Restore Our Rivers’ Legislation, be noted.
- 2. That the General Manager be requested to undertake the necessary action that will result in the commissioning of, and preparation by, an appropriately qualified consultant, of documentation that articulates with data the socio-economic impacts on Bourke from previous water recovery actions emanating from the Murray Darling Basin Plan.
- 3. That funding for such a report be sourced from Council Reserve Funds.

ACTION TAKEN

- 1. Discussions held with consultant from the Stable Group in regard to commissioning a report, referred to RDA.
- 2. Discussions held with RDA, Executive Officer with a view to progressing the report and the seeking of funding from Government to support the project.
- 3. Meeting held with RDA, Executive Officer to review submissions received to undertake project on behalf of Bourke Shire Council and Warren Shire Council.
- 4. The community led water knowledge project has been brought to the attention of the Commonwealth to seek funding to complete the project.
- 5. RDA held further meeting with Liam O’Callaghan, Office of Minister Tara Moriarty to discuss pilot project and seek funding to complete.

2023/289 December Meeting	WESTERN WEIRS PROGRAM UPDATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	3504

RESOLUTION

- 1. That Council continue to monitor the development of the Western Weirs final business case as it

relates to the Bourke Shire Council area.
2. That Council continue to support the NSW Department of Planning and Environment with any further information required to progress the funding application if the EOI is successful.
ACTION TAKEN
1. Waiting advice regarding outcome of funding application EOI.
2. Advice received from DPIE on 26 February 2024 that the submission was sitting with the Commonwealth for consideration of National Water Grid funding.

2023/301 December Meeting	TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF BUILDING TRADES AND SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY – MANAGER PLANNING, REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NO	20261
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Acret Group Pty Ltd and K T Lyons Pty Ltd be included on Councils Building Trades Panel in respect of the potential provision of Painting and Project Management Services, respectively. 2. That the Building Trades Panel generally operate for an initial period of two (2) years commencing 1 January 2024 with a further 2-year option term available, solely at Councils discretion. 3. That the Building Trades Panel Arrangement allow for accepted Suppliers to adjust their service offering (including price) on an annual basis, or at Council’s discretion and that the Building Trades Panel Arrangement be refreshed on an annual basis, or at the Council’s discretion, to allow for existing Suppliers to withdraw and new Suppliers to be added. 4. That having regard to the number of tender submissions received in the recent call for tenders, a further round of tenders be invited in March 2024, noting that any inclusions on the Panel resulting from this additional round will operate until 31 December 2026, with a further 2-year option term available, solely at Councils discretion. 5. That at the appropriate time, such further round of tenders be promoted both as required and in the Bourke community, with an information session on the Tender being conducted by Council which also addresses the various steps in the Tenderlink tendering process in anticipation of receiving submissions from local trades suppliers. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contracts provided to successful tenderers for execution. Further tenders/information session to be called/held in March 2024. 2. To be completed in April 2024. 3. Meeting with trades people arranged by MES and held on Tuesday, 23 April 2024 at 5.00pm. 4. Further round of tenders in the marketplace during May 2024. 	

2023/302 December Meeting	WANAARING ROAD – ROAD RESERVE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PAUL FLANAGAN – ROADS MANAGER
FILE NO	3187, 3217
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action regarding the proposed compulsory acquisition of some 16.9ha (subject to final survey) of the Western Land Lease over 	

- Lot 1895 DP763763 for road purposes.
2. That a Deed of Agreement be executed between Council and B & L Gillard such that the arrangements and obligations of both parties regarding the provision of 3.38km of fencing materials and grading of the table drain by Council and the agreement to the land excising issue, the erection of the stock proof fencing and the clearing of land, all by B & L Gillard, are articulated.
 3. That any necessary documents be executed under the Common Seal of Council.
 4. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to Council.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Marsden’s Lawyers requested to draft agreement. Provision of fencing material and commencement of compulsory acquisition process to commence once agreement signed by both parties.
2. Agreement finalised and provided to landowners.
3. Further consultation with landowners to be held.

2023/303 December Meeting	TENDER FOR DISPOSAL AND SUPPLY OF NEW PRIME MOVER (10/24)
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PAUL FLANAGAN – ROADS MANAGER
FILE NO	20392

RESOLUTION

1. That the tender of Paccar Australia Pty Ltd be declined.
2. That as per Clause 178 (3)(e) of the Local Government (General) Regulation, the General Manager be requested to enter negotiations with Paccar Australia Pty Ltd, a Kenworth Dealer, and a Western Star Dealer with a view to sourcing a price/changeover price for the acquisition of an appropriate Prime Mover on the basis of delivery occurring in July 2025.
3. That as per Clause 178 (4)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation, the reasons for Council determining to enter negotiations with Paccar Australia Pty Ltd, a Kenworth Dealer, or a Western Star Dealer is that Council has been to the market via Local Government Procurement with only one (1) tender submission received and it is considered that nothing will be achieved by calling further tenders in what is a specialised market sector.
4. That Councils Plant Replacement Plan be reviewed having regard to such potential purchase.
5. That a further report on this potential acquisition be submitted to Council in due course.
6. That funds totalling \$250,000 as included in Councils 2023/2024 Plant Replacement Budget for the acquisition of a replacement prime mover be reallocated for the purchase by Council of a replacement backhoe (net \$48,676.24) and 12M Grader (net \$182,000).
7. That the documents and considerations in respect of this matter remain confidential to Council.

ACTION TAKEN

1. Further report on matter submitted to March 2024 meeting of Council.
2. Council resolved to award the contract for the supply of a Kenworth T659 Prime Mover at the tendered price of \$388,600 (ex GST) on the basis of delivery occurring during 2024/2025 to Paccar Australia. Council also authorised the General Manager to take the necessary action to dispose of Plant Number 92, being Council’s existing Western Star 4800FS Prime Mover by way of sale by public auction following the delivery to Council of the replacement Prime Mover.
3. Matters are proceeding.

2024/37 March Meeting	MAYORAL MINUTE - FISH PASSAGE - RECONNECTING THE NORTHERN BASIN
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	A3.8, W2.1, W3.1, W3.3
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council correspond with the Hon Rose Jackson MLC, NSW Minister for Water, expressing its significant opposition to the proposed Louth Weir Fishway and Weir Project that has progressed to a point where construction is imminent, albeit with a level of consultation that is viewed as being most inadequate. 4. That copies of such correspondence be provided to the Hon. Tanya Plibersek, Federal Minister for the Environment and Water and the State Member for Barwon, Mr Roy Butler MP. 5. That Council take the necessary action to assist the NSW Water Group promote a consultation meeting in respect of the Louth Weir with Louth District residents during either April or May 2024 with a view to maximising representation at the meeting by those who are impacted by the project. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter sent to Minister Rose Jackson MLC on 28 March 2024. 2. Copies sent to Minister Tanya Plibersek and Member for Barwon, Roy Butler, MP. 3. Discussions with Minister Jackson being pursued. 4. Meeting at Louth of residents and NSW Water held on 7 May 2024. 5. Mayor and General Manager met with NSW Water Minister, the Hon Rose Jackson in Sydney on 9 May 2024. Council's concerns regarding proposed changes to the Louth Weir, as a result of proposed fishway, along with proposed removal of weirs 19A and 20A, were discussed. 	

2024/48 March Meeting	2024/2025 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	ANG RAI – MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
FILE NO	P4.1
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report of the Manager of Corporate Services detailing an overview of the 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan be noted. 2. That Council's 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan be adopted for the purpose of public exhibition from Thursday, 28 March 2024 until 9.00am Thursday, 25 April 2024 in accordance with <i>Section 405 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993</i>. 3. That all submissions received be tabled at the 27 May 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council, for consideration prior to Council's Operational Plan for 2024/2025 being determined. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan placed on Public Exhibition on Thursday, 28 March 2024. 2. Report proposing adoption of Plan to be considered by Council at its May 2024 meeting. 	

2024/68 April Meeting	NOTICE OF MOTION – PROPOSED MOTEL
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	1718
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council proceed to take the necessary action to develop a scope of works leading to the inviting of quotations from suitably qualified consultants to prepare a Business Case report and accompanying required report(s) in respect of the proposed building of a Motel at the Back O' Bourke 	

<p>Exhibition Centre site.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That following the receipt of quotations, a report on the matter be provided to Council, inclusive of the availability of funding to progress the required studies That Council investigate grant funding opportunities to meet the cost of the required studies.
ACTION TAKEN
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of scope of works document and investigations into potential sources for grant funding for Business Case underway.

2024/72 April Meeting	PROPOSED RENAMING OF ROAD – NORTH BOURKE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	R7.1
RESOLUTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> That the proposed road name, Buster Lane, be approved by Council for the un-named road off Sid Coleman Drive, North Bourke as per the locality plan. That the proposed name be notified in the Western Herald newspaper for a period of 28 days and Relevant Parties notified in accordance with Section 162 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 7 of the Roads Regulation 2018. That a further report be submitted to Council following the notification period. 	
ACTION TAKEN	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed name advertised in the Western Herald edition of 2 May 2024 and on BSC website from 1 May 2024 till 12 noon on 31 May 2024, when submissions close. GNB and relevant parties notified of proposal. 	

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding Business Arising, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

13 ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Nil

14 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

14.1 DAVIDSON OVAL DRAFT MASTER PLAN

File Number:	2976
Author:	Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services
Authoriser:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments:	1. Davidson Oval Draft Master Plan

Background

At the May 2021 Ordinary meeting of Council, discussion took place regarding projects to be undertaken as part of available grant funding. One of the projects endorsed by Council was the development of Female Change Rooms at Davidson Oval.

As part of such discussions, Councillors were of the view that staff be requested to investigate an opportunity to develop a Master Plan for the Davidson Oval Precinct. Councillors noted that the current facilities, particularly the grandstand, had reached their useful life, and an opportunity to improve all the infrastructure at the precinct should be included in the Master Plan.

To this end, staff contacted two (2) consultants to provide a quotation to develop a detailed Master Plan for the oval. Details provided by staff to the consultants included the construction of a new single-story multipurpose clubhouse with change rooms, storage facilities, kitchen/canteen, first aid room, bathrooms, and grandstand seating for 200 people. It was anticipated that the proposed development would be located on the site where the existing grandstand, change rooms, canteen and toilets currently stand.

Accordingly, at its September 2021 meeting, Council resolved:

- 1. That Council endorse the Master Plan development for the Davidson Oval precinct.*
- 2. That Council approve the expenditure of circa \$40,000 from the Infrastructure Renewal Reserve for the development of the Master Plan.*

Current Situation

ROSS Planning was subsequently engaged by Council to develop the Master Plan for Davidson Oval. Following a thorough site analysis and a series of engagement activities, preparation of a Draft Master Plan has now been completed. A copy of the Draft Plan is attached. The Plan presents opportunities for a refresh of the existing site, providing a clear and strategic vision for its future. The site also functions as a community gathering space for community events and the Draft Master Plan is intended to increase community use of the site.

In summary, the key elements of the Davidson Oval Draft Master Plan are:

1. Re-alignment of the playing fields into two rectangular and one oval playing fields.
2. Demolition of the existing canteen, grandstand, and toilet block.
3. Construction of a large multi-purpose clubhouse building.
4. Relocation or demolition/rebuilding of cricket practice nets.
5. Investigations into the addition of access gates at appropriate points in the existing perimeter fencing.
6. Investigations into upgrading field lighting at both Davidson Oval and Coolican Field.
7. Investigations into upgrading the sporting fields drainage and irrigation systems.
8. Provision of pedestrian access from Wilson Street to the proposed clubhouse and playing fields.
9. Consideration to formalising the car park and site entries (including entry statements) in the future (subject to demonstrated demand).
10. Investigations into the planting of additional, appropriate shade trees around the site.

Whilst consultation was undertaken with oval users as part of the preparation of the Draft Plan, it is appropriate that prior to Council formally adopting the Master Plan, that Council proceed to place the draft document on exhibition for a period of at least 28 days for the purpose of public comment and feedback.

Financial Implications

Funding is available in Councils 2023/2024 Operational Plan to undertake the proposed consultation. Funding to achieve the key elements of the Draft Plan will be subject to the availability and achievement of grant funding.

Recommendation

- 1. That the Davidson Oval Draft Master Plan be adopted for the purposes of public consultation.**
- 2. That the Davidson Oval Draft Master Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days during June 2024.**
- 3. That the public exhibition of the Draft Master Plan be notified to the community via social media and the Western Herald, as a minimum.**
- 4. That a report on the outcome of such public exhibition and comment be provided to Council in July 2024 with a view to finalisation of the Master Plan.**



Davidson Oval

DRAFT Master Plan

February 2024





This report has been prepared by:

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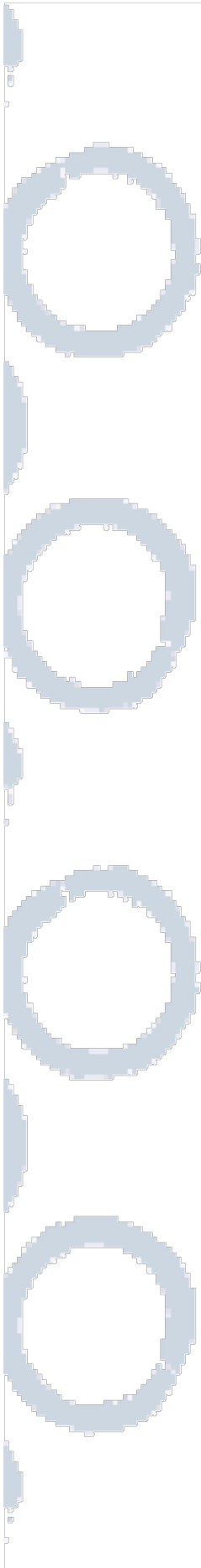
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VERSION	DATE	DOCUMENT	AUTHOR	REVIEWER	RECIPIENT
1	05.02.24	Draft	SW	DC	DW

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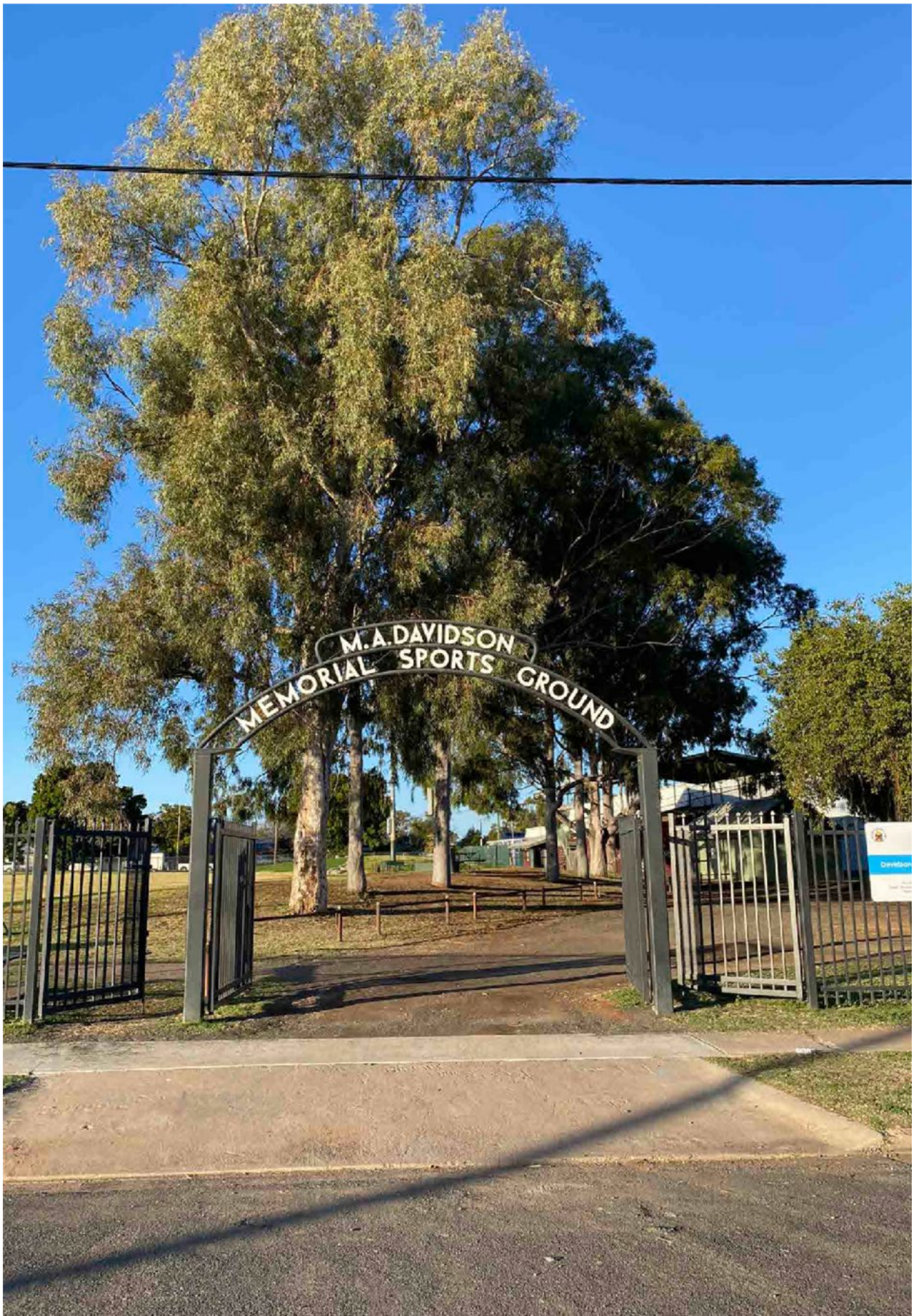




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Executive summary

Introduction

With tenant clubs offering ruby league, cricket and rugby union, Davidson Oval plays an important role to the Bourke and surrounding communities.

The site is used year-round with these and other activities, with the tenant clubs having approximately 260 members in total.

In addition to Davidson Oval, Bourke boasts other sport and recreation facilities such as the Bourke Swimming Pool, Coolican Field, golf club, racecourse, and the PCYC.

The site's sporting facilities are generally in fair condition with ancillary facilities such as club and grandstand facilities in need of more urgent attention.

Existing situation

The Council-owned facility is located in the heart of town, adjacent to the PCYC, swimming pool and Coolican Field.

The site is flat and relatively well embellished with:

- ❑ lit (training level) sporting field (with synthetic cricket wicket)
- ❑ ruby league/union goal posts
- ❑ Keith Marlin Memorial grandstand in poor condition
- ❑ toilet block
- ❑ canteen building
- ❑ 2-net cricket practice facility (synthetic grass pitches)
- ❑ large storage shed
- ❑ site perimeter fencing
- ❑ main entry gate
- ❑ informal parking areas
- ❑ large shade trees.

Demand for upgrade

Demand for upgrades to the site has been established through consultation with Council, user groups, other stakeholders, and with consideration of existing opportunities. Key directions include:

- ❑ development of field area to accommodate two rectangular and one oval sporting fields
- ❑ replacement of existing grandstand, amenities and canteen structures with new consolidated facility incorporating all
- ❑ improved connection between club, PCYC and playing fields
- ❑ repositioning practice nets.

Over-arching design principles

Preparation of the Master Plan reflects efforts to:

- ❑ increase the multi-use of facilities to allow site to continue to be a community sport and recreation hub
- ❑ increase functionality of the site through improvements and connections
- ❑ ensure sporting facilities meet current and future needs and guidelines.





Introduction

Project overview

ROSS Planning has been engaged by Bourke Shire Council to develop a master plan for Davidson Oval.

After a thorough site analysis and a series of engagement activities, the Master Plan has presented opportunities for a refresh of the existing site, providing a clear and strategic vision its future.

The site also functions as a community gathering space for community events and this master plan is intended to increase community use of the site.

What is a master plan?

A master plan provides a vision for a site, identifying what it should look like and how it should function into the future. It establishes a strong and consistent direction by providing a framework for ongoing improvement. It considers the interrelationship between:

- current character and functionality
- public expectations and needs
- emerging issues and trends
- the realities of the economic, social, environmental and legislative context of the time.

The result is a plan that balances needs across a range of often conflicting interests. The master plan does not necessarily suggest that all elements should proceed immediately, or that Council or the user groups should be responsible for all capital costs, in respect of those items that are progressed.

It is important to note that the intent of a master plan is to provide a framework for future development of the site over an extended period of time so that ad hoc improvements are avoided, and community use and long-term viability are maximised. To ensure this intent is achieved, a master plan should be monitored regularly to ensure the outcomes continue to meet community needs in the best possible way.

Hierarchy of planning and processes

It is important to note that the master plan provides a preferred strategic concept for the site. However, further detailed investigation and design is required prior to construction of the individual elements identified. These investigations may include:

- topographic surveys
- geotechnical investigations
- required planning approvals
- detailed design and construction drawings
- bill of quantities
- tenders and procurement processes.

Engagement of professionals with appropriate qualifications will be essential for these tasks.

Project objectives

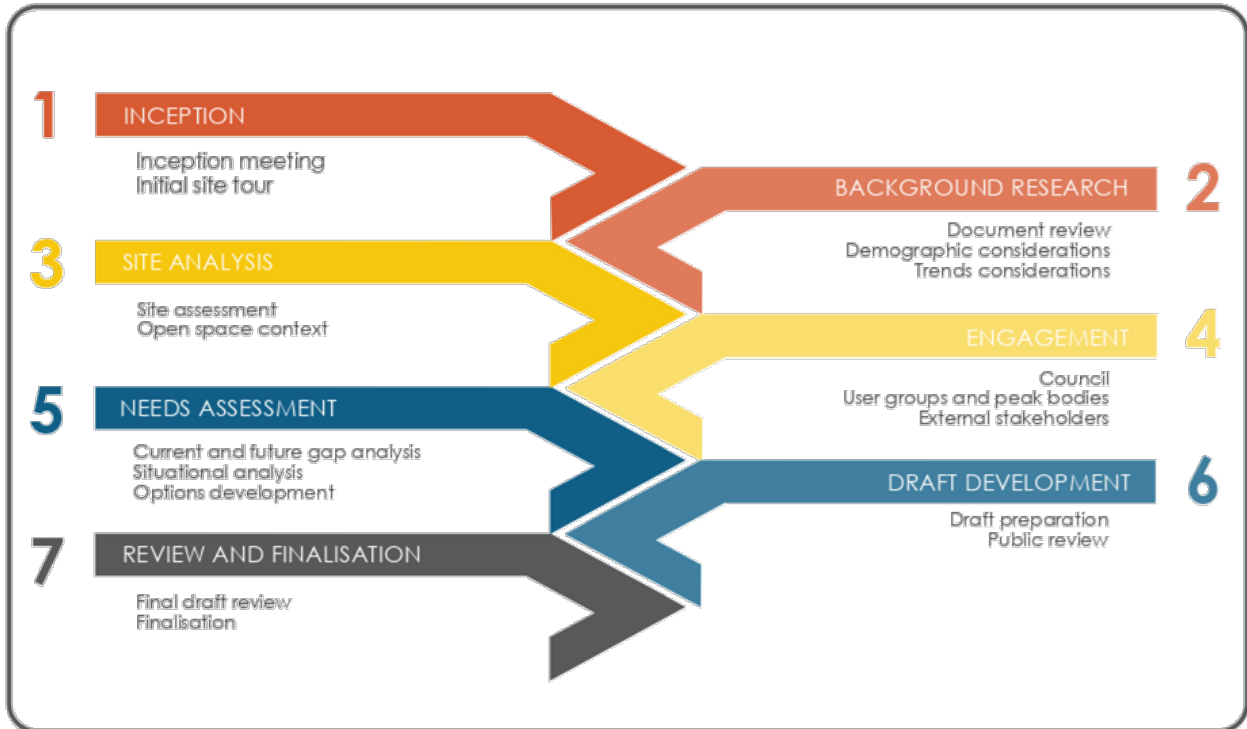
The Master Plan will provide a planning and design framework for the future development and enhancement of the site. The Master Plan will guide the creation of sport, recreation and community facilities to cater for the needs of the community and user groups over the next 20 years. The Master Plan has the following objectives:

- ❑ to provide improved facilities to enhance the sport and recreation use of the site
- ❑ to encourage increased recreation activities to be enjoyed by the general community
- ❑ to create safe access and integrated movement to, and through, the site
- ❑ to promote sustainable development and practical maintenance regimes
- ❑ to foster partnerships for capital development and ongoing management of the site.



Process

The project program spans across seven stages and has been delivered as follows:



DRAFT - Davidson Oval Master Plan





Strategic context

Literature review

In order to present a clear picture of the background issues and opportunities influencing the potential development of the site, a basic literature review has been undertaken. A summary of the most relevant documents reviewed is included below, while key impacts for the development of the Master Plan are highlighted in the summary breakout box.

In particular, the guidance of the following key documents has been applied to the master planning process for the site:

- Bourke Community Strategic Plan 2022
- Bourke Shire Development Plan 2016
- Bourke Future Sporting Needs - July 2017

Bourke Community Strategic Plan 2022

This document articulates the Shire’s commitment to provide adequate community services and facilities for the Shire. The objectives which guide the council’s planning and management of public sporting reserves include:

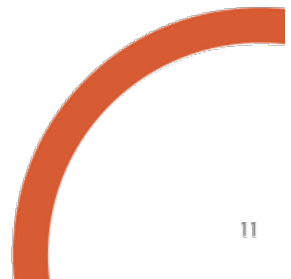
- maintain parks and ovals to a high standard
- foster a community that respects the diversity of our population and is supportive of cultural differences, ages and abilities of community members (within a sporting context(s))
- encourage sport and recreation activities.

The Plan acknowledges that the Bourke community requires facilities that provide opportunities to engaged in meaningful outdoor and sporting recreational activities.

Bourke Shire Development Plan (amended 2016)

The Bourke Shire Development Plan 2012 (amended 2016) is a legislative document that informs and depicts provisions concerning development. In regard to this project, section 4.6.14 of the Plan outlines desired aspects of public open space that have been considered in the development of the master plan:

- minimum area of 0.5ha
- buffered from main roads and identified hazards for improved safety
- safely accessible by pedestrian and cycleway links
- connectivity maximised between open space
- walkable access to highest number of the population
- high passive surveillance opportunities
- minimum slope
- provide complimentary uses of open space (drainage, conservation, cycleways etc.) that ensures ongoing usability.



Bourke Future Sporting Needs (2017)

This document summarises the outcomes of community sessions held to discuss various issues regarding the provision of sport and recreation facilities and opportunities in the region. The main outcomes included:

- ❑ there was an identified need for increased cooperation and coordination between sport groups and organisations
- ❑ the community wants increased access to support structures, training and athlete development and volunteer training and recruitment
- ❑ opportunities may exist to seek cost savings through alternate sport participation models
- ❑ continued upgrades and maintenance of the Coolican Field, Davidson Oval and Central Park precinct were the highest priority for the community
- ❑ although identified as costly, significant works for the Pool were strongly supported by the community as the second priority.



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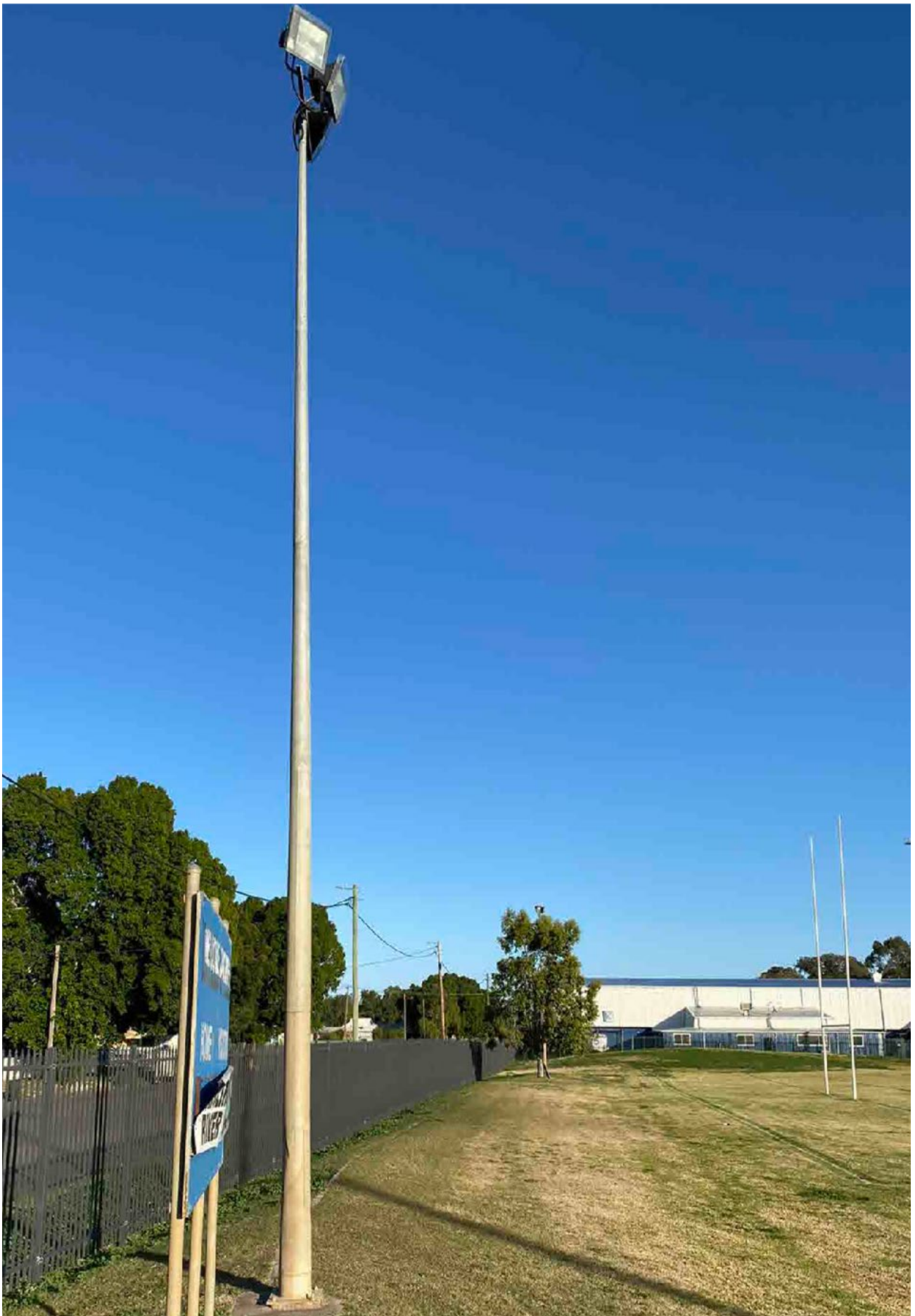
Bourke Shire Council



STRATEGIES AND PLANS - KEY IMPLICATIONS

When considered together, the literature review highlights a number of key considerations:

- ❑ the ongoing development of Davidson Oval remains a priority for the community
- ❑ Council recognises the value of providing quality community infrastructure in order to enhance health and wellbeing
- ❑ the identified need of increased cooperation between organisations could be supported through the development of appropriate infrastructure at the site.



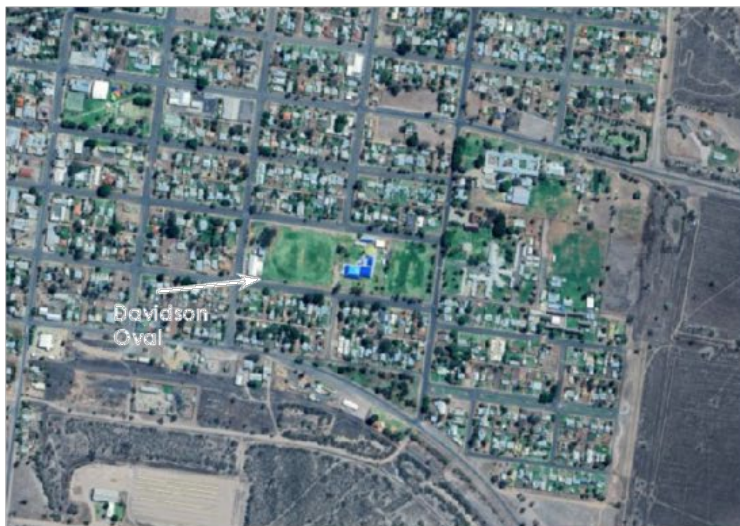
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Site analysis

Site context

Location

Bounded by Merfin, Wilson and Hope Streets, Davidson Oval is located just south-east of the town centre and is adjacent to the Bourke War Memorial Pool which is immediately to the east. Coolican Field, also with a sports field (smaller and rectangular), is on the other side of the swimming pool.



Existing site elements

Buildings and improvements

Canteen

- stand alone structure
- small, but recently refurbished and functional.



Grandstand (Keith Martin Memorial Stand)

- currently unused due to safety concerns
- stand alone structure
- historically significant, but in need of replacement with functional and safe structure.



Toilet block

- approximately 10-12 years old
- stand alone structure
- small but functional

Sporting facilities

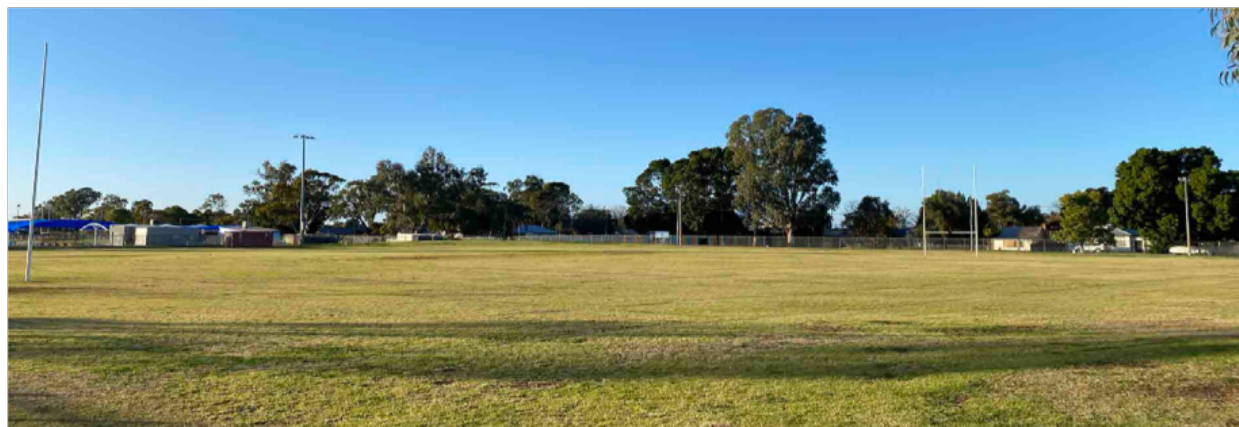
Main playing field

- large oval playing area orientated east-west (not desirable)
- synthetic grass cricket wicket
- field lighting
- rugby league/union goal posts.



Cricket nets

In the north-western aspect of the site, there also two cricket practice nets with synthetic grass pitches. While they are in good condition, their alignment could be changed to allow balls to be hit towards the oval and not the buildings and entry road.



Parking

Parking is limited to an informal gravel area in the north-western aspect of the site.

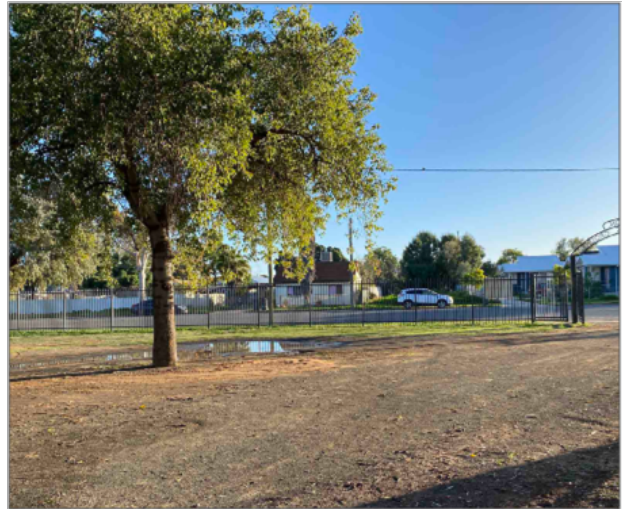
However, there is ample street parking around the perimeter of the site.

Shade and shelter

The site is a large open space, generally lacking significant shaded areas for club operations and community use.

The exception to this is the significant shade trees located around the built infrastructure and informal parking area of the site in the north-western aspect.

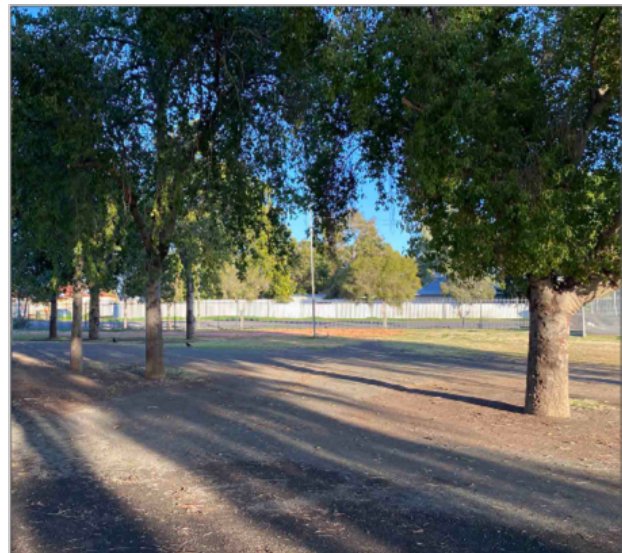
There are ample opportunities to plant large shade trees at appropriate places to remedy this, in addition to shelters at key activity nodes.



Signage

Signage is limited across the site.

There is an entry statement on the main gates, but other signage is limited mainly to acknowledgement of funding partners for past infrastructure improvements at the site, and the Keith Martin Memorial Stand sign on top of the existing grandstand.



Other features

- ❑ large storage shed immediately behind the existing grandstand
- ❑ substantial perimeter fencing of entire subject site
- ❑ two movable, small, tiered bench seating structures
- ❑ post and rail fencing between main buildings and playing field.

Adjacent facilities

PCYC

Located to the immediate south-west of the subject site, the PCYC is a popular attraction in the town, hosting a range of activities and sports including a gym, futsal, netball and basketball.

The master plan has identified the need to improve the PCYC's direct access to Davidson Oval.

Bourke War Memorial Pool

While a detailed inspection of the facility was not undertaken, the pool plays an important role in the precinct formed by it, Davidson Oval, the PCYC and Coolican Field.

Any improvements should be the subject of a specific plan for the facility, especially considering the high capital costs of such improvements to aquatic facilities.



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Demand analysis

Community profile

The way in which a community participates in sport and recreation activities is influenced by age and demographic considerations. Understanding the spatial and demographic variations in communities, such as concentrations of older residents or youth, is fundamental to responding to, and planning for, the future provision of public open space.

In order to understand the make-up for the Davidson Oval 'catchment', a snapshot of the population and demographic characteristics has been undertaken.

Located in the heart of the town, the site plays a pivotal role in providing sport and recreation opportunities for the community and surrounds.

Population considerations

Analysis of Bourke's population characteristics¹ reveals:

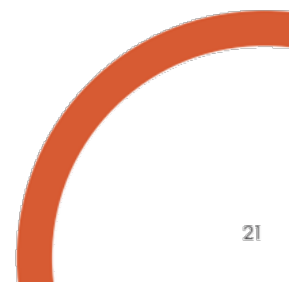
- ❑ an estimated residential population of 2,340 in 2021. This demonstrates a significant drop since 2006 when the estimated population was 3,095 residents
- ❑ with a median age of 37 years, the average Bourke resident is slightly younger than the median for New South Wales Victoria (39 years). This median age has significantly risen since 2006 when the median age was 33 years
- ❑ Bourke's median weekly household income of \$1,559 is significantly less than the New South Wales average of \$1,829.

COMMUNITY PROFILE - KEY IMPLICATIONS

In terms of impacts for the preparation of the Master Plan these demographic considerations suggest:

- ❑ while a significant growth in population is not expected, the lower average age of the Shire suggests that sport and recreation opportunities will continue to be important
- ❑ demand for additional facilities is unlikely to increase moving forward
- ❑ membership/participation fees will need to reflect the average lower income in the Shire compared to the State average.

¹ ABS Census QuickStats, 2021
DRAFT - Davidson Oval Master Plan



Trends in sport and recreation

Participation patterns in recreation are changing at a community level. Factors such as a move toward non-organised or social sport, increased outdoor nature-based recreation and increased use of technology have all had a significant impact on how people recreate and use public open space. Understanding these trends (and their impacts) is important as Council looks to develop a Master Plan that ensures the sustainability of existing groups whilst also encouraging people to further engage in activity in public open spaces.

Participation trends

Since 2015, Sport Australia has conducted a national sport and physical activity participation survey, *Ausplay*. The most recent results of the survey were released in April 2023. In 2011-12 and 2013-14, a similar survey, the *Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation Survey* was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Between 2001-2010, the *Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey* (ERASS) was conducted by the Committee of Australia Sport and Recreation Officials (CASRO).

Overall, participation in physical activity has increased in the last two decades. More adults participate more frequently compared to 2001. Female participation (at least once a year) has remained on par with male participation throughout. However, more women have constantly participated more often.

Participation in sport-related activities has decreased, while non-sport physical activities have increased significantly (by more than 20 percent since 2001). Participation in recreation activities such as walking and fitness/gym have increased the most.

More children participate in organised (out-of-school) sport, than adults. The top activities children participate in changes as children age, with a focus on the life skill of swimming for infants and toddlers and running, fitness/gym, football and walking being the dominant activities by the time children reach the ages between 15 and 24 years old.

National participation rates in organised sport have been declining for a number of years as participants move toward more social (drop-in drop-out) sport and informal recreation. It will be important for Council to monitor participation trends into the future to ensure resources are allocated appropriately to support a broad range of both recreation and sport activities.

Formal sport trends

Busy lifestyles

Shift work, increases in part-time and casual employment and family commitments influence participation as:

- people do not have the time to commit as a regular participant or volunteer
- people seek facilities and participation opportunities with flexible hours.

If membership stagnation or decline became a concern for the user groups based at the site, additional delivery models such as social fixtures or 'pay as you play' approaches should be considered.

Diversification of sport

Modified sports such as T20 cricket and 7s rugby are burgeoning. Changes are placing additional pressure on councils with regard to playing field capacity, facility flexibility and need to plan for additional demand.

Masters sport

There are indications that people may continue to engage in sport later into their old age. The Australian Sports Commission highlights that organisations may need to provide a wider range of products tailored to meet the needs of older Australians.

The development of the preferred layout at the site has clearly considered the need for formal and informal activities that are attractive across the ages. The additional field space at Coolican Field and the flexibility it provides will be particular useful in this regard.

Field and court quality

Facility providers face an increasing trend to develop and re-develop sporting fields and courts to a higher level in order to increase carrying capacity. Upgrades, such as lighting and field irrigation, allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of turf playing fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear. Further, to achieve ongoing field quality, fields need 'rest periods' (of up to four weeks) where necessary maintenance can be undertaken.

The replacement of turf fields with synthetic fields, however, can significantly increase carrying capacity by limiting maintenance-required field down time. A number of facility providers are moving toward the provision of synthetic fields (particularly for football and hockey where internationally certified surfaces are available). As an oval hosting rugby league/ union and cricket, synthetic is not considered an appropriate surface for Davidson Oval. With its current level of use, the playing surface is in good condition, and this is expected to continue to be the case, especially if the irrigation system is upgraded.

Field and court sharing

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, sports are no longer classifying themselves as strictly summer or winter sports, this has led to the sharing of field space becoming more difficult. While providers strive to maximise the use of community resources (and State Government espouses field sharing), the reality is that shared use of ancillary facilities (e.g. clubhouses, car parks) rather than fields will be more likely.

In the case of Davidson Oval, the existing field space (and that of Coolican Field) allows relatively easy spread of use across playing areas.

Facility management

Councils across Australia employ various management structures over their sport and recreation facilities. Where resources allow, there is a growing trend towards councils taking on more responsibility for the overall management (and maintenance) of facilities. This involves users (tenant clubs) paying higher user fees, but being able to focus more on their core function of providing the relevant sport/activity, rather than face the burden of maintenance and asset management.

TREND CONSIDERATIONS - KEY IMPLICATIONS

These trends in the provision and use of sport and recreation facilities have been considered in the development of this master plan with the most relevant summarised as follows:

- ❑ clubs and Councils need to recognise that social sport and modified games are becoming increasingly popular, and can increase participation in sport all age groups, and particularly people over the age of 40
- ❑ traditional use and management of sport fields may require review and adjustment to meet the needs of users in the future, and to take advantage of technology (e.g. telemetry systems for lighting and irrigation)
- ❑ demand for higher standard facilities, including playing surfaces (well-drained), field lighting, and all-weather synthetic fields is increasing.

Gap analysis

The supply and demand (gap analysis) has been prepared by considering a range of inputs. Consultation has been undertaken with Council officers, tenant sporting clubs and additional stakeholders identified throughout the project. Further, the team has considered the range of open space available in the Shire and wide-ranging trends.

Council engagement

Council staff have been interviewed throughout the process of developing the master plan. The key issues and opportunities identified during these discussions are summarised as follows:

Issues

- the existing grandstand is not safe for use
- given the age and condition of the existing buildings (grandstand, canteen and toilets), they should be demolished
- the existing perimeter fencing is needed to stop vehicles access the sporting fields
- need to ensure 'responsible development' rather than creating unrealistic wish-lists.

Opportunities

- consideration should be given to constructing one new, large pavilion to incorporate toilets, change rooms, canteen, open/function area and a grandstand
- the sporting field could possibly provide two rectangular and one oval sporting fields
- there may be the opportunity to increase the level of the field lighting (which may involve relocating some towers)
- increased community use of the site is a desired outcome. It is already used for school athletics carnivals, community fun days, movie nights, a mini 'show' (including rides) and ad hoc yoga, boot camps, etc.

Existing user groups engagement

The Davidson Oval Master Plan provides the opportunity to investigate and plan for the needs of existing user groups, as well as consider opportunities to increase the community's use of the site by individuals and community groups.

Bourke Cricket

The Club has over 100 members, utilising the site from October to March each year. The main issues identified in regard to the future development of Davidson Oval were:

- the field is often affected by rain, making it unusable
- the playing surface would greatly benefit from a range of maintenance tasks such as:
 - de-thatching
 - a regular fertiliser and gypsum regime
 - possibly changing grass to a hardy couch species
- the cricket nets could be re-aligned to run onto the fields
- improved field drainage is required
- the irrigation system needs to be upgraded
- the synthetic pitch is covered with sand during football season - it would be good to re-align fields so that the pitch can be avoided
- there is the potential to use Coolican Field for training and use Davidson Oval for competition.

Bourke Rugby League and Union

The rugby league club has between 100-130 members, with the rugby union club having approximately 30 members.

Discussions with representatives from both groups were held with the main outcomes summarised as follows:

- there is limited down-time of the fields due to weather impacts and season cross-overs
- there may be the opportunity in the future for the clubs to undertake some increased maintenance duties
- the lighting is suitable for training but not competition, with lighting at Coolican Field being inadequate
- change rooms were refurbished
- the clubs would support a large, multi-purpose clubhouse
- more gates in the fencing would be good
- there are no major issues with the existing car parking arrangements
- due to the lack of shade, spectators often bring portable marquees.

Other stakeholders

St Ignatius Parish School

Outcomes of discussions held with staff of the school are summarised as follows:

- ❑ Davidson Oval is used for an athletics pathway program that has over 100 participants, however, field events are not catered for
- ❑ the quality facilities at the swimming pool were noted
- ❑ the toilets could be improved.

Bourke PCYC

The main issue identified by the PCYC was the lack of direct access to the sporting field at the site.

Other points raised were:

- ❑ the PCYC has the only gym in town
- ❑ sports offered at the PCYC include futsal, basketball and netball (social competitions).

DEMAND ANALYSIS - SUMMARY

With the site’s tenant clubs having relatively steady memberships and noting the importance of the site to the community, consideration should be given to making improvements to the site that will allow it to be better provide sport and recreation opportunities into the future.

Key considerations noted by user groups and stakeholders include:

- ❑ the consolidation of existing built infrastructure into one, multi-purpose facility
- ❑ reconfiguration of the playing fields into a format providing two rectangular and one oval playing fields
- ❑ improved access through the existing site perimeter fence
- ❑ minor modifications/improvements such as field drainage, irrigation and lighting, and the re-alignment of the cricket practice nets.





Master Plan

Maintaining a current master plan is a key requirement to guide facility development (to avoid ad hoc and piecemeal progress) and can be a key resource in assisting to attract funding.

The Davidson Oval Master Plan has been developed by considering all consultation, appropriate strategic contexts, previous research, trends analysis and demand. Overall, it provides an ideal opportunity to develop the facility to meet the identified needs of the sporting community and the recreation (and community facility) needs of locals and visitors.

The Master Plan integrates existing facilities with new elements and embellishments to enhance the current sporting activities and provide improved recreation opportunities to establish a quality community hub.

Vision

The medium- to long-term vision for Davidson Oval is:

to ensure quality facilities that not only meet the formal sporting needs of the community but also provide a diverse range of community recreation opportunities and events for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

Master plan elements

Key elements of the Davidson Oval Master Plan are:

Element	Description	Rationale
1. New 'winged' field	Re-align playing fields into two rectangular and one oval playing fields	To increase ability of the site to cater for the sports offered, avoiding the cricket pitch and bringing the main rectangular field closer to the proposed new multi-purpose clubhouse building
2. Demolition of built infrastructure	Demolish existing canteen, grandstand and toilet block	To allow for construction of new multi-purpose clubhouse
3. New multi-purpose clubhouse building	Construct large multi-purpose clubhouse building	To consolidate toilets, change, canteen and grandstand facilities within a single multi-purpose building catering for all user groups
4 Cricket nets	Relocate or demolish/rebuild cricket practice nets	To allow nets to run onto playing field and not buildings or car parking area
5. Perimeter fencing gates	Investigate the addition of access gates at appropriate points in the existing perimeter fencing	To enhance site access at appropriate points, especially from the PCYC
6. Field lighting	Investigate upgrading field lighting at both Davidson Oval and Coolican Field	To increase the playing fields' ability to cater for training and competition events
7. Field drainage and irrigation	Investigate upgrading the sporting fields drainage and irrigation systems	To allow the fields to better cater for increased use and limit the impact of rain events
8. Pedestrian access	Provide pedestrian access from Wilson Street to proposed clubhouse and playing fields	To improve site and facility access
9. Vehicle access and parking	Consider formalising car park and site entries (including entry statements) in the future (subject to demonstrated demand)	To provide formal parking opportunities and improve internal traffic (due to anticipated increased use)
10. Shade trees	Investigate the planting of additional, appropriate shade trees around site	To improve site aesthetics and visitor experience

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DISCLAIMER: THE INFORMATION REPRESENTED IN THIS MASTER PLAN IS SHOWN INDICATIVELY AND IS SUBJECT TO FURTHER APPROVALS, DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, ENGINEERING ADVICE, SITE SURVEY AND FUNDING PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

Sport & Recreation Planning by:

 recreation, open space and sport specialists

Landscape Architecture by:


- Notes:**
01. Winged-field includes one full size oval and two full size rectangular fields.
 02. Main field with 5m runoff shown.
 03. Second field with 5m runoff shown.
 04. Demolish existing grandstand and canteen structures. Replace with a new clubhouse building that integrates change rooms, a canteen, public amenities and spectator seating.
 05. Demolish existing cricket nets. Install new cricket practice nets (x2 bays) as shown.
 06. Demolish redundant infrastructure.
 07. Provide pedestrian access from Wilson Street and PCYC to new clubhouse, public amenities and fields. Provide breezeway link between new building/s (as shown).
 08. Retain existing vehicle access and informal parking. Consider an upgrade (in future) to formalise the off-street car park.
 09. Retain existing maintenance sheds.
 10. Retain position of existing field lights, where possible. Adjustments may be needed to accommodate the new winged-field arrangement.
 11. Retain existing perimeter fencing.
 12. Existing trees (approximately 3-4 trees) may be affected by proposed upgrade works and may require removal.
 13. Retain existing trees, wherever possible.

Project details:

**DAVIDSON OVAL
 MASTER PLAN**

WILSON STREET
 BOURKE NSW 2840

Scale: 1:750 AT A3
Date:
Issue: DRAFT



Client:


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15 GENERAL MANAGER

15.1 *** PROPOSED NAMING OF NORTH BOURKE OVAL

File Number:	1355
Author:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser:	Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments:	1. Report to Council 4 March 2024 - Proposed Naming of North Bourke Oval
	2. Report to Council 22 November 2023 - Proposed Naming of North Bourke Oval
	3. Letter and Petition - Naming of the North Bourke Oval 20231108

Background

Council at its November 2023 meeting considered correspondence received from Mr Les Bunyan which attached to it a petition signed by 118 people requesting that the "Councillors name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground."

The matter was deferred until the February 2024 Council meeting during which time the General Manager was requested to ascertain further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement and importantly, seek the thoughts of Mr Simpson's family to the naming proposal, for a full report to Council on the matter.

Such details were ascertained and provided to Council at its 4 March 2024 meeting (report attached herewith) with Council resolving:

1. That Council proceed to seek community feedback on the proposal to renaming the cricket ground at North Bourke to "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground" as per the Guidelines of the Geographical Names Board.
2. That a further report be submitted to Council in respect of the outcome of such consultation, for a Council resolution in respect of submitting the naming proposal to the Geographical Names Board or otherwise.

Current Situation

Given Councils resolution to seek community feedback on the renaming proposal it is advised that Council undertook the following actions:

- Advertised the proposal in the Western Herald editions of 21 March 2024 and 5 April 2024 and in doing so, invited written submissions addressed to the General Manager and closing at midday on Wednesday, 17 April 2024.
- A copy of the same advertisement was also placed on Councils website as a Public Notice during the period 18 March 2024 and 17 April 2024.
- The advertisement was placed on the noticeboard in the foyer of the Council office.

- A copy of the same advertisement was sent to the President of the Bourke Cricket Association, who advised that he forwarded a copy of the advert to all local cricket clubs, seeking submissions.
- A copy of the same advertisement was provided to both the Northy Pub and General Store, both located in close proximity to the oval, with the advertisement appearing on their respective noticeboards.

In respect of the outcome of this community consultation, it is advised that no submissions, either for or against the proposal were received. Such a situation is not unusual for Bourke, with residents generally only making a submission against a proposal.

Accordingly, it would be proposed that Council proceed to submit the proposal to rename the cricket ground at North Bourke “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” to the Geographical Names Board.

Recommendation

That Council proceed to submit the proposal to rename the cricket ground at North Bourke “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” to the Geographical Names Board.

15.2 * PROPOSED NAMING OF THE NORTH BOURKE OVAL**

File Number: 1355 (A10.12)
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: 1. November 2023 Council Report on Naming Request

Background

Council at its November 2023 meeting considered correspondence received from Mr Les Bunyan which attached to it a petition signed by 118 people requesting that the "Councillors name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground."

In respect of this matter, Council resolved as follows:

- 1. That it be noted that responsibility for the naming of places in NSW, including reserves, rests with the NSW Geographical Names Board.*
- 2. That consideration of the proposal to name the North Bourke Oval, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground" be deferred until the February 2024 Council meeting, noting the Geographical Names Board's Naming Policy requires that any commemorative naming is to be done posthumously, at least one year after the demise of the person.*
- 3. That in the intervening period, the General Manager be requested to ascertain further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement and importantly, seek the thoughts of Mr Simpson's family to the naming proposal, for a full report to Council on the matter.*
- 4. That Mr Les Bunyan be advised of Councils resolution.*

A copy of the report as presented to Council in November 2023 is attached for information.

The North Bourke Oval is partially located on Council owned land, partially on a Crown Road and partially on Crown Land, as follows:

- Lots 2,3,4 & 5/Section 5/DP 758781, which comprise the truck rest area and toilet, is freehold land owned by Council. The oval partially encroaches onto Lots 3 & 4.
- Lots 6,7,8,9 & 10/Section 5/DP758781 is freehold land with Council being the owner.
- The strip of land to the west of these lots which runs through the centre of the oval, is a Crown Road.
- The western balance of the oval, being Lots 1,2 & 3/Section 12/DP 758781 is made up of both Crown Land and Council owned land. Lot 2/Section 12/DP 758781 is Crown Land and is where the North Bourke Cemetery is situated. Lot 1 and 3/Section 12/DP 758781 is Council land.



Current Situation

Given Councils resolution to defer consideration of the proposal till the February 2024 Council meeting, it is advised that in mid-January 2024, I met with the widow of the late Mr Neville Simpson, Mrs Pam Simpson, to seek the thoughts of the Simpson family as to the naming proposal and ascertain further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement.

In discussions, Mrs Simpson advised that she had read the Western Herald and was aware of the proposal. Mr Mark Morrall was the first person to discuss such a proposal with Mrs Simpson and Mr Les Bunyan, sometime later, also discussed the proposal. Mrs Simpson and family are happy with the proposal and appreciate the fact that Neville may be recognised for his long association with, and contribution with, the Bourke area.

Regarding the issue of Mr Simpson’s community involvement, Mr Bunyan in his initial correspondence wrote that:

“Neville was a highly respected Bourke resident who demonstrated a strong dedication to the Bourke community through-out his very long life. Neville was visibly active in the community through organisations such as Lodge Central Australia & his involvement with the Anglican Church, but perhaps more importantly, he showed genuine interest, kindness, respect, humility & compassion towards every individual he encountered during his life, no matter the setting.

He’s positivity for life and for community, even when he faced with the most incredible personal hardship and suffering, was unwavering.

We believe naming the Oval at North Bourke, close to where he spent the latter years of his life, in his honour would be fitting recognition of a terrific man who showed us all that being a good sport and showing great sportsmanship can, and should be, part of our everyday life. “

In addition to this advice, Mrs Simpson noted the following community involvement by her late husband:

- Member of the Central Australian Freemasons Lodge in Bourke for over 70 years having joined the organisation in September 1951. Neville served as the Master of the Lodge for five terms, between 1958 and 2001, and as the District Grand Inspector of Workings between 1982 and 1984. In 2006, he was afforded the rank of Past Assistant Grand Master, which is one of the very highest honours that can be bestowed on Freemasons in NSW. The Bourke Western Herald Newspaper of 4 August 2022 reported that this “honour reflected decades of dedication to Freemasonry, but also to his church and many other community organisations.”

The Bourke Masonic Lodge closed in July 2022 and as part of the closing night of the Lodge, Neville was presented with a 70-year Certificate and Jewel in appreciation of his long service to Freemasonry.

- Involved with the Bourke Parish of the Church of England – becoming a Pastoral Assistant.
- Involved with the CWA undertaking the maintenance of buildings and gardens and assisting at CWA functions.
- Served on the Pastures Protection (PP) Board for numerous years.
- Member of the Farmers and Graziers Association that later became the Graziers Association for various years. Neville regularly attended meetings in Sydney, as required, to support the organisations and progress the voice of the outback.
- He successfully operated Mascot Station until moving to Bourke in 1970 and continuing as a farmer growing melons, sunflowers and cotton.
- Helped to build the Yantabulla Tennis Courts, having played tennis at Yantabulla and Fords Bridge in his earlier years.
- Played Cricket for Fords Bridge in his earlier year's.

I did pose a question to Mrs Simpson as to whether there was a better option to the North Bourke Oval naming proposal that the family may have considered as a suitable place to be named after Mr Simpson. Mrs Simpson advised that she had considered alternatives but was yet to arrive at anything suitable, ultimately advising that the family would prefer the North Bourke Oval proposal.

Should Council be of the view to progress the proposed naming of the cricket ground at North Bourke to “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground,” Council would need to do so as per the Geographical Names Board’s Place Naming Policy, as identified in the November 2023 report to Council.

In respect of this Policy, and the use of personal names, as is the case with this proposal, *“the names of deceased persons are suitable for the naming of reserves. Such persons shall have had a long-term association with the area or have made a significant contribution to the area of the proposed park or reserve. To assist local governments in determining the suitability of a name the Geographical Names Board offers the following guidelines regarding association or contribution:*

- *Two or more terms of office on the governing local government council.*
- *Twenty or more years association with a local community group or service club.*
- *Twenty or more years of association or service with a local or state government or organisation.*

- *Action by an individual to protect, restore, enhance or maintain an area that produces substantial long-term improvements for the community.*
- *The death of a person within a place is not solely to be considered sufficient justification for commemoration.*
- *Local residents of note.”*

Mr Simpson achieves these guidelines in terms of:

- Twenty or more years association with a local community group or service club.
- Twenty or more years of association or service with a local or state government or organisation.
- A local resident of note.

Should Council ultimately determine to submit a naming proposal, the Geographical Names Board's Naming Policy provides that the proposal should be supported by a Council resolution. Council should also supply evidence that they have sought community feedback on the proposal. This could include advertising and inviting comment using:

- Local newspapers.
- Relevant web site.
- Local council facilities (eg offices, libraries etc).
- Notices to residents in the area surrounding the feature of the proposed name.
- Notices to local progress associations.

Interestingly, the four (4) step process that the Geographical Names Board follows in respect of the naming of places, also involves a public consultation process as follows:

- Council, by resolution, government, or the community can propose a place name to the GNB.
- The GNB reviews the proposal.
- The GNB conducts a public consultation process.
- The GNB assigns/denies the place name.

To progress this matter, it will be recommended that Council proceed to seek community feedback on the naming proposal, for a further report to Council in respect of the outcome of such consultation, for a Council resolution in respect of submitting the proposal to the Geographical Names Board or otherwise.

Financial Implications

Funding is available in Councils 2024/2025 Operational Plan to undertake the proposed community consultation in respect of this matter.

Recommendation

- 1. That Council proceed to seek community feedback on the proposal to renaming the cricket ground at North Bourke to “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” as per the Guidelines of the Geographical Names Board.**
- 2. That a further report be submitted to Council in respect of the outcome of such consultation, for a Council resolution in respect of submitting the naming proposal to the Geographical Names Board or otherwise.**

15.2 * NAMING OF NORTH BOURKE OVAL**

File Number: 1355 (A10.12)
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: 1. Letter and Petition - Naming of the North Bourke Oval

Background

Council is in receipt of correspondence from Mr Les Bunyan which attaches to it a petition signed by 118 people requesting that the "Councillors name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground." A copy of Mr Bunyan's letter and the various petition pages are attached for information.

The petition reads as follows:

The Councillors

Bourke Shire Council

The petitioners, being residents of the Bourke Shire, who have attached their names, addresses and signatures hereto, request that the Councillors officially name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground."

Presently, the cricket ground is known as the North Bourke Cricket Ground but the petitioners strongly believe that the name should be officially changed to "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground" to honour the life and dedication to the Bourke community by the late Neville Simpson over many, many year's.

The exemplary way in which Neville conducted his life and support to the community as a stalward of Lodge Central Australia we believe, makes him worthy of such an honour.

In addition to this petition wording, Mr Bunyan has written as follows in support of the naming proposal in his covering letter:

As you are all aware, Neville was a highly respected Bourke resident who demonstrated a strong dedication to the Bourke community through-out his very long life. Neville was visibly active in the community through organisations such as Lodge Central Australia & his involvement with the Anglican Church, but perhaps more importantly, he showed genuine interest, kindness, respect, humility & compassion towards every individual he encountered during his life, no matter the setting.

He's positivity for life and for community, even when he faced with the most incredible personal hardship and suffering, was unwavering.

We believe naming the Oval at North Bourke, close to where he spent the latter years of his life, in his honour would be fitting recognition of a terrific man who showed us all that being a good sport and showing great sportsmanship can, and should be, part of our everyday life.

Current Situation

The North Bourke Oval is partially located on Council owned land, partially on a crown road and partially on Crown Land, as follows:

- Lots 2,3,4 & 5/Section 5/DP 758781, which comprise the truck rest area and toilet, is freehold land owned by Council. The oval partially encroaches onto Lots 3 & 4.
- Lots 6,7,8,9 & 10/Section 5/DP758781 is freehold land with Council being the owner
- The strip of land to the west of these lots which runs through the centre of the oval, is a Crown Road.
- The western balance of the oval, being Lots 1,2 & 3/Section 12/DP 758781 is made up of both Crown Land and Council owned land. This includes land that is utilised by Scarcella’s as a road train depot. Lot 2/Section 12/DP 758781 is Crown Land and is where the North Bourke Cemetery is situated. Lot 1 and 3/Section 12/DP 758781 is Council land.



The official naming of all places in New South Wales, (excluding roads, bridges, infrastructure, other than Railway Stations and Post Offices, schools, private estate names or building names), rests with the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB). Naming of reserves, such as the existing North Bourke Oval, falls under their scope of responsibility. It is not known if a mixture of land status, such is the case with the North Bourke Oval, complicates any naming proposal or not. That can be explored with the GNB should Council wish to progress the naming proposal.

There is a four (4) step process that the Board follows in respect of the naming of places, as follows:

- Council, by resolution, government, or the community can propose a place name to the GNB.
- The GNB reviews the proposal.
- The GNB conducts a public consultation process.
- The GNB assigns/denies the place name.

In undertaking this process, the GNB does so in accordance with its Place Naming Policy. In this regard the Policy provides as follows in respect of Commemorative Names, which the proposal in respect of the Late Mr Neville Simpson would relate:

7. Policy - Commemorative Names

Commemorative names are those that commemorate a person, event or place. Acts of bravery, community service and exceptional accomplishments are typical grounds for this recognition. The name of persons who gave their lives in service for their country are often used as commemorative names.

The person commemorated should have contributed significantly to the area around the geographic feature or locality.

When such a name is applied, it shall be given posthumously, at least one year after the decease of the person. Names of living persons are by their nature subject to partisan perception and changes in community judgement and acceptance.

Commemorative names shall not be used to commemorate victims of, or mark the location of, accidents or tragedies. Ownership of land is not in itself grounds for the application of an owner's name. Names of persons holding public office shall not be used.

Personal names, including those of persons still living, may be used for built features e.g. pavilions and grandstands etc., however these features are not formally assigned by the GNB and are not covered by the Act.

7.1 Personal Names

The names of deceased persons are suitable for the naming of reserves. Such persons shall have had a long term association with the area or have made a significant contribution to the area of the proposed park or reserve. To assist local governments in determining the suitability of a name the GNB offers the following guidelines regarding association or contribution:

- *Two or more terms of office on the governing local government council.*
- *Twenty or more years association with a local community group or service club.*
- *Twenty or more years of association or service with a local or state government or organisation.*
- *Action by an individual to protect, restore, enhance or maintain an area that produces substantial long term improvements for the community.*
- *The death of a person within a place is not solely to be considered sufficient justification for commemoration.*
- *Local residents of note.*

Justification

Using the name of a living person is unacceptable (nationally and internationally) as it may lead to favouritism and/or inappropriate naming. There are examples where people

commemorated have later proven to be of poor character or otherwise thought to be unworthy.

The Late Mr Neville Simpson passed away on 18 February 2023. Accordingly, given that any commemorative naming is to be done posthumously, at least one year after the decease of the person, it would be proposed that consideration of the naming proposal be deferred until Councils February 2024 meeting, whereupon one year will have elapsed since Mr Simpson’s passing.

In the intervening period it would be suggested that further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement be ascertained and importantly, seek the thoughts of Mr Simpson’s family to the naming proposal, for a full report to Council on the matter.

Should Council ultimately determine to submit a naming proposal, the GNB Naming Policy provides that the proposal should be supported by a Council resolution. Council should also supply evidence that they have sought community feedback on the proposal. This could include advertising and inviting comment using:

- Local newspapers.
- Relevant web site.
- Local council facilities (eg offices, libraries etc).
- Notices to residents in the area surrounding the feature of the proposed name.
- Notices to local progress associations.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

- 1. That it be noted that responsibility for the naming of places in NSW, including reserves, rests with the NSW Geographical Names Board.**
- 2. That consideration of the proposal to name the North Bourke Oval, “The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground” be deferred until the February 2024 Council meeting, noting the requirement of the Geographical Names Board’s Naming Policy requires that any commemorative naming is to be done posthumously, at least one year after the decease of the person.**
- 3. That in the intervening period, the General Manager be requested to ascertain further details of Mr Simpsons community involvement and importantly, seek the thoughts of Mr Simpson’s family to the naming proposal, for a full report to Council on the matter.**
- 4. That Mr Les Bunyan be advised of Councils resolution.**

Doc No: Les Bunyan
 11 Darling Street
 NORTH BOURKE NSW 2840
 08 NOV 2023

MAYOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	COUNCIL	
GM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LIBRARY	
MCS		RATES	
MYE		BOBEC	
MEV		HR	
MR		IT	
MW		DEPOT	
EDM		CREDITORS	
OTHER		<i>Margo</i>	

25 October 2023

The Councillors
 Bourke Shire Council
 29 Mitchell Street
 BOURKE NSW 2840

NAMING OF THE NORTH BOURKE CRICKET GROUND

On behalf of the residents of Bourke who have signed the accompanying petition, I am writing to ask Council to consider re-naming the cricket ground at North Bourke 'The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground' in honour of the late Neville Simpson.

As you are all aware, Neville was a highly respected Bourke resident who demonstrated a strong dedication to the Bourke community through-out his very long life. Neville was visibly active in the community through organisations such as Lodge Central Australia & his involvement with the Anglican Church, but perhaps more importantly, he showed genuine interest, kindness, respect, humility & compassion towards every individual he encountered during his life, no matter the setting.

His positivity for life and for community, even when he was faced with the most incredible personal hardship & suffering, was unwavering.

We believe naming the oval at North Bourke, close to where he spent the latter years of his life, in his honour would be fitting recognition of a terrific man who showed us all that being a good sport & showing great sportsmanship can, and should be, part of our everyday life.

Yours sincerely

Les Bunyan

















The Councilors,
 BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL,















The petitioners, being residents of the Bourke Shire, who have attached their names, addresses and signatures hereto, request that the Councilors officially name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville SIMPSON Memorial Sports Ground".

Presently, the cricket ground is known as the North Bourke Cricket Ground but the petitioners strongly believe that the name should be officially changed to "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground" to honour the life and dedication to the Bourke community by the late Neville Simpson over many, many years.

The exemplary way in which Neville conducted his life and support to the community as a stalwart of Lodge Central Australia, we believe makes him worthy of such an honour.





NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Simon Lawson	136 Meadows Rd Bourke	<i>Simon Lawson</i>
Tré Delany	135 Meadows Rd Bourke	<i>Tré Delany</i>
Nancy Randall	1111 Pongorua Swamp Rd Bourke	<i>Nancy Randall</i>
David Randall	1111 Pongorua Swamp Rd Bourke	<i>David Randall</i>
DRON Buckley	Airport	<i>Dron Buckley</i>
DAVID ANL BUCKLEY	8 SID COLLEMAN DRIVE	<i>David Anl Buckley</i>
JOONIE SOSTAG	10 Green St Bourke	<i>Joonie Sostag</i>
Dixon McHorney	23 Mitchell St Bourke	<i>Dixon McHorney</i>
DIANNA McRAE	4/2 Mocculla St Bourke	<i>Dianna McRae</i>

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Frank Holleran	10 GREEN ST.	
PHILLIP HARVEY	99 ANSON ST	
Aki Arisoff	48 DACHIG ST	
Ben Harvey	168 Parkdale RD	
Luke Moen	32 Mitchell st Bourke	
Sean Harrod	51 Anson st Bourke	
Bailey Harrod	51 Anson Street Bourke	
Beau Harrod	51 Anson Street Bourke	
Hamish Gordon	54 hope street Bourke	
Mitch Davis	1 Namoi St North Bourke	
Michael Davis	Myandetta Str Bourke	
Katrina Tiffen	57-59 Darling st Bourke	
Denis Tiffen	57-59 Darling St Bourke	
Tracey Hegarty	2 Darling st North Bourke	
DAVE HEWITT.	"SELENDAR" POPS BRIDGE	

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Serenity Reid	13 Narnoi St	
Jack Bowden	23 Tudor	
Mark Beauchamp	989 Bourke - Milparumba Road	
Hayleigh Hollman	10 Narnoi St	
Thana Temmink	5B Narnong Place	
Sally Davis	90 Dowling Track Northy	
Pat Canty	Lot 2782 Parkdale Rd Bourke	
Daniel Duchwala	6 St-pa Street 67 Aram St Bourke	
Almeac Saha	Dubs	
James Simmons	Dubs	
PRINNY	BOURKE	
Barry Harris	42-44 Darling St North Bourke	
Mooka Harris	42-44 Darling St Lives in Stratford Back	
Kirsten Marshman	Barham Farms	
Tanya Near	22 Hope st	T Near

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Jack Hartwig	Belvedere Station Hungerford Road	<i>Jack Hartwig</i>
Alex Marshall	Bellvue Station Kamiloia Highway	<i>A Marshall</i>
Donna Webber	51 Hope St Bourke	<i>Donna Webber</i>
Mick Jackson	36 Dalms St Bourke	<i>Mick Jackson</i>
Duke Mcgrath	Wanobra Station	<i>Duke Mcgrath</i>
Karl Macdonald	564 Old Wilkbadah rd	<i>Karl Macdonald</i>
Barb Davis	MYANDETTA BOURKE	<i>Barb Davis</i>
LES Banger	Every were	<i>LES Banger</i>
Mananne Simpson	23 Moolta St BKE	<i>Mananne Simpson</i>
Andrew Lewis	2 Richard St BKE	<i>Andrew Lewis</i>
Mathew Bowden	23 Tudor St	<i>Mathew Bowden</i>
Kelly Randal	32 MERTIN ST BOURKE	<i>Kelly Randal</i>
Rev. Paul J. Ford	27 Richard St Bourke	<i>Rev. Paul J. Ford</i>
Chris Morgan	45 Moolta Street Bourke	<i>Chris Morgan</i>
Pam Simpson	102 Macquarie St North Bourke	<i>Pam Simpson</i>

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
BELINDA CUNNINGHAM	TIDDLES FARM PARKOURT RD	Bouice
Tara Cooper	115 Anson St Bourke	Tara
Gle. McLean	42 Short St Bourke	Gle Mc
Tania McCorrie	11 "	Tania McCo
JULIE LANSON	136 MEADOWS ROAD BOURKE	Julie
FIONA BOWDEN	22 GREEN ST BOURKE	Fiona
KYLE GALE	22 GREEN ST BOURKE	K
SIMON LANSON	136 MEADOWS ROAD BOURKE	Simon
Sophie Bowden	22 Green St Bourke	SR
Emily Bowden	"	EMILY
HARRY BOWDEN	"	HARRY
Chloe Taylor	41 MARTIN ST, BOURKE	Chloe
Dean Conway	MT Tyson Rd, West Plains	Dean
Jenelle Hambrook	28 Macquarie St North Bourke	Jenelle Hambrook
CHRIS REYMOND	23 CULGOA ST BRAWANINA	Chris

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Mark Bunge	15 Elliot court	
Arlo Bunge	"	
Mikayla Berry	"	
USA CLOTHING	23 MANWOOD DRIVE, SOULVI	





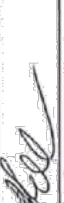




The Councillors,







BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL
















The petitioners, being residents of the Bourke Shire, who have attached their names, addresses and signatures hereto, request that the Councillors officially name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville SIMPSON Memorial Sports Ground"

Presently, the cricket ground is known as the North Bourke Cricket Ground but the petitioners strongly believe that the name should be officially changed to "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground" to honour the life and dedication to the Bourke community by the Late Neville Simpson over many, many years.

The exemplary way in which Neville conducted his life and support to the community as a stalwart of Lodge Central Australia, we believe makes him worthy of such an honour.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Kelvie Honeyman	Bourke	
Joy Martin	Bourke	
Bryle Kewool	Bourke	
Kyle Leh	Bourke	
Keelan Baxson	Bourke	
Kobbe Sullivan	Bourke	
Amble Gleeson	Bourke	
CEPP DATES	EMMONIA 2840	
ASULEY LOWE	BOURKE	

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
S. B. O'Flaherty	PO Box 193	
Peter Keating	P.O. Box 193	
Sharon Wood	98 Idora St	
George Dickson	17 Stuart St	
Kevin Monson	52 Short St Bourke	K. Monson
Scott McAloon	12 High St Bourke	SMA
Peter Tully	47 Mowalla St Bourke	P Tully
e. Kitchell	Louth	e. Kitchell
A McAule	Darling St North Bourke	A McAule
B. Simpson	47 Mowalla St Bourke	
M Wynne	3 Wortemurta St Bourke	M Wynne
L Sharpe	27 Tudor St Bourke	L Sharpe
John Hunt	1 Short Street, Long. 2594	John Hunt
Mel Hayman	163 Anson St Bourke	Mel Hayman
Neil Johnson	48 Jackson St	

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Sophie Bowden	Bourke	
MARC O'SHEA	Bourke	
Tracey Bean	Bourke	
D Hayman	Bourke	
Elizabeth Kerr	10 WINDMILL ST BOURKE	
Lyle Farnham	Bourke	
LES HARDING	Bourke	
D BERTHOUD	BOURKE	
E Hyatt	Bourke	
R GAIN	Bourke	
David Barker	Bourke	
Therese King	Bourke	
Fiona Bowden	Bourke	
LORNEY EDWARDS	BOURKE	
PAUL CANN	BOURKE	

15.2 * COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION FOR 2024/2025**

File Number: C11.2
Author: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Authoriser: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has handed down its determination for Mayoral and Councillor fees for 2024/2025. In doing so, a 3.75% increase in the fees for the 12-month period effective 1st July 2024 has been determined.

Council has traditionally resolved, in determining the fees paid to the Mayor and Councillors, that they be paid at the maximum amount as determined by the Tribunal. This recognises the workload placed on the Mayor and Councillors of the Bourke Shire in undertaking their duties.

The *Local Government Act 1993* provides, as follows:

248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for Councillors

- (1) A Council must pay each Councillor an annual fee.*
- (2) A Council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.*
- (3) The annual fee so fixed must be the same for each Councillor.*
- (4) A Council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.*

249 Fixing and payment of annual fees for the Mayor

- (1) A Council must pay the Mayor an annual fee.*
- (2) The annual fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor.*
- (3) A Council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.*
- (4) A Council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.*
- (5) A Council may pay the deputy Mayor (if there is one) a fee determined by the Council for such time as the deputy Mayor acts in the office of the Mayor. The amount of the fee so paid must be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee.*

Current Situation

Pursuant to s.241 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to Councillors, Mayors, Members and Chairpersons of County Councils effective on and from 1 July 2024 are determined as follows by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Bourke Shire Council is categorised as a Rural Council by the Tribunal, as highlighted below.

Category		Councillor/Member Annual Fee		Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee*	
		Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
General Purpose Councils - Metropolitan	Principal CBD	30,720	45,070	188,010	247,390
	Major CBD	20,500	37,960	43,520	122,640
	Metropolitan Major	20,500	35,890	43,530	110,970
	Metropolitan Large	20,500	33,810	43,530	98,510
	Metropolitan Medium	15,370	28,690	32,650	76,190
	Metropolitan Small	10,220	22,540	21,770	49,170
General Purpose Councils - Non-metropolitan	Major Regional City	20,500	35,620	43,530	110,970
	Major Strategic Area	20,500	35,620	43,530	110,970
	Regional Strategic Area	20,500	33,810	43,530	98,510
	Regional Centre	15,370	27,050	31,980	66,800
	Regional Rural	10,220	22,540	21,770	49,200
	Rural Large	10,220	18,340	16,330	39,350
	Rural	10,220	13,520	10,880	29,500
County Councils	Water	2,030	11,280	4,360	18,520
	Other	2,030	6,730	4,360	12,300

**This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor/Chairperson as a Councillor/Member (s.249(2)).*

Financial Implications

Provision has been made in the 2024/2025 Operational Plan for the payment of fees to the Mayor and Councillors.

<p>Recommendation</p> <p>That as per Section 248 and 249 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, Council pay the maximum fee prescribed for a Rural Group Councillor and the maximum fee applicable to a Mayor within the Rural Group, as applicable to Bourke Shire, with those fees being \$13,520 and \$29,500 to the Councillors and Mayor, respectively.</p>
--

15.3 * AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES**

File Number: 20383
Author: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Authoriser: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Attachments: 1. ARIC Meeting Minutes 16 May 2024
2. Amended Terms of Reference - Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

Background

Council has previously resolved to form an Audit Risk and Improvement Committee.

Current Situation

The Bourke Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee met on 16 May 2024.

The minutes of such meeting are attached herewith for consideration and determination by Council, with the recommendation being that such minutes be adopted.

Within the Minutes at Item 6.1 regarding Revised Terms of Reference for the Committee is a recommendation that *"the Committee endorse the amended Terms of Reference for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee for consideration and adoption by Council"*, as attached.

Accordingly, in addition to recommending the adoption of the minutes of the meeting, it will be recommended that the amended Terms of Reference for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee also be adopted by Council.

Financial Implications

Funding has been provided for in Councils 2023/2024 Operational Plan for the operation of this Committee.

Recommendation

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee held on 16 May 2024, be adopted.**
- 2. That Council adopt the amended Terms of Reference for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee.**



MINUTES

Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Meeting

16 May 2024

Order Of Business

ATTENDING VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK/IN ATTENDANCE..... 3

1 Welcome..... 3

2 Apologies and Applications for Leave of Absence..... 3

3 Disclosure of Interest..... 3

4 Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting..... 3

5 Business Arising from the Previous Meeting 3

6 Reports 4

6.1 Update on Revised Terms of Reference..... 4

6.2 Update on Internal Audit Procedures and Plan 4

7 External Audit 5

7.1 External Audit..... 5

7.2 Financial Performance (Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Quarter ending 31 March 2024) 5

8 Notification of incidents of fraud or investigations involving Council..... 6

8.1 Notice of Incidents of Fraud or investigations involving Council..... 6

9 Risk Profiling (Report on any actual or likely events impacting on Council's risk profile)..... 6

9.1 Risk Profile 6

10 General Business 6

11 Next Meeting 6

12 Meeting Closed 6

**MINUTES OF SHIRE OF BOURKE
AUDIT, RISK & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL, 29 MITCHELL STREET BOURKE NSW
ON THURSDAY, 16 MAY 2024 AT 8.30AM**

ATTENDING VIA AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Ray Smith (Independent Member - Chair), Ron Gillard (Independent Member), Liz Jeremy (Independent Member), Brett Hanger (External Auditor - NEXIA), Laurie Knight (External Financial Consultant), Hong Wee Soh (Auditor – Audit Office)

IN ATTENDANCE

Cr Cec Dorrington (Councillor), Leonie Brown (General Manager), Ang Pasang Rai (Manager Corporate Services), Margo Anderson (Executive Assistant – Minutes)

1 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and requested participants introduce themselves.

At this juncture, the representatives from the Audit Office and NEXIA advised in respect of the valuation process and the audit process for the upcoming 2023/2024 Financial Audit of Council.

Following discussions, Messrs Brett Hanger and Hong Wee Soh left the meeting, the time being 8:52am.

2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Committee Resolution 2024/10
Moved: Mr Ron Gillard
Seconded: Ms Liz Jeremy
That the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 15 February 2024 be taken as read and confirmed as correct.

Carried

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

6 REPORTS**6.1 UPDATE ON REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE****File Number: R5.1**

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Revised Term of Reference.

Committee Resolution 2024/11**Moved: Mr Ron Gillard****Seconded: Ms Liz Jeremy**

That the Committee endorse the amended Terms of Reference for the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee for consideration and adoption by Council.

Carried**6.2 UPDATE ON INTERNAL AUDIT PROCEDURES AND PLAN****File Number: R5.1**

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the current status of the Internal Audit Procedures and Plan.

Committee Resolution 2024/12**Moved: Ms Liz Jeremy****Seconded: Mr Ron Gillard**

That the Committee note that the Council is currently developing an Internal Audit Procedures and Plan.

Carried

7 EXTERNAL AUDIT

7.1 EXTERNAL AUDIT

File Number: R5.1

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding Council's 2023/2024 Financial Statements.

Committee Resolution 2024/13

Moved: Mr Ron Gillard

Seconded: Ms Liz Jeremy

That the Committee note the report on the status of the 2023/2024 Financial Statements.

Carried

7.2 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT FOR QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2024)

File Number: R5.1

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the Quarter ending 31 March 2024.

Committee Resolution 2024/14

Moved: Ms Liz Jeremy

Seconded: Mr Ron Gillard

That the Committee receive and note the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ending 31 March 2024 of the Council.

Carried

8 NOTIFICATION OF INCIDENTS OF FRAUD OR INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING COUNCIL

8.1 NOTICE OF INCIDENTS OF FRAUD OR INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING COUNCIL

File Number: R5.1

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Notification of Incidents of Fraud or Investigations Involving Council.

Committee Recommendation 2024/15
Moved: Mr Ron Gillard
Seconded: Ms Liz Jeremy
That the Committee note the notification of Incidents of Fraud or Investigations Involving Council report.

Carried

9 RISK PROFILING (REPORT ON ANY ACTUAL OR LIKELY EVENTS IMPACTING ON COUNCIL'S RISK PROFILE)

9.1 RISK PROFILE

File Number: R5.1

The Committee had before it the report from the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the existing status of the Risk Profile Affecting Events Impacting Council.

Committee Resolution 2024/16
Moved: Ms Liz Jeremy
Seconded: Mr Ron Gillard
That the Committee note the Risk Profiling Report.

Carried

10 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

11 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the ARIC Committee is scheduled for Thursday, 15 August 2024 at 8.30am via Audio Visual Link.

12 MEETING CLOSED

The Meeting closed at 9.35am

.....
CHAIRPERSON

.....
DATE



TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

~~{TBA-Council}~~Bourke Shire Council (Council) has established an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) in compliance with Section 428A of the New South Wales Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the Office of Local Government’s Guidelines for risk management and internal audit for local government in NSW.

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These Terms of Reference set out the ARIC’s objectives, authority, composition and tenure, roles and responsibilities, reporting and administrative arrangements.

The ARIC has been established as a shared arrangement by the Far North West Joint Organisation who will provide limited administrative services to support the ARIC and participating entities in relate matters. Each of the entities will establish, approve and maintain its own Terms of Reference, which must remain materially consistent across the group and compliant with regulations.

1.0 Definitions

- 1.1 “**Act**” means the Local Government Act 1993
- 1.2 “**ARIC**” means Audit Risk and Improvement Committee
- 1.3 “**Council**” means ~~{TBA-Council}~~Bourke Shire Council
- 1.4 “**Governing Body**” means the elected officials of ~~{TBA-Council}~~Bourke Shire Council
- 1.5 “**Guidelines**” means the Risk Management and Internal Audit for local councils in NSW Guidelines, as amended
- 1.6 “**IP&R**” means Integrated Planning and Reporting
- 1.7 “**Internal Audit**” means the independent, objective approach receive independent assurance that Council is performing its functions legally, effectively and efficiently and to advise on how it can improve its performance
- 1.8 “**Internal Audit Function**” means the function which provides internal audit services to the Council
- 1.9 “**Internal Audit Provider**” means the external third-party provider of internal audit services
- 1.10 “**Internal Audit Coordinator**” means the Council employee internally responsible for the Internal Audit Function of the Council

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2.0 Objective

- 2.1 The objective of the ARIC is to provide independent assurance to the Council by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about the Council governance

processes, compliance, risk management and control frameworks, external accountability obligations and overall performance.

3.0 Independence

- 3.1 The ARIC is to be independent to ensure it has no real or perceived bias or conflicts of interest that may interfere with its ability to act independently and to provide the Council with robust, objective and unbiased advice and assurance.
- 3.2 The ARIC is to have an advisory and assurance role only and is to exercise no administrative functions, delegated financial responsibilities or any management functions of the Council.
- 3.3 The ARIC provides independent advice to the Council that is informed by the Council's internal audit and risk management activities and information and advice provided by staff, relevant external bodies and subject matter experts.
- 3.4 The ARIC must always ensure it maintains a direct reporting line to and from the Internal Audit Function and act as a mechanism for internal audit to report to the Governing Body and the General Manager on matters affecting the performance of the Internal Audit Function.

4.0 Authority

- 4.1 The Council authorises the ARIC, for the purposes of exercising its responsibilities, to:
 - 4.1.1 access any information it needs from the Council;
 - 4.1.2 use any Council resources it needs;
 - 4.1.3 have direct and unrestricted access to the General Manager and senior management of the Council;
 - 4.1.4 seek the General Manager's permission to meet with any other Council staff member or contractor;
 - 4.1.5 discuss any matters with the external auditor or other external parties;
 - 4.1.6 request the attendance of any employee at committee meetings; and
 - 4.1.7 seek approval from the General Manager to obtain external legal or other professional advice in line with the Council's procurement policies.
- 4.2 Information and documents pertaining to the ARIC are confidential and are not to be made publicly available. The ARIC may only release Council information to external parties that are assisting the ARIC to fulfil its responsibilities with the approval of the General Manager, except where it is being provided to an external investigative or oversight agency for the purpose of informing that agency of a matter that may warrant its attention.

5.0 Committee Composition and Tenure

- 5.1 The ARIC consists of an Independent Chair and two Independent Members who have voting rights, with the option of one non-voting Councillor, as required under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- 5.2 ~~The Council will~~~~Governing Body is to~~ appoint the Chair and Independent Mmembers of the ARIC in accordance with the Far North West Joint Organisation's appointments.~~Current ARIC members are: {insert table}~~ If needed, the Council will appoint the optional non-voting Councillor Member directly.
- 5.3 All ARIC members must meet the independence and eligibility criteria prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- 5.4 Members will be appointed for up to a four year term. Members can be reappointed for one further term, but the total period of continuous membership cannot exceed eight years. This includes any term as Chair of the ARIC.
- 5.5 Members who have served an eight-year term (either as a member or as a Chair) must have a two-year break from serving on the ARIC before being appointed again.
- 5.6 To preserve the ARIC's knowledge of the Council, ideally, no more than one member should retire from the ARIC because of rotation in any one year.
- 5.7 The terms and conditions of each Independent Mmember's appointment to the ARIC are to be set out in a letter of appointment from the Far North West Joint Organisation. New members will be thoroughly inducted to their role and receive relevant information and briefings on their appointment to assist them to meet their responsibilities.
- 5.8 Prior to approving the reappointment or extension of the Chair's or an Independent Member's term, the Far North West Joint Organisation~~Governing Body~~ is to undertake an assessment of the Chair's or Independent Members performance. Reappointment of the Chair or an Independent Member is also to be subject to that person still meeting the independence and eligibility requirements prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- 5.9 Members of the ARIC must possess and maintain a broad range of skills, knowledge and experience relevant to the operations, governance and financial management of the Council, the environment in which the Council operates and the contribution that the ARIC makes to the Council.

5.10 At least one member of the ARIC must have accounting or related financial management experience with an understanding of accounting and auditing standards in a local government environment.

5.11 All members should have sufficient understanding of the Council's financial reporting responsibilities to be able to contribute to the ARIC's consideration of the annual financial statements.

6.0 Role

6.1 As required under Section 428A of the Act, the role of the ARIC is to keep under review and provide independent advice to the Council regarding the following aspects of the Council operations:

- 6.1.1 compliance;
- 6.1.2 risk management;
- 6.1.3 fraud control;
- 6.1.4 financial management;
- 6.1.5 governance;
- 6.1.6 implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies;
- 6.1.7 service reviews;
- 6.1.8 collection of performance measurement data by the Council; and
- 6.1.9 internal audit.

6.2 The ARIC must also provide information to the Council for the purpose of improving the Council performance of its functions.

6.3 The ARIC's specific audit, risk and improvement responsibilities under Section 428A of the Act are outlined in *Schedule 1* to this document.

6.4 The ARIC will act as a forum for consideration of the Internal Audit Function and oversee its planning, monitoring and reporting to ensure it operates effectively.

6.5 The ARIC has no power to direct external audit or the way it is planned and undertaken but will act as a forum for the consideration of external audit findings.

6.6 The ARIC is directly responsible and accountable to the Governing Body for the exercise of its responsibilities. In carrying out its responsibilities, the ARIC must at all times recognise that primary responsibility for the management of the Council rests with the Governing Body and the General Manager.

6.7 The responsibilities of the ARIC may be revised or expanded in consultation with, or as requested by, the Governing Body from time to time.

7.0 Independent Member Responsibilities

- 7.1 The Chair and members of the ARIC are expected to understand and observe the requirements of the Office of Local Government's *Guidelines for risk management and internal audit for local government in NSW*.
- 7.2 Members are also expected to:
- 7.2.1 make themselves available as required to attend and participate in meetings;
 - 7.2.2 contribute the time needed to review and understand information provided to it;
 - 7.2.3 apply good analytical skills, objectivity and judgement;
 - 7.2.4 act in the best interests of the Council;
 - 7.2.5 have the personal courage to raise and deal with tough issues, express opinions respectfully and frankly, ask questions that go to the fundamental core of the issue and pursue independent lines of inquiry; and
 - 7.2.6 maintain effective working relationships with the Council.
- 7.3 In addition to those expectations listed in 7.2, the Chair is expected to:
- 7.3.1 have strong leadership qualities;
 - 7.3.2 ability to lead effective ARIC meetings; and
 - 7.3.3 oversee the Council's Internal Audit Function.

8.0 Councillor Member Responsibilities

- 8.1 To preserve the independence of the ARIC, the Councillor Member (where nominated) of the ARIC is a non-voting member. Their role is to:
- 8.1.1 relay to the ARIC any concerns the Governing Body may have regarding the Council and issues being considered by the ARIC;
 - 8.1.2 provide insights into local issues and the strategic priorities of the Council that would add value to the ARIC's consideration of agenda items;
 - 8.1.3 advise the Governing Body (as necessary) of the work of the ARIC and any issues arising from it; and
 - 8.1.4 assist the Governing Body to review the performance of the ARIC.
- 8.2 Issues or information the Councillor Member raises with or provides to the ARIC must relate to the matters listed in *Schedule 1* and issues being considered by the ARIC.
- 8.3 The Councillor Member of the ARIC must conduct themselves in a non-partisan and professional manner. The Councillor Member of the ARIC must not engage in any conduct that seeks to politicise the activities of the ARIC or the Internal Audit Function or that could be seen to do so.
- 8.4 If the Councillor Member of the ARIC engages in such conduct or in any other conduct that may bring the ARIC and its work into disrepute, the Chair of the ARIC may recommend to the Council, that the Councillor Member be removed

from membership of the ARIC. Where the Council does not agree to the ARIC Chair's recommendation, the Council must give reasons for its decision in writing to the Chair.

9.0 Members Conduct

- 9.1 Independent Members of the ARIC are required to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct.
- 9.2 Complaints alleging breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct by an independent ARIC member are to be dealt with in accordance with the *Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW*. The General Manager must consult with the Governing Body before taking any disciplinary action against an independent ARIC member in response to a breach of the Council's Code of Conduct.

10.0 Conflicts of Interest

- 10.1 Once a year, ARIC members must provide written declarations to the Council stating that they do not have any conflicts of interest that would preclude them from being members of the ARIC.
- 10.2 Independent ARIC members are 'designated persons' for the purposes of the Council's Code of Conduct and must complete and submit returns of their interests.
- 10.3 ARIC members and observers must declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest they may have in a matter being considered at the meeting at the start of each meeting or as soon as they become aware of the conflict of interest.
- 10.4 Where an ARIC member or observer declares a pecuniary or a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest, they must remove themselves from ARIC deliberations on the issue.
- 10.5 Details of conflicts of interest declared at meetings must be appropriately minuted.

11.0 Standards

- 11.1 ARIC members are to conduct their work in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors and International Standard on Risk Management – ISO 31000:2018, where applicable.

12.0 Workplans

- 12.1 The work of the ARIC is to be thoroughly planned and executed.
- 12.2 The ARIC must develop a strategic workplan every four years to ensure that the matters listed in *Schedule 1* are reviewed by the ARIC and considered by the Internal Audit Function when developing their risk-based program of internal audits. The strategic workplan must be reviewed at least annually to ensure it remains appropriate.
- 12.3 The ARIC may, in consultation with the Governing Body, vary the strategic workplan at any time to address new or emerging risks. The Governing Body may also, by resolution, request the ARIC to approve a variation to the strategic workplan. Any decision to vary the strategic workplan must be made by the ARIC.
- 12.4 The ARIC must also develop an annual workplan to guide its work, and the work of the Internal Audit Function, over the forward year.
- 12.5 The ARIC may, in consultation with the Governing Body, vary the annual workplan to address new or emerging risks. The Governing Body may also, by resolution, request the ARIC to approve a variation to the annual workplan. Any decision to vary the annual workplan must be made by the ARIC.
- 12.6 When considering whether to vary the strategic or annual workplans, the ARIC must consider the impact of the variation on the Internal Audit Function's existing workload and the completion of pre-existing priorities and activities identified under the workplan.

13.0 Assurance Reporting

- 13.1 The ARIC must regularly report to the Governing Body to ensure that it is kept informed of matters considered by the ARIC and any emerging issues that may influence the strategic direction of the Council or the achievement of the Council's goals and objectives.
- 13.2 The ARIC will provide an update to the Governing Body and the General Manager of its activities and opinions after every ARIC meeting.
- 13.3 The ARIC will provide an annual assessment to the Governing Body and the General Manager on the ARIC's work.
- 13.4 The ARIC will provide a comprehensive assessment every Council term of the matters listed in *Schedule 1* to the Governing Body and the General Manager.
- 13.5 The ARIC may at any time report to the Governing Body or the General Manager on any other matter it deems of sufficient importance to warrant their attention.

13.6 The Mayor and the Chair of the ARIC may also meet at any time to discuss issues relating to the work of the ARIC.

13.7 Should the Governing Body require additional information, a request for the information may be made to the Chair of the ARIC by resolution. The Chair is only required to provide the information requested by the Governing Body where the Chair is satisfied that it is reasonably necessary for the Governing Body to receive the information for the purposes of performing its functions under the Act. Individual councillors are not entitled to request or receive information from the ARIC.

14.0 Meetings

14.1 The ARIC will meet at least quarterly at a time as agreed by the ARIC. The need for an additional special meeting to review the Council's annual financial statements will be assessed annually by the Chair.

14.2 The ARIC can hold additional meetings when significant unexpected issues arise or if the Chair is asked to hold an additional meeting by an ARIC member, the General Manager or the Governing Body.

14.3 ARIC meetings can be held in person, by telephone or videoconference. Proxies are not permitted to attend meetings if an ARIC member cannot attend.

14.4 A quorum will consist of a majority of independent voting members. Where the vote is tied, the Chair has the casting vote.

14.5 The Chair of the ARIC will decide the agenda for each ARIC meeting in consultation with the Internal Audit Coordinator. Each ARIC meeting is to be minuted to preserve a record of the issues considered and the actions and decisions taken by the ARIC.

14.6 The Mayor, General Manager and the Internal Audit Coordinator should attend meetings as non-voting observers. The internal auditor and external auditor (or their representative) is to be invited to each ARIC meeting as an independent observer.

14.7 The Chair can request any employee or contractor of the Council and any subject matter expert to attend ARIC meetings. Where requested to attend a meeting, persons must attend the meeting where possible and provide any information requested.

14.8 Observers have no voting rights and can be excluded from a meeting by the Chair at any time.

14.9 The ARIC can hold closed meetings whenever it needs to discuss confidential or sensitive issues with only voting members of the ARIC present.

14.10 The ARIC must meet separately with the Internal Audit Coordinator and the Council's external auditor at least once each year.

15.0 Dispute Resolution

15.1 Members of the ARIC and the Council's management should maintain an effective working relationship and seek to resolve any differences they may have in an amicable and professional way by discussion and negotiation.

15.2 In the event of a disagreement between the ARIC and the General Manager or other senior managers, the dispute is to be resolved by the Governing Body.

15.3 Unresolved disputes regarding compliance with statutory or other requirements are to be referred to the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government in writing.

16.0 Secretariat

16.1 The General Manager will nominate a staff member to provide secretariat support to the ARIC.

16.2 The secretariat will ensure the agenda for each meeting and supporting papers are circulated after approval from the Chair at least four (4) full business days before the meeting and ensure that minutes of meetings are prepared and maintained.

16.3 Minutes must be approved by the Chair and circulated within two (2) weeks of the meeting to each member.

17.0 Remuneration

~~17.1 In accordance with the ARIC Terms of Reference adopted by the Far North West Joint Organisation, Remuneration will be reviewed by the Council at least once every Council term and more frequently where required.~~

18.0 Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance

18.1 The Council will provide Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the Independent Chair and Independent Members under the same arrangements as provided to councillors.

18.2 This coverage provides indemnification in respect of claims for all loss or damage potentially made against them in their capacity as members of the ARIC.

19.0 Resignation and dismissal of members

19.1 Where the Chair or an ARIC member is unable to complete their term or does not intend to seek reappointment after the expiry of their term, they should give three (3) months’ notice to the Chair and the [Far North West Joint Organisation Governing Body](#) prior to their resignation to allow the [organisation Council](#) to ensure a smooth transition to a new Chair or ARIC member.

19.2 The [Far North West Joint Organisation Governing Body](#) can, by resolution, terminate the engagement of the Chair or an independent ARIC member before the expiry of their term where that person has:

- 19.2.1 breached the Council’s Code of Conduct;
- 19.2.2 performed unsatisfactorily or not to expectations;
- 19.2.3 declared, or is found to be in, a position of a conflict of interest which is unresolvable.
- 19.2.4 been declared bankrupt or found to be insolvent;
- 19.2.5 experienced an adverse change in business status;
- 19.2.6 been charged with a serious criminal offence
- 19.2.7 been proven to be in a serious breach of their obligations under any legislation; or
- 19.2.8 experienced an adverse change in capacity or capability.

19.3 The position of a councillor member on the ARIC can be terminated at any time by the Governing Body via resolution.

20.0 Review Arrangements

20.1 At least once every council term the Governing Body must review or arrange for an external review of the effectiveness of the ARIC.

20.2 These Terms of Reference must be reviewed annually by the ARIC and once each council term by the Governing Body. Any substantive changes are to be approved by the Governing Body.

HISTORY

Terms of Reference drafted by	Governance
Terms of Reference reviewed by Managers’ Meeting	[Date]
Terms of Reference reviewed by Manex	[Date]
Terms of Reference reviewed by ARIC	[Date]
Council Resolution Number, if applicable	[Date]
Date of Adoption	[Date]
Review Date	[Date]
This Terms of Reference works in conjunction with	[Policy Name] [Records Manager No]

these polices

This Terms of Reference works in conjunction with [Procedure Name] [Records Manager No]
these procedures:

Schedule 1: Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Responsibilities

Audit*Internal audit*

Principle: The Council has an effective internal audit function and receives maximum value from its internal audit activities.

- Provide overall strategic oversight of internal audit activities
- Act as a forum for communication between the Governing Body, General Manager, senior management, the internal audit function and external audit
- Coordinate, as far as is practicable, the work programs of internal audit and other assurance and review functions
- Review and advise the Council:
 - on whether the Council is providing the resources necessary to successfully deliver the internal audit function
 - if the Council is complying with internal audit requirements, including conformance with the International Professional Practices Framework
 - if the Council's Internal Audit Charter is appropriate and whether the internal audit policies and procedures and audit/risk methodologies used by the Council are suitable
 - of the strategic four-year workplan and annual workplan of internal audits to be undertaken by the Council's Internal Audit Function
 - if the Council's internal audit activities are effective, including the performance of the Internal Audit Coordinator and Internal Audit Function
 - of the findings and recommendations of internal audits conducted, and corrective actions needed to address issues raised
 - of the implementation by the Council of these corrective actions
 - on the appointment of the Internal Audit Coordinator and Internal Audit Providers, and
 - if the internal audit function is structured appropriately and has sufficient skills and expertise to meet its responsibilities.

External audit

Principle: The Council receives maximum value from its external audit activities.

- Act as a forum for communication between the Governing Body, General Manager, senior management, the internal audit function and external audit
- Coordinate as far as is practicable, the work programs of internal audit and external audit
- Provide input and feedback on the financial statement and performance audit coverage proposed by external audit and provide feedback on the audit services provided
- Review all external plans and reports in respect of planned or completed audits and monitor the Council's implementation of audit recommendations

- Provide advice to the Governing Body and/or General Manager on action taken on significant issues raised in relevant external audit reports and better practice guides

Risk

Risk management

Principle: The Council has an effective risk management framework and internal controls that successfully identify and manage the risks it faces.

Review and advise the Council:

- if the Council has in place a current and appropriate risk management framework that is consistent with the Australian risk management standard
- whether the Council is providing the resources necessary to successfully implement its risk management framework
- whether the Council's risk management framework is adequate and effective for identifying and managing the risks the Council faces, including those associated with individual projects, programs and other activities
- if risk management is integrated across all levels of the Council and across all processes, operations, services, decision-making, functions and reporting
- of the adequacy of risk reports and documentation, for example, the Council's risk register and risk profile
- whether a sound approach has been followed in developing risk management plans for major projects or undertakings
- whether appropriate policies and procedures are in place for the management and exercise of delegations
- if the Council has taken steps to embed a culture which is committed to ethical and lawful behaviour
- if there is a positive risk culture within the Council and strong leadership that supports effective risk management of the adequacy of staff training and induction in risk management
- how the Council's risk management approach impacts on the Council's insurance arrangements
- of the effectiveness of the Council's management of its assets, and
- of the effectiveness of business continuity arrangements, including business continuity plans, disaster recovery plans and the periodic testing of these plans.

Internal controls

Principle: The Council has an effective risk management framework and internal controls that successfully identify and manage the risks it faces.

Review and advise the Council:

- whether the Council's approach to maintaining an effective internal audit framework, including over external parties such as contractors and advisors, is sound and effective
- whether the Council has in place relevant policies and procedures and that these are periodically reviewed and updated

- whether appropriate policies and procedures are in place for the management and exercise of delegations
- whether staff are informed of their responsibilities and processes and procedures to implement controls are complied with
- if the Council's monitoring and review of controls is sufficient, and
- if internal and external audit recommendations to correct internal control weaknesses are implemented appropriately.

Compliance

Principle: The Council has an effective compliance framework that ensures it is complying with its legal obligations and other governance and contractual requirements when undertaking its functions.

Review and advise the Council of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's compliance framework, including:

- if the Council has appropriately considered legal and compliance risks as part of the Council's risk management framework
- how the Council manages its compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, codes, and contractual arrangements, and
- whether appropriate processes are in place to assess compliance.

Fraud and corruption

Principle: The Council has an effective fraud and corruption control framework in place that minimises the incidence of fraud and corruption.

Review and advise the Council of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's fraud and corruption prevention framework and activities, including whether the Council has appropriate processes and systems in place to capture and effectively investigate fraud-related information.

Financial management

Principle: The Council has an effective financial management framework, sustainable financial position and positive financial performance.

Review and advise the Council:

- if the Council is complying with accounting standards and external accountability requirements
- of the appropriateness of the Council's accounting policies and disclosures
- of the implications for the Council of the findings of external audits and performance audits and the Council's responses and implementation of recommendations
- whether the Council's financial statement preparation procedures and timelines are sound
- the accuracy of the Council's annual financial statements prior to external audit, including:
 - management compliance/representations
 - significant accounting and reporting issues

- the methods used by the Council to account for significant or unusual transactions and areas of significant estimates or judgements
 - appropriate management signoff on the statements
- if effective processes are in place to ensure financial information included in the Council's annual report is consistent with signed financial statements
- if the Council's financial management processes are adequate
- the adequacy of cash management policies and procedures
- if there are adequate controls over financial processes, for example:
 - appropriate authorisation and approval of payments and transactions
 - adequate segregation of duties
 - timely reconciliation of accounts and balances
 - review of unusual and high value purchases
- if policies and procedures for management review and consideration of the financial position and performance of the Council are adequate, and
- if the Council's grants and tied funding policies and procedures are sound.

Governance

Principle: The Council has an effective governance framework to ensure it is appropriately directing and controlling the management of the Council.

Review and advise the Council regarding its governance framework, including the Council's:

- decision-making processes
- implementation of governance policies and procedures
- reporting lines and accountability
- assignment of key roles and responsibilities
- committee structure
- management oversight responsibilities
- human resources and performance management activities
- reporting and communication activities
- information and communications technology (ICT) governance, and
- management and governance of the use of data, information and knowledge

Improvement

Strategic planning

Principle: The Council has an effective framework that ensures it achieves its strategic plans and objectives under the integrated planning and reporting (IP&R) framework.

Review and advise the Council:

- of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's IP&R processes
- if appropriate reporting and monitoring mechanisms are in place to measure progress against objectives, and
- whether the Council is successfully implementing and achieving its IP&R objectives and strategies.

Service reviews and business improvement

Principle: The Council has an effective framework to ensure it is delivering services and conducting its business and functions to an expected standard.

- Act as a forum for communication and monitoring of any audits conducted by external bodies and the implementation of corrective actions (for example, NSW government agencies, Commonwealth government agencies, insurance bodies)
- Review and advise the Council:
 - if the Council has robust systems to set objectives and goals to determine and deliver appropriate levels of service to the community and business performance
 - if appropriate reporting and monitoring mechanisms are in place to measure service delivery to the community and overall performance, and
 - how the Council can improve its service delivery and the Council's performance of its business and functions generally.

Performance data and measurement

Principle: The Council's performance management framework ensures the Council can measure its performance and if it is achieving its strategic goals.

Review and advise the Council:

- if the Council has a robust system to determine appropriate performance indicators to measure the achievement of its strategic objectives
- if the performance indicators Council uses are effective, and
- of the adequacy of performance data collection and reporting.

16 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

16.1 * BANK RECONCILIATION AND STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES - 30 APRIL 2024**

File Number: 2108
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 30 April 2024

Balances as per Bank Statement	\$960,329.94
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$559.00
Less: Unpresented Cheques	-\$5,676.62
Balance as per Cash Book	\$955,212.32

Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 30 April 2024

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$33,117,199.26	\$200,000.00
Water	\$4,120,580.99	
Sewer	\$2,609,527.25	
Trust	\$121,919.46	
	\$39,969,226.96	

Reconciliation as at 30 April 2024

Balance as per cash book	\$955,212.32
Investments	\$39,014,014.64
Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger	\$39,969,226.96

** 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 April 2024

	Balance	Transaction	Balance
	31 March 2023		30 April 2024
General Fund	\$31,969,384.96	\$1,147,814.30	\$33,117,199.26
Water Fund	\$4,116,696.67	\$3,884.32	\$4,120,580.99
Sewer Fund	\$2,558,974.00	\$50,553.25	\$2,609,527.25
Trust Fund	\$123,098.46	-\$1,179.00	\$121,919.46
Investments	-\$37,508,916.16	-\$1,505,098.48	-\$39,014,014.64

Totals	\$1,259,237.93	-\$304,025.61	\$955,212.32
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Balance of all Funds as at 30 April 2024

Balance as at 31 March 2024	\$1,259,237.93
Add Receipts for	
(a) Rates	\$198,634.84
(b) Other Cash	\$3,333,989.87
Deduct payments for	
(a) Payments	\$2,845,566.96
(b) New Investment	\$991,083.36
Balance as at 30 April 2024	\$955,212.32

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 April 2024 be noted.

16.2 * INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORT AS AT 30 APRIL 2024**

File Number: 2101
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

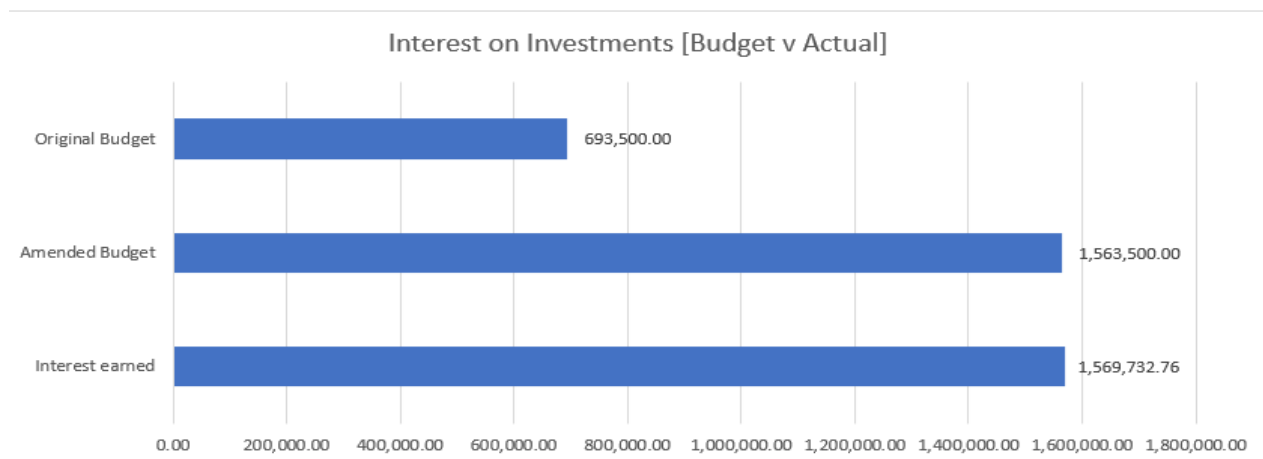
The management, of Council’s investments is delegated by the General Manager to the Manager Corporate Services.

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 April 2024 was \$39,014,014.64.

Investment income earned as of 30 April 2024 was \$1,569,732.76.



It is obvious that interest earned on investments has surpassed 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 change was approved by the Council at its February 2024 meeting (held 4 March 2024) after being reported in the December 2023 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.

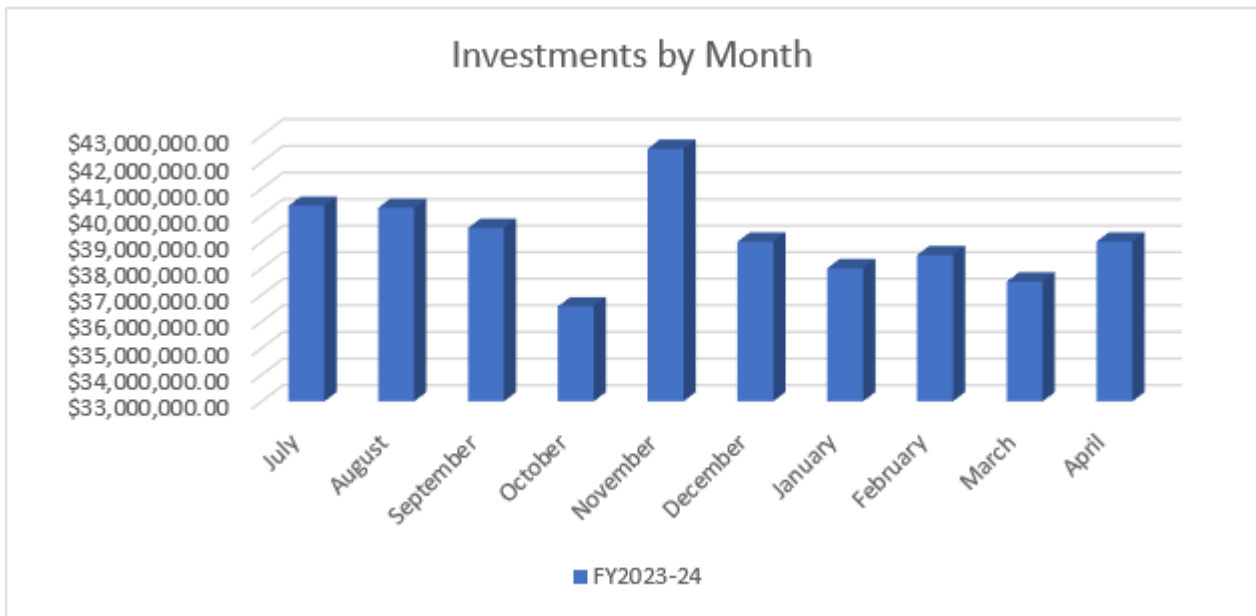
Investment Portfolio as at 30 April 2024

Institution	Invst#	From	MaturityDate	Amount	Rate	Days	S&P Rating
National Australia Bank	91	29/01/2024	3/05/2024	3,000,000.00	5.05%	95	A-1+
National Australia Bank	95	1/02/2024	1/05/2024	3,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	96	2/02/2024	2/05/2024	2,500,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	97	5/02/2024	6/05/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank	98	9/02/2024	9/05/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	100	6/02/2024	6/08/2024	1,000,000.00	5.15%	182	A-1+
National Australia Bank	101	20/02/2024	20/05/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	102	29/02/2024	29/05/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	103	4/03/2024	3/06/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank	106	19/03/2024	17/06/2024	1,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	107	26/03/2024	24/06/2024	3,000,000.00	5.05%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	108	27/03/2024	27/06/2024	2,000,000.00	5.05%	92	A-1+
National Australia Bank	109	28/03/2024	26/06/2024	2,000,000.00	5.00%	90	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	110	4/04/2024	6/06/2024	2,000,000.00	4.56%	63	A-1+
Commonwealth Bank	111	15/04/2024	15/05/2024	1,000,000.00	4.36%	30	A-1+
National Australia Bank	112	24/04/2024	23/07/2024	2,000,000.00	5.00%	90	A-1+
National Australia Bank	113	29/04/2024	29/07/2024	2,000,000.00	5.00%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank	114	30/04/2024	30/07/2024	2,000,000.00	5.00%	91	A-1+
National Australia Bank			At Call	2,514,014.64	Flex		A-1+
Total Investments				39,014,014.64			

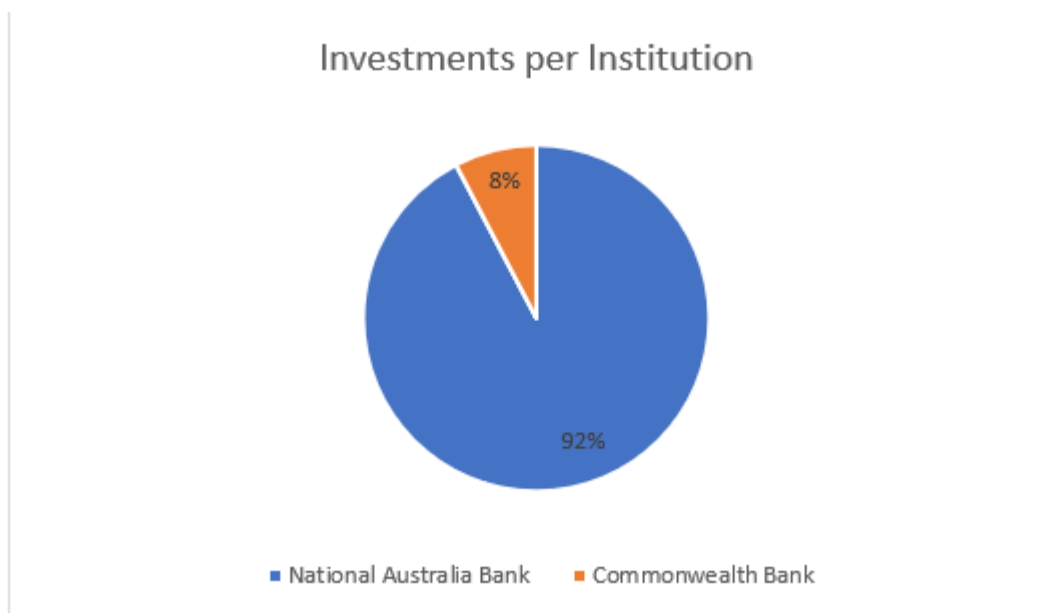
Term Deposits

Discussions/Comments

Compared to March 2024, there has been an increase of \$1,505,098.48 in Council’s Investment portfolio as at 30 April 2024.



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 April 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be received and noted.**

- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted.**

16.3 * OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024/2025**

File Number: P4.2.1
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Council at its meeting held on 27 June 2022, adopted a suite of documents as part of its Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

Such documents included its Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, annual Operational Plan for 2022/2023, Fees and Charges, Long Term Financial Plan, Workforce Plan, Asset Management Strategy, Plan and Policy and the EEO Management Plan.

Given the adoption of these various strategic documents, the focus in respect of this year's Integrated Planning Documents is Councils 2024/2025 Annual Operational Plan.

In respect of Councils 2024/2025 Operational Plan, section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides as follows: -

- (1) A Council must have a plan (its "Operational Plan") that is adopted before the beginning of each year and details the activities to be engaged in by the Council during the year as part of the delivery program covering that year.*
- (2) An operational plan must include a statement of the Council's revenue policy for the year covered by the operational plan. The statement of revenue policy must include the statements and particulars required by the regulations.*
- (3) A Council must prepare a draft operational plan and give public notice of the draft indicating that submissions may be made to the Council at any time during the period (not less than 28 days) that the draft is to be on public exhibition. The Council must publicly exhibit the draft operational plan in accordance with the notice.*
- (4) During the period of public exhibition, the Council must have for inspection at its office (and at such other places as it may determine) a map that shows those parts of its area to which each category and sub-category of the ordinary rate and each special rate included in the draft operational plan applies.*
- (5) In deciding on the final operational plan to be adopted, a Council must consider any submissions that have been made concerning the draft plan.*
- (6) The Council must post a copy of its operational plan on the Council's website within 28 days after the plan is adopted.*

Having regard to these requirements, Council at its meeting held on 25 March 2024 gave consideration to various reports. These reports and Councils determinations follow:

2024/2025 Operational Plan

- 1. That the report of the Manager of Corporate Services detailing an overview of the 2024/2025 Draft Operational Plan be noted.*
- 2. That Councils 2024/2025 Draft Operational Plan be adopted for the purpose of public exhibition from Thursday, 28 March 2024 until 4.30pm Friday, 26 April 2024 in accordance with Section 405 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993.*
- 3. That all submissions received be tabled at the 27 May 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council, for consideration prior to Councils Operational Plan for 2024/2025 being determined.*

2024/2025 Plant Replacement Schedule

That the Plant Replacement Schedule as detailed be included in the 2024/2025 Draft Operational Plan.

2024/2025 Fees and Charges

That Council adopt the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges Report, for inclusion in the 2024/2025 Draft Operational Plan.

2024/2025 Loan Schedule

- 1. That Council borrow up to \$708,500.00 in the 2024/2025 financial year to fund the projects as listed.*
- 2. That as per Section 230 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the General Manager take the necessary action, in due course, to notify the Executive Director of the Office of Local Government, Department of Planning and Environment of a borrowing under a loan contract within 7 days of the borrowing.*

Sale of Assets to be conducted by Council

That the sale of listed plant for inclusion in the 2024/2025 Draft Operational Plan be approved.

Statement of Revenue Policy

- 1. That Council note the Draft Revenue Policy for 2024/2025.*
- 2. That Council adopts a filtered water price of \$2.50/KL for the 2024/2025 rating period while maintaining the set increase of 4.5% in all water access charges.*
- 3. That Council adopts an increase of 4.5% in Sewerage Rates & Charges for the 2024/2025 rating period.*
- 4. That Council adopt the maximum interest rate as provided by the Office of Local Government under section 566 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, once received.*

(Note: The Office of Local Government has recently advised via Circular to Councils 24-05 Information about rating 2024-25 that the maximum interest rate for 2024/2025 is 10.5% per annum.)

5. *That Council adopts the Domestic Waste Management Charges as detailed and include in the Draft Operational Plan 2024/2025.*
6. *That Council adopt the Schedule of Rates and Charges for inclusion in the Draft Operational Plan 2024/2025.*

Current Situation

As per Councils various resolutions, as above, the draft 2024/2025 Operational Plan was collated and placed on public exhibition effective Thursday, 28 March 2024. A copy of the Plan has previously been distributed to Councillors.

The availability of the draft Plan, and the inviting of written submissions, was advertised in the Western Herald, on Councils Facebook Page and included in the General Managers Column. Copies of the documents were placed on Council’s website, where they remain available at www.bourke.nsw.gov.au and hard copies of the draft Plan were available to members of the public on request if they did not have access to the internet.

At the closing of the exhibition period, it is advised that no submissions were received from the public during the period.

During the Exhibition Period, Council was notified by communication from the Department of Planning and Environment, New South Wales Government, that the Government was expanding the Interment Services Levy, in accordance with a recent Statutory Review of the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act and a proposal from IPART. The increased levy will be set at \$63 per ash interment and \$156 per burial.

The fee would be imposed on all cemetery and crematoria operators effective from 1 July 2024, with the exception of those who operate inactive cemeteries and hold a Cemetery Operator (Caretaker) Licence (also known as Category 4 operators).

Therefore, the following revised cemetery charges (inc GST) are proposed to be included in the updated Fees and Charges Document for 2024/2025.

Cemetery Fee Description	Original Proposed Fee In Operational Plan 2024/2025	Statutory Levy Imposed by State Government	Revised Fee to be Included in the Operational Plan 2024/2025
Excavation of plot without monument	\$900.00	\$156.00	\$1,056.00
Excavation of plot with monument	\$1,180.00	\$156.00	\$1,336.00
Weekend Excavation charge without monument	\$1,350.00	\$156.00	\$1,506.00
Weekend Excavation charge with monument	\$1,500.00	\$156.00	\$1,656.00
Internment of Ashes into pre purchased plot	\$55.00	\$156.00	\$118.00

It is further advised that due to an administrative error, the Water Availability/Access Charges as included in the 2024/2025 Fees and Charges Document were not the charges as included in the Statement of Revenue Policy report, as submitted to and adopted by Council at its March 2024 meeting. In this regard, the Access Charges as included in the Fees and Charges document were marginally understated, and should have been as follows:

Water Availability/Access Charge	As per Fees and Charge Document	Correct Charge
20 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$581.50	\$585.00
20 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$231.00	\$231.00
25 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$598.00	\$600.00
25 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$283.00	\$284.00
32 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$1,223.50	\$1,228.00
32 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$580.50	\$583.00
40 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$1,894.00	\$1,902.00
40 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$795.00	\$798.00
50 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$3,563.50	\$3,580.00
50 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$1,090.00	\$1,093.00

Notwithstanding these marginal variances, it will be proposed that the Charges in the “Correct Charge” column be adopted.

Accordingly, and on the basis of the inclusion of the revised fees for the Bourke Cemetery and the correct Water Availability/Access Charges in Councils 2024/2025 Fees and Charges Document, it will be proposed that the 2024/2025 Operational Plan be adopted.

A separate report is provided to Council as part of its May 2024 Ordinary Meeting Agenda in respect of the formal making of Councils Rates and Charges for 2024/2025 as required by section 534 of the *Local Government Act 1993* which provides that each rate or charge is to be made for a specific year, being the year in which the rate or charge is made or the next year and Section 535 provides that a rate or charge is made by resolution of Council.

Financial Implications

The adoption of the 2024/2025 Operational Plan provides details of the income and expenditure involved in Council pursuing the strategic direction as articulated in Councils Community Strategic Plan.

Recommendation

- 1. That Councils 2024/2025 Operational Plan, inclusive of Councils 2024/2025 Budget and 2024/2025 Statement of Revenue Policy, as exhibited, be adopted by Council for implementation commencing 1 July 2024.**
- 2. That Council’s 2024/2025 Fees and Charges document be amended, to reflect:**
 - a) the expanded Interment Services Levy in accordance with the Statutory Review of the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act as follows:**

Cemetery Fee Description	2024/2025 Fee
Excavation of plot without monument	\$1,056.00
Excavation of plot with monument	\$1,336.00
Weekend Excavation charge without monument	\$1,506.00
Weekend Excavation charge with monument	\$1,656.00
Internment of Ashes into pre purchased plot	\$118.00

b) the correct Water Availability/Access Charges as follows:

Water Availability/Access Charge	2024/2025 Charge
20 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$585.00
20 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$231.00
25 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$600.00
25 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$284.00
32 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$1,228.00
32 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$583.00
40 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$1,902.00
40 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$798.00
50 mm Availability/Service - Raw	\$3,580.00
50 mm Availability/Service - Filtered	\$1,093.00

3. That Council’s 2024/2025 Fees and Charges, as exhibited and as subsequently amended, be adopted by Council for implementation commencing 1 July 2024.
4. That Council’s 2024/2025 Plant Replacement Schedule, 2024/2025 Sale of Plant Schedule and Councils 2024/2025 Loan Borrowing Schedule to borrow up to \$708,500, all as included in Councils 2024/2025 Operational Plan, as exhibited, be adopted.
5. That Authority be given to affix the Common Seal of Council to all relevant documents in relation to the 2024/2025 Loan Schedule.
6. That a copy of Councils adopted 2024/2025 Operational Plan be uploaded to Councils website.

16.4 * THE MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES 2024/2025**

File Number: F1.2-P4.2
Author: Ang Pasang Rai, Manager Corporate Services
Authoriser: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

In accordance with the requirements of Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council's 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan was placed on public exhibition from Thursday, 28 March 2024 until Friday, 26 April 2024 with the public invited to make submissions thereon. The draft 2024/2025 Operational Plan and Budget included statements with respect to Council's revenue policy for the *next year and in particular:*

- *a statement with respect to each ordinary rate proposed to be levied*
- *a statement with respect to each charge proposed to be levied*

The above processes have enabled Council to comply with the provisions of Section 532 of the *Local Government Act 1993* which provides that a Council must not make a rate or charge until it has given public notice of its draft Operational Plan for the year for which the rate or charge is to be made and has considered any matters concerning the draft Operational Plan (in accordance with Section 405).

Current Situation

Section 534 of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that each rate or charge is to be made for a specific year, being the year in which the rate or charge is made or the next year and Section 535 provides that a rate or charge is made by resolution of Council.

Given that it is necessary for Council to specifically resolve to make a rate and charge, this report provides the necessary draft resolutions to be adopted in order to comply with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*. In this regard the recommended resolutions follow:

Recommendation

The making of Rates and Charges must be made by resolution of Council, pursuant to Sections 533, 534, 535, 537 and 543 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

(a) Ordinary Rates 2024/2025.

That WHEREAS the draft Operational Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025 were prepared by Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, S402, S403, S404 and S405 and advertised in the Western Herald AND WHEREAS a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was placed, in which consideration has been given to any submissions received, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that in accordance with, and pursuant to, S492, S493, S494 and S529 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that Council make the following

Ordinary rates to be levied on all rateable land within the Shire, for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025:

Type of Rate	Cents in \$ Ad Valorem	\$ Base Amount	% Base Amt Payable – 2024/2025
Ordinary Rates – Bourke – Residential	0.018716	\$150.00	30.54%
Ordinary Rates – North Bourke & High Street – Residential	0.011564	\$122.00	13.17%
Ordinary Rates – Village – Residential	0.03462	\$43.00	34.57%
Ordinary Rates – Business	0.015682	\$208.00	25.28%
Ordinary Rates -Farmland	0.002147	\$606.00	17.45%
Ordinary Rates – Mining	0.016707	\$546.00	0%

(b) User Charges /Annual Charges – Water, Sewerage and Urban Drainage 2024/2025.

That WHEREAS the draft Operational Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2024 to 30/6/2025 were prepared by Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, S402, S403, S404 and S405 and advertised in the Western Herald AND WHEREAS a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was placed, in which consideration has been given to any submissions received, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that in accordance with S501, S502 and S551 and 552, of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make the following User and Annual Charges for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 and levy on such land:-

- for services provided or proposed to be provided; or
- for the availability or access to services; or
- for the actual use of a service.

i) Water Supply Services:

Town/Village	Annual Access Charge \$	Usage Charge (c/kl) (tariff)
User Charge		
Bourke and North Bourke		\$2.50
Water Access Charges		
Filtered Water Access 20mm	\$231.00	
Filtered Water Access 25mm	\$284.00	
Filtered Water Access 32mm	\$583.00	
Filtered Water Access 40mm	\$798.00	
Filtered Water Access 50mm	\$1,095.00	
Filtered Water Access 100mm	\$2,193.00	
Filtered Water Access 150mm	\$4,274.00	
Raw Water Access 20mm	\$585.00	
Raw Water Access 25mm	\$600.00	
Raw Water Access 32mm	\$1,228.00	
Raw Water Access 40mm	\$1,902.00	
Raw Water Access 50mm	\$3,580.00	
Raw Water Access 100mm	\$5,963.00	

Raw Water Access 150mm	\$11,928.00	
Village – Occupied	\$865.00	
Village - Unoccupied	\$99.00	

ii) Sewerage Services:

Sewerage Access Charges	Annual Access Charge \$
Sewerage Access - Single	\$850.00
Sewerage Access - Multi	\$850.00

iii) Drainage Services:

Annual Drainage Service Charge	Annual Charge \$
Drainage Charge Levy	\$193.00

(c) Annual Domestic Waste Management Service and Trade Waste (Garbage) Charges 2024/2025.

That WHEREAS the draft Operational Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024 were prepared by Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, S402, S403, S404 and S405 and advertised in the Western Herald AND WHEREAS a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was placed, in which consideration has been given to any submissions received, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Council make the following Domestic Waste Management Service Charge and the Trade Waste (Garbage) Charge and that in accordance with S496 and S501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council levy such charges for the year 1/07/2023 to 30/06/2024:

Waste Management and Trade Waste (Garbage) Services:

Annual Waste / Garbage Charges	Annual Charge \$
Domestic Waste Charge	\$307.00
Trade Waste (Garbage) Charge	\$307.00
Village Tip Maintenance	\$104.00

(d) Fees and Charges 2024/2025.

That WHEREAS the draft Operational Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025 were prepared by Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, S402, S403, S404 and S405 and advertised in the Western Herald AND WHEREAS a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was placed, which consideration has been given to any submissions received, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Council make the Fees and Charges as contained in Councils 2024/2025 Fees and Charges Document and in accordance with S501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

17.1 WORK IN BOURKE RECRUITMENT VIDEO

File Number: 20594
Author: Melanie Milgate, Manager Economic Development
Authoriser: Ross Earl, Acting General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

Recruitment and retention of staff in rural and remote locations has been a significant issue for many years and is recognised by most agencies as a priority issue for continuity of services. Strategies to address the issue of recruitment have long been discussed across agencies, resulting in various organisations within the community taking active steps to promote their various vacancies using video and other media formats.

Current Situation

Council was keen to support these local efforts as part of its role in developing economic opportunities in Bourke, and hence Council's development of the supporting recruitment video titled "Work in Bourke".



Bourke Shire Council released the recruitment video to support local businesses, government departments and non-government organisations, in recruiting staff to the Bourke community.

Council wanted to show, in a visual and informative format, that Bourke is a modern, friendly town where you can get all that you need, and provides the majority of services you would expect today.

The video is available for viewing either on the Bourke Shire Council website at www.bourke.nsw.gov.au or accessed via YouTube, by simply searching, Work in Bourke.

Financial Implications

Funding for the preparation of the recruitment video was provided for in Councils 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

Recommendation

That the information in Manager of Economic Development report regarding the Work In Bourke recruitment video as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

18 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Nil

19 POLICIES

Nil

20 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

21 ACTIVITY REPORTS

21.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES - ROAD WORKS AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 1945
Author: Paul Flanagan, Manager Roads
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Background

The following information outlines works undertaken during April 2024.

ENGINEERING SERVICES - Road Works – Works Undertaken		
Michael Willoughby – Roads Supervisor		
NORTH SECTOR – Denis Tiffen, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Mitchell Highway SH-7N	Shoulder Widening	Y
Multagoona Road RLR-12	Maintenance Grade	Y
Lanihuli Road RLR-46	Repair Washout	y
Mitchell Highway SH-7N	Heavy Patching	Y
Bundy Road RLR-4	Maintenance Grade	Y
SOUTH SECTOR - John Reed, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Toorale Road (Trilby) RLR-10	Construct and seal	N
TRANSPORT SECTOR - Simon Wielinga, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Toorale Road (Trilby) RLR-10	Construct and Seal	N
Lanihuli Road RLR-46	Repair Washout	Y
BITUMEN SECTOR – Phillip Harvey, Team Leader		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Bourke Township	Pothole Patching	N
Regional Roads	Pothole Patching	N
State Highways	Pothole Patching	Y
Mitchell Highway SH 7 South	Control vegetation (ongoing)	N
Kidman Way MR 421	Control vegetation (ongoing)	N
CONTRACTORS		
Location	Work Carried Out	Completed
Ausroads – Various locations	Heavy Patching / Sealing	N
Avondale Road RLR-14	Repair Storm Damage (Sandford)	N
Toorale Road RLR-10	Repair Storm Damage (Sandford)	Y
Burrawantie Road RLR-27	Maintenance Grade (NAK)	Y
Wanaaring Road MR-404	Maintenance Grade (NAK)	Y
Willara Road RLR-23	Maintenance Grade (NAK)	N

WORKSHOP – Works Undertaken		
Colin Kiley, Team Leader, Tradesman Plant Mechanic		
Plant no	Plant Type	Work Completed
50	1116 Kenworth T409SAR	Completed 450,000 km service. Removed and replaced headlights. Removed and repaired air bags. Removed, replaced and adjusted height control valves. Removed and replaced gas strut in steering column. Completed welding repairs to tool box.
64	2011 Gason HD	Adjusted clutch plates. Removed and replaced blades, checked over and greased.
92	2014 Western Star 4800fs	Repaired wiring on parking lights.
108	Toro 74904	Removed and replaced belts, blade and deck wheels. Checked over and greased.
111	Dolly	Repaired lights and mud guard.
134	2019 John Deere 770g	Repaired spare wheel carriage. Diagnosed diff lock problem, repaired wiring, removed and replaced diff lock solenoid.
141	John Deere Grader	Completed 6,000 hr service.
147	2020 Trailer	Completed 70,000 km service. Repaired air leaks and fitted light bar.
155	2021 Isuzu 155	Removed and replaced 2 way aerial. Removed and replaced fuel pump for fuel tank on the back of the truck and repaired wiring for pump.
157	Road Broom	Repaired hydraulic leaks on the control valve.
172	Isuzu 1500 FXY	Completed 150,000 km service. Removed and replaced front emulsion valve. Repaired boom arm lock. Removed and replaced headlight and fitted light protectors. Repaired air leaks.
184	2023 Ford Pk Ranger	Completed 20,000 km service. Fitted and calibrated cel-fi.
198	Spray Tank quick spray	Repaired hose and tightened fittings.
204	Hyster	Removed and replaced pump and drive shaft. Set pump up.
226-227	2020 Boggie Water cart	Removed and replaced brake booster, Removed, repaired and replaced seized ring feeder and tow pin.
241	2023 Kubota	Completed 50 hr service.
248	2022 John Deere 6125m	Completed 1,000 hr service.
257	2021 Hino FE 1426	Completed 30,000 km service. Removed and replaced damaged mud guard. Removed and replaced fog lights. Tightened exhaust flanges. Removed and replaced day time running light. Cleaned radiator. Repaired hydraulic oil leak. Removed and replaced rubber suction hose. Repaired and cleaned water pipes and nozzles.
269	Remko Pump and Trailer	Removed and replaced pump and drive shaft. Set

		pump up.
271	2022 Ford Ranger	Completed 95,000 km service. Replaced number plate bulbs and repaired wiring.
370	Wing Slasher	Removed and replaced blades. Greased and checked over.
371	2021 Woods Slasher	Adjusted clutch plates. Checked and greased.
380	2023 Atlas Copco VAR 6-250	Took delivery, checked over and provided induction to water and sewer staff.
381	2023 Atlas Copco VAR 6-250	Took delivery of the pump, checked it and underwent induction in its operation
425	2023 Caterpillar 966 M	Completed 1,000 hr service.
426	2023 Bomag BBW 21D5	Completed 250 hr service.
427	2023 Bomag BBW 28RH	Completed 250 hr service.
428	2023 Bomag BW 216D5	Completed 250 hr service.
460	Mitsubishi Pajero	Completed 100,000 km service.
505	2018 Kenworth Primemover T659	Completed 340,000 km service. Removed and replaced revolving light. Removed and replaced leaking air bags and adjusted height valves.
506	Kenworth Primemover	Completed 400,000 km service. Removed and replaced tail lights.
520	2018 Moores Roadtrain B/double	Removed and replaced bearings and pulleys in trap and adjusted wire rope.
521	2018 Moores Roadtrain B/double	Removed trap system, modified tipper body and fitted new trap system.

Small Plant	Completed services and repairs.
Crossly Engine	Reassembled number 1 engine. Completed service on Hatz engine.
Miscellaneous and Hire	Organised and cleaned up yard at the depot.
Registration Checks	Completed registration checks on external vehicles.
Staff Training	
Colin Kiley and Denzel Jackson are participating in an auto electrical course.	

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Roads regarding Engineering Services - Road Works and Workshop Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

21.2 ENGINEERING SERVICES - PARKS AND GARDENS, TOWN SERVICES, WATER AND WASTE WATER 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 April 2024.

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.
	Public toilets cleaned and maintained.
	Facilities cleaned.
Council Office	General maintenance carried out.
Renshaw Complex	General maintenance carried out.
	Toilets and facilities cleaned.
Coolican Oval	Grounds, facilities cleaned and maintained.
	Line marking of soccer oval.
Davidson Oval	General maintenance carried out.
	Completed line marking of the football oval.
	Recovered the cricket pitch.
	Toilets and facilities cleaned in preparation for the football competition.
Central Park	Regular mowing and maintenance completed at the skate park.
	Removed graffiti.
Villages	Mowed grounds, facilities cleaned and maintained.
Airport	General maintenance carried out.

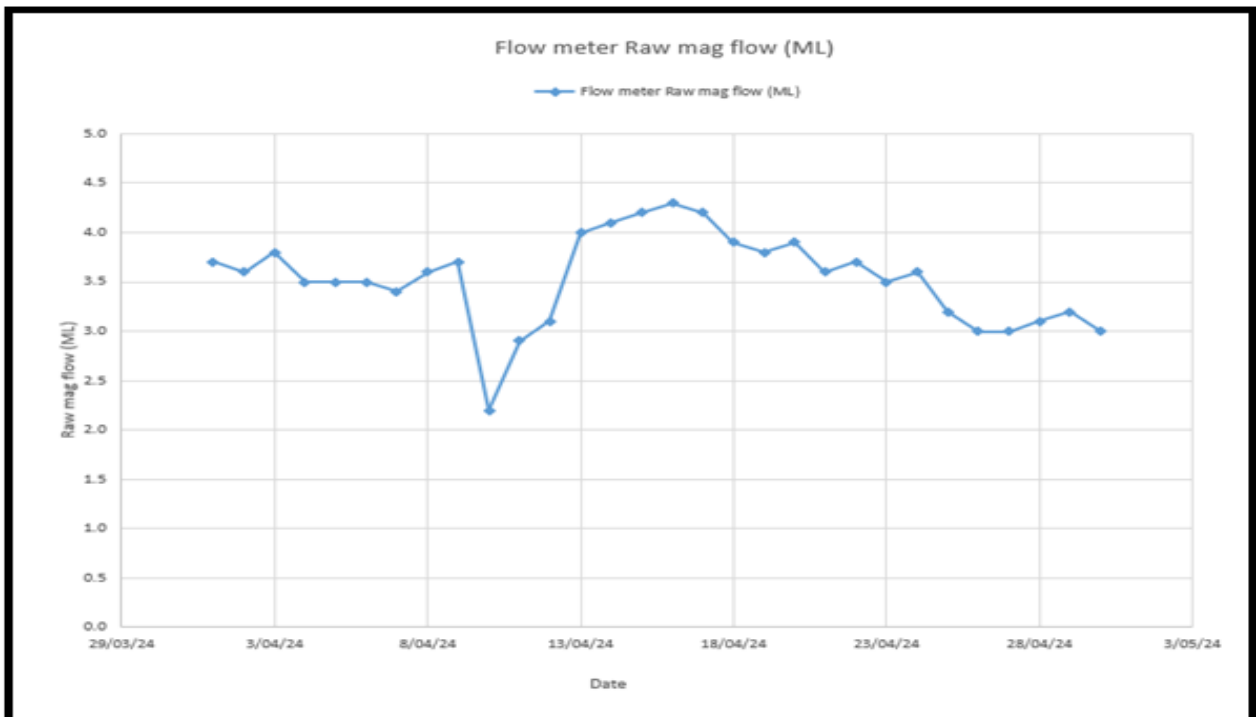
Darling Park	General maintenance carried out.
Boat Ramp	General maintenance carried out.
Fishing Reserve	Inspection and general maintenance carried out.
North Bourke Truck Stop	General maintenance carried out. Removed graffiti from Council facilities.
Enngonia Oval	Mowing and general maintenance completed.
Staff Training	Nil.

TOWN SERVICES – Troy Hayman, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing on a daily basis as requested.
Cemetery	Prepared one (1) grave.
Rest Areas	Weekly cleaning and water pressure clean of new toilets - 65km Cobar Road. Monthly service and roadside rubbish removal.
General Works	Used crane to lift posts for the Back 'O Bourke Exhibition Centre (BOBEC) café. Used crane place sewer well pumps. Pruned trees on the Brewarrina Road along the caravan park fence line. Placed ANZAC flags. Watered trees twice per week. Used crane to move the canteen from the pool back to Cooligan Oval Sundry debtors – for sweeper and crusher dust. Assisted plumbers with water break at the Bowling Club intersection. Erected new windsocks at Louth and Wanaaring airstips. Used crane for levee flood gate and prepared pipes for levee repair at Yambacooona Street. Slashed Tancred Drive and North Bourke subdivision. Herbicides applied to laneways and around airport lights. Mowed the top of the levee at Renshaw Sporting Complex in preparation for the fun run. Completed slashing at the airport. Cleaned up around the airport terminal. Erected tents and placed chairs in preparation for a funeral. Erected new “Keep Left” signs in Mitchell Street and Oxley Street and removed blisters from Tarcoon Street. Picked up tree debris from town streets. Picked up signs and brought them back to the depot from the Enngonia Road. Cold mix applied to laneway potholes. Cold mix applied at Bowling Club intersection. Picked up dirt for use around town. Relieved staff working on the garbage truck. Replaced signs at the 65 km rest area on the Enngonia Road. Mowed town footpaths. Removed trees from the Rural Fire Service at North Bourke.
Staff Training	Nil.

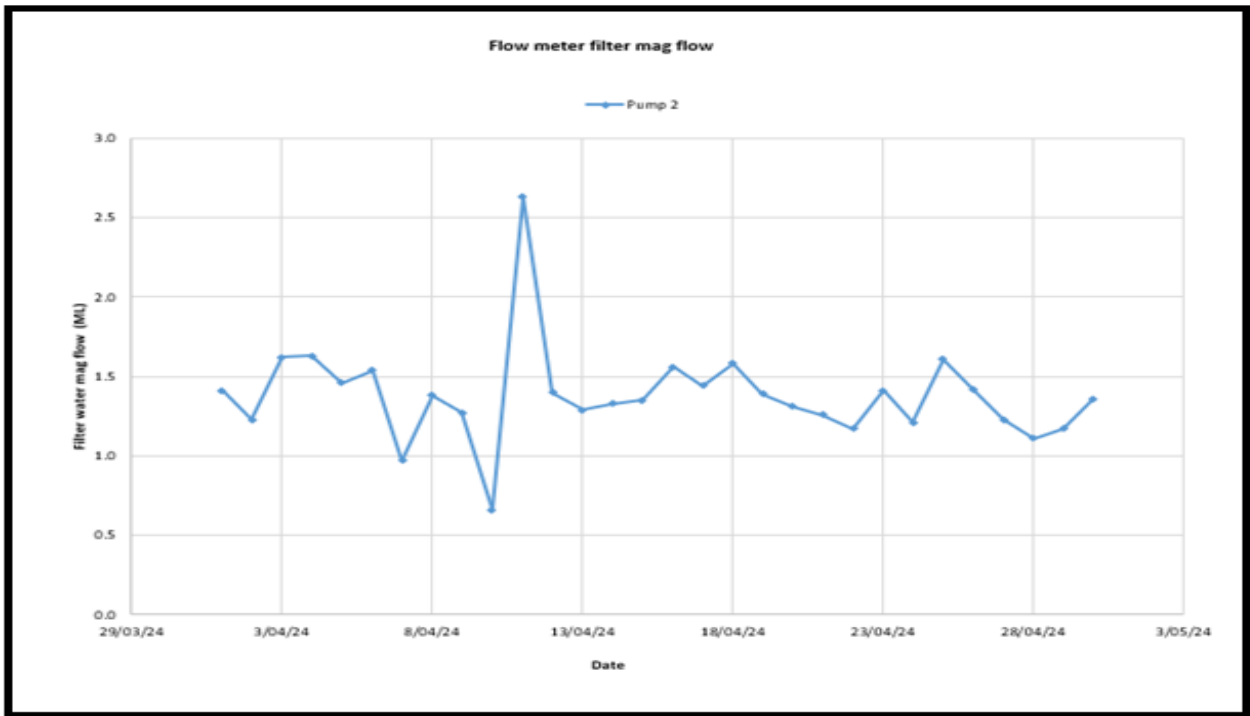
WATER & WASTEWATER – Shane Hopley, Team Leader	
Water Supply Planned Maintenance	
WTP	Routine maintenance, monitoring and reporting.
SPS	Routine maintenance, monitoring and reporting.
Alice Edwards Village	Routine maintenance and monitoring as per ACP Management Plan.
	Flushed fire hydrants.
	Upgraded telemetry system at the sewer pump station.
	Removed sewer pump and cleared choke.
Clara Hart Village	Routine maintenance and monitoring as per ACP Management Plan
	Sprayed weeds around sewer network.
	Flushed fire hydrants.
Emergency Bore Water Supply	Additional bore capacity and powerline works ongoing.
Meter Reads	Monthly water meter reads from all Councils water sources.
Reservoir Inspections	Weekly reservoir inspections carried out on WTP, Charles Street and North Bourke reservoirs.
Anson Street Sewer Pump Station	Upgraded switch board and telemetry system.
North Bourke Pump Site	Upgraded telemetry system.
Bourke and North Bourke Water Meters	Installed new 4G telemetry units.
	Read water meters.
Cemetery	Repaired 50mm raw water service.
Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre Extension	Repaired damaged filtered and raw water pipes.
	Checked water and drainage working in new kitchen.
Renshaw Sporting Complex	Replaced tap in male toilets.
	Repaired and adjusted irrigation system.
	Replaced gate on racetrack.
	Replaced taps in cattle yards.
Cooligan Oval	Reconnected water and power to the soccer canteen.
Enngonia	New water service installed at 15 Balalie St.
	Flushed fire hydrants.
	Inspected pump site and reservoirs.
Depot	Replace shower in caretaker's cottage.
14 Tudor Street	Dug 50mm filtered water main and repaired main.
32 Tarcoon Street	Dug 100mm filtered water main and repaired main.
22 Adelaide Street	Dug 150mm filtered water main and repaired main (water off for one (1) hour.
31 Richard Street	Dug 150mm filtered water main and repaired main (water off for one (1) hour.
11 Tudor Street	Dug 50mm filtered water main and repaired main.
4 Tudor Street	Dug 50mm filtered water main and repaired service.
144 Meadows Road	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
16 Meek Street	Filtered water leak (Internal).
3 Culgoa Street	Repaired leaking 20mm filtered water service.
6 Denman Street	Dug 100mm filtered water main and repaired main.
1 Becker Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.

WATER & WASTEWATER – Shane Hopley, Team Leader	
Water Supply Planned Maintenance	
35 Mooculta Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.
51 Darling Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
86 Darling Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.
103 Anson Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.
44 Wortumurtie Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.
29 Richard Street	Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main.
6 Mitchell Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
3 Wilson Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
96 Darling Street	Repaired leaking 25mm raw water service.
17 Charles Street	Sewer choke.
10 Wilson Street	Sewer choke.
62 Oxley Street	Sewer choke.
6 Meek Street	Sewer choke.
1B Oxley Street	Sewer choke.
18 Mertin Street	Sewer choke.
10 Richard Street	Sewer choke.
3 Darling Street	Sewer choke.
63 Anson Street	Sewer choke.
88 Tudor Street	Sewer choke.
18 Becker Street	Sewer choke.
4 Tudor Street	Sewer choke.
Becker Street SPS	Sewer choke.
145 Anson Street	Sewer choke.
Staff Training	Traffic Controller Training.

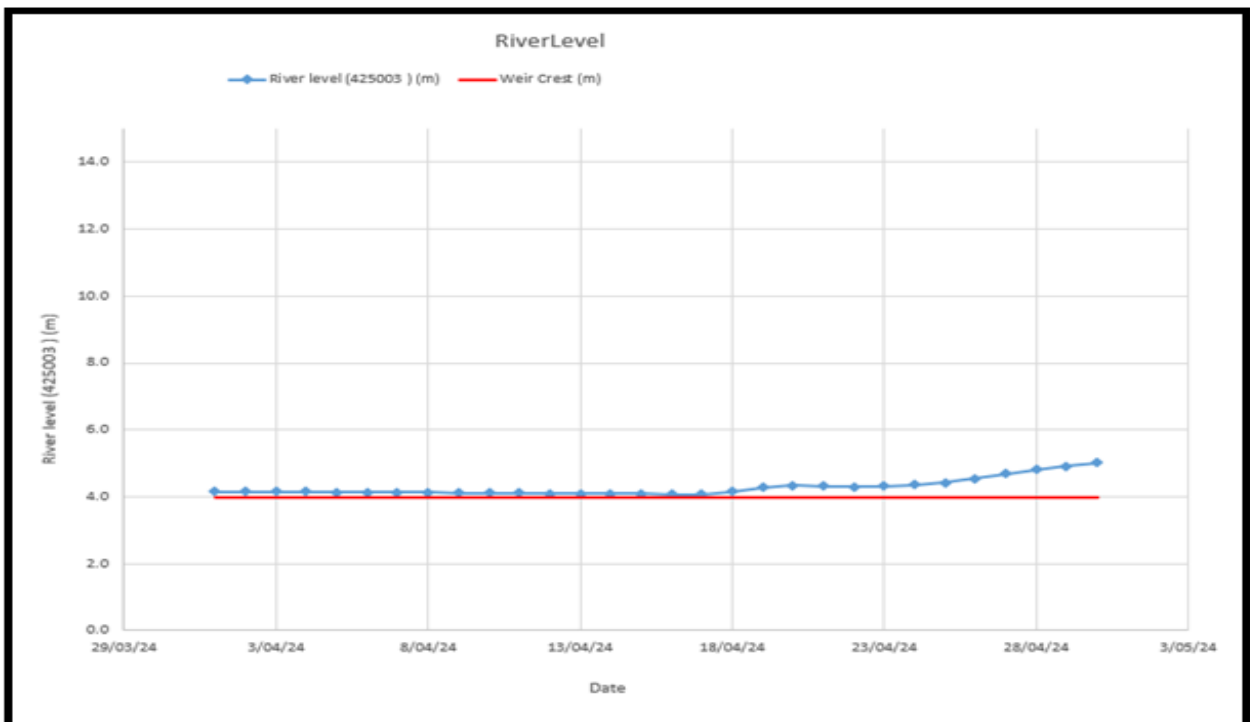
Raw Flow Meter



Water Treatment Plant Flow Meter



Current River Levels



Bourke / North Bourke Monthly Readings

Month	Bourke Raw water ML	Filter water magflow pump 2 ML	Raw Water North Bourke ML	Filter Water North Bourke ML
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
October 2023	165	48	37.524	1.542
November 2023	151	48	27.809	2.564
December 2023	155	48	33.663	3.640
January 2024	141	48	20.363	2.761
February 2024	112	45	26.963	2.751
March 2024	126	49	23.252	2.565
April 2024	106	41	14.281	2.456

Abattoirs Monthly Readings

Month	Abattoir Raw Water consumption			Abattoir Filtered Water consumption		
	Total ML	Daily Average ML	Peak Day ML	Total ML	Daily Average ML	Peak Day ML
May-23	2.014	0.060	0.172	6.132	0.190	0.570
Jun-23	1.025	0.034	0.146	9.320	0.320	0.670
Jul-23	1.030	0.033	0.101	10.016	0.320	0.600
Aug-23	1.033	0.034	0.136	7.900	0.250	0.420
Sep-23	2.153	0.071	0.169	13.100	0.430	0.800
Oct-23	2.025	0.065	0.242	11.100	0.350	0.700
Nov-23	3.910	0.130	0.150	10.800	0.360	0.500
Dec-23	5.270	0.176	0.230	10.000	0.333	0.800
Jan-24	2.700	0.090	0.150	10.600	0.353	0.700
Feb-24	2.750	0.092	0.150	13.600	0.453	0.900
Mar-24	0.820	0.027	0.150	10.600	0.353	0.560
Apr-24	0.540	0.018	0.051	9.174	0.306	0.560

Council’s Water Access Licences – WAL’s

Work Approval	Extraction Site	Site Name	Start meter read 01/07/2023	Meter read Feb-24	usage Year to Date		Water Access Licence	Comment
85CA753414	ESID 121627	Water Plant TWS	16043.5	17304.8	1261.3	ML	3200ML	
85CA753420	ESID 121630	North Bourke TWS	1930.965	2171.114	240.149	ML	300ML	
85CA753421	ESID 121630	North Bourke Abs	34.023	58.323	24.3	ML		
85CA753599		Wanaaring Station	23.298	56.358	33.06	ML	25ML	
85CA751207	24634	Engonia Village TWS	47.653	101.815	54.162	ML	150ML	
85CA753412	ESID 121626	(LWU Louth)	34.09	80.457	46.367	ML	25ML	
85CA751215	24639	Fords Bridge TWS	3.701	8.256	4.555	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	31.089	1.62	ML		Road Works
	209518	Stoney Rise Bore	26.844	41.236	14.392	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
NA	NA	Byrock	0	5.425	5.425	ML		Meter installed October 2023

Water Quality Data Summary

Process	Parameter	Minimum	Average	Maximum	Lower critical lim	Upper critical lim	No. of samples
Raw Water	pH	7.18	7.46	7.83			30
Raw Water	turbidity	273.00	517.20	926.00			30
Bourke High School	Free chlorine	1.68	1.68	1.68	0.2	4.0	2
Bourke High School	pH	7.56	7.56	7.56	6.5	8.5	2
Bourke High School	Turbidity	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.0	0.5	2
WTP	Free chlorine	2.00	2.80	3.60	0.2	4.0	2
WTP	pH	7.46	7.50	7.54	6.5	8.5	2
WTP	Turbidity	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.0	0.5	2
Bourke Primary School	Free chlorine	1.20	1.42	1.63	0.2	4.0	2
Bourke Primary School	pH	7.53	7.59	7.65	6.5	8.5	2
Bourke Primary School	Turbidity	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.0	0.5	2
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	2
Mitchell St	pH	7.42	7.42	7.42	6.5	8.5	2
Mitchell St	Turbidity	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.0	0.5	2
Alice Edwards Village	Free chlorine	1.00	1.05	1.10	0.2	4.0	2
Alice Edwards Village	pH	7.55	7.58	7.60	6.5	8.5	2
Alice Edwards Village	Turbidity	0.20	0.23	0.25	0.0	0.5	2
Kidman Camp	Free chlorine	1.10	1.35	1.60	0.2	4.0	2
Kidman Camp	pH	7.44	7.48	7.52	6.5	8.5	2
Kidman Camp	Turbidity	0.18	0.19	0.20	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	April 2024 Test	March 2024 Test
Oil & Grease	mg/L	10	2	No Flow
pH		6.5-8.5	8.49	No Flow
Nitrogen (total)	mg/L	15	12.5	No Flow
Phosphorus (total)	mg/L	10	1.94	No Flow
Total suspended solids	mg/L	20	156	No Flow
Biochemical oxygen demand	mg/L	15	23	No Flow

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 April 2024 was 12.6 mm.
- Hottest day in Bourke for April 2024 was 35.4 degrees.
- Coldest day in Bourke for April 2024 was 7.6 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, 27 May 2024, be noted.

21.3 PLANNING, REGULATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 1102, 1322, 1059, 1165
Author: Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Development Approvals			
Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No.	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Delegated Authority	DA 2024/0001	Lot 64, DP 1027306 87 Sid Coleman Drive, North Bourke	Construction of Telecommunication Facility
Delegated Authority	DA 2024/0006	Lot 8, Section 93, DP 758144 123 Anson Street, Bourke	Installation of Manufactured Secondary Dwelling
Delegated Authority	DA 2024/0005	Lot 6773, DP 823889 2686 Mitchell Highway, Bourke	Construction of Telecommunication Facility
Total value of Approved works for April 2024			= \$531,000
No. of Development Application & Complying Development Approvals for April 2024			= 3

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

Animal Control		
Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	5	0
Seized Animals	7	0
Surrendered Animals	0	0
Total	12	0
Euthanised	3	0
Released from Pound	0	0
Rehomed/Adopted	0	0
Escaped from Pound	0	0
Died in Pound	0	0
Animals Remaining at End of Month	9	0
Total	9	0
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	21	

- Attended complaints in regard to dogs causing trouble to the general public
- Ongoing patrols of the township enforcing the Companion Animal Act
- Water sampling for the township, villages and Darling river, as required
- Patrols of Councils Reserves

Recommendation

That the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding Planning, Regulatory and Environmental Services Activity, as presented to Council on Monday, 27th May 2024, be noted.

21.4 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 4170
Author: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Authoriser: Leonie Brown, General Manager
Attachments: Nil

Current Situation

Relevant activity by the General Manager for the month of April 2024, including meetings and discussions with external organisations, were as follows:

Day	Date	Meeting	Location
Wednesday	03/04/2024	Spoke with General Manager Brewarrina	Phone discussion
Wednesday	03/04/2024	Attended lunch with Board of Local Heath District	Bourke Hospital
Thursday	04/04/2024	Attended North Bourke Drainage Workshop	Council Chambers
Thursday	04/04/2024	Attended meeting with RDA and Gascoyne Development Commission Carnarvon	Webinar
Thursday	04/04/2024	Spoke with Alistair Ferguson	Phone discussion
Friday	05/04/2024	Attended Jimmy Rice's Funeral	Anglican Church
Sunday	07/04/2024	Travelled to Forbes to attend Country Mayors meeting	Forbes
Monday and Tuesday	08/04/2024 and 09/04/2024	Attended County Mayors meeting in Forbes	Forbes
Tuesday	09/04/2024	Met with Minister Rose Jackson	Forbes
Wednesday	10/04/2024	Spoke with Inspector Peter Walton – NSW Police	Phone discussion
Thursday	11/04/2024	Attended Barwon Darling Bushfire Management Committee Meeting	RFS Headquarters – North Bourke
Friday	12/04/2024	Attended Border Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) Meeting	Video-Link
Saturday	13/04/2024	Attended Noorama Races	Noorama
Monday	13/04/2024	Attended Roundtable re Drought Project - FNWJO	Video-Link
Monday – Wednesday	15/04/2024 to 17/04/2024	Along with the Mayor attended the Murray Barling Basin Authority (MDBA) Summit	Sydney
Thursday	18/04/2024	Attended handover of new Rural Fire Service Truck	RFS Headquarters – North Bourke
Friday	19/04/2024	Spoke with Alistair Ferguson	Phone discussion
Friday	19/04/2024	Spoke with Josh Black re visit to Bourke by Stephen Lawrence MLC	Phone discussion
Monday	22/04/2024	Attended Council Meeting	Council Chambers
Monday	22/04/2024	Along with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, met with Stephen Lawrence MLC	Council Chambers

Monday	22/04/2024	Attended meeting with Alister Ferguson	Conference Room
Monday	22/04/2024	Spoke with Gerry Collins, Department of Regional NSW	Phone discussion
Tuesday	23/04/2024	Attended Country Mayors webinar	Video-Link
Wednesday	24/04/2024	Spoke with Superintendent Gerard Lawson – NSW Police	Phone discussion
Thursday	25/04/2024	Attended Dawn and 11am Service for Anzac Day	Cenotaph

“From the General Manager’s Desk” columns, which appear in the Western Herald Newspaper during April 2024, are provided below.

4 April 2024

Easter Festival

Another most successful Bourke Easter Festival has come and gone, and I take the opportunity to thank both the Council staff and the many members of the community who assisted and participated in the various activities over the weekend. I had a sense that the weekend would be another success when I saw the high number of nominations that had been received for the five (5) race program of the Back O’ Bourke Picnic Race Club meeting held on Easter Sunday. From the official opening of the Percy Hobson Mural on Good Friday through to the final river cruise of the Jandra for the Easter weekend on Easter Monday afternoon, the myriad of activities on offer for the weekend were all very well attended.

It’s difficult to pick a highlight for the weekend and after much consideration I still couldn’t decide on one particular event. Notwithstanding, a sold out Long Table Dinner, the Markets and Vintage Car Display, the Wool Bale Rolling, the Rugby games, the happy faces on the many children at the Giant Easter Egg Hunt, and the large crowd of attendees at the Harry Hart Memorial Picnic Races, would all be part of the list.

Percy Hobson Mural

As part of his speech in officially opening the Percy Hobson Water Tower Mural and Park on Easter Friday, Mayor Barry reflected on the excitement in Bourke when Percy Hobson in 1961 broke the state high jump record that had stood for almost three decades and then again, 12 months later when Percy won the High Jump Gold Medal at the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games held in Perth. In 1961 it was reported that a “brass band and hundreds of people singing *For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow*” met him at the Bourke railway station, with a banner stretched along the platform which read, ‘*Congratulations Percy.*’ Following his success at the Games, history reports that Percy’s win was wildly celebrated in Bourke and then a welcome home at the airport, a victory procession, and subsequently, a park named in his honour and a feature in the visitors’ centre. Mayor Barry recalled his own excitement when on Wednesday 21 April 2021, he was driving back from Broken Hill listening to the live crosses on 2WEB as the Bourke community took the opportunity to visit the mural and leave their handprints on the John Murray painted water tower.’

The Mayor noted that on his arrival back to Bourke that afternoon, people were still filing through and making their mark on the mural with their handprints. He stated that you could feel the

excitement in the air. Most of us can only imagine the level of excitement in Bourke back in 1961 and 1962 as the community celebrated the achievements of Percy Hobson.

Anzac Day

With Anzac Day for 2024 rapidly approaching, the Bourke Shire Library has advised that there will be an Anzac Day display in the library from 22 April till 4 May 2024. The display will feature information and newspaper articles on Bourke servicemen and women from the World Wars. Regardless of whether or not you had relatives who fought in these Wars, the display will no doubt be worth visiting.

On the topic of Anzac Day, I recently saw ANZAC Day written in capitals and got to thinking what the correct way is to write the word. Is it Anzac or is it a capitalised ANZAC? As most readers would be aware, ANZAC is an acronym which comes from the initial letters of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Following a google search, I found a definitive document from the Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) titled "Use of the word "Anzac" Guidelines. It states that "there is no rule or law that indicates how the word 'Anzac' should be capitalised. For example, DVA only uses 'ANZAC' when referencing the ANZAC Corps itself and uses 'Anzac' in all other circumstances while the Australian War Memorial (AWM) generally uses 'ANZAC' given the AWM's focus on historical records and memorabilia." Accordingly, from this information, it would be Anzac Day. Interesting.

Youth Crime

I wrote last week that the NSW Premier, the Hon Chris Minns, was proposing legislation to make it harder for teenagers to get bail and criminalise "posting and boasting" about offences on social media. The proposed legislation would see the Bail Act changed to include an extra test for 14 to 18 year olds charged with committing certain serious break and enter or motor vehicle theft offences while on bail for the same offences and seeking further bail. The new legislation was passed by the NSW Government during an all-night session on Thursday 21 March through to Friday morning, 22 March 2024. I happened to be in Sydney for a meeting of the Country Mayors Association on the Friday morning, which was held at Parliament House, Sydney. There were certainly many bleary eyed members of Parliament to be seen. To their credit, all the Members of Parliament who had previously been arranged to address the Country Mayors Meeting, fulfilled their obligation despite having had no sleep the night before.

The BIG discussion point at the Country Mayors meeting was the announcement by the Premier on Wednesday 20 March 2024 that community safety in regional and rural communities would be the subject of a NSW Parliamentary Inquiry. Initially proposed by the NSW Country Mayors Association, the Committee on Law and Safety will undertake the inquiry and report back to Parliament in February 2025. The adopted Terms of Reference will see the Committee inquire into:

(a) the drivers of youth crime across regional and rural NSW, particularly since the COVID pandemic;

(b) how a whole of government approach can reduce the drivers and root causes of youth crime in regional and rural NSW;

(c) the wraparound and diversionary services available for youth and families in the regions and rural areas and how they can be better matched to individuals, measured, improved and

integrated into a coordinated approach to divert youth from crime, having regard to the NSW Government's commitment to working in partnership with Aboriginal people;
(d) staffing levels and workforce issues, including police staffing, in regional and rural areas and how services can be improved to reduce youth crime in these areas;
(e) recidivism rates in regional and rural areas, and related impacts on the community, services and law enforcement;
(f) the range of functions being performed by NSW police officers, including mental health assistance and youth welfare, on behalf of other agencies in regional and rural areas, and the supports required to assist police; and
(g) any other related matter.

Council will certainly be preparing and lodging a submission with submissions closing on 31 May 2024. I would encourage any member of the Bourke community who has experienced youth crime, is concerned about the level of youth crime or wishes to make comment regarding the services that are provided to youth, to have their say. All the required information can be sourced from:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=3042#tab-members>

Operational Plan Exhibition

The Council as elected in December 2021 has previously adopted its Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Asset Management Policy, Strategy and Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Workforce Plan. To deliver the objectives of these various documents, the Local Government Act provides that an Operational Plan must be adopted by the Council annually. The Operational Plan is local government speak for an annual budget.

Council at its meeting held on 25 March 2024 adopted its 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan for the purposes of it being exhibited for public comment prior to any adoption of a final document. Councils' adoption of the draft comes after an earlier workshop with Councillors to allow staff to present and discuss the Plan with them. From the Council meeting, Council resolved that the Plan and associated documentation, such as its proposed fees and charges, be exhibited from Thursday, 28 March 2024 until 9.00am Thursday, 25 April 2024. The Plan is available for viewing at Councils Website (www.bourke.nsw.gov.au) with a copy also available at the Council offices in Mitchell St, Bourke. Council is required to have considered any submissions received prior to adopting its annual Operational Plan. Such considerations will take place when a report on submissions is presented to Councils 27 May 2024 Ordinary Meeting.

Quote: "At this time, I am also thinking of all those whose lives have been affected by cancer. For everyone facing this disease, in whatever form, please do not lose faith or hope. You are not alone." - Princess Kate, announcing her own battle with cancer.

11 April 2024

Submissions Invited

As I mentioned in last week's Column, Council's 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan is currently on exhibition for public comment prior to any adoption of a final document. The draft Operational

Plan includes Council's annual budget and associated documentation including its Revenue Policy and Schedule of Fees and Charges. The Revenue Policy sets out Councils annual rating structure and its approach to setting fees as listed in the Schedule of Fees and Charges. The documents are available for viewing at Councils Website (www.bourke.nsw.gov.au) with a copy also available at the Council offices in Mitchell St, Bourke.

Submissions on the draft are open until 4.30pm on Friday, 26 April 2024. Submissions may be made in writing addressed to the General Manager, Bourke Shire Council, PO Box 21, Bourke NSW or by email to: bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au Council is required to consider any submissions received prior to adopting its annual Operational Plan. Such considerations will take place when a report on submissions is presented to Councils 27 May 2024 Ordinary Meeting.

Council has also gone to the Bourke community seeking submissions on a proposal to name the cricket ground at North Bourke, "The Neville Simpson Memorial Sports Ground." Following the passing of Mr Simpson in February 2023, Council late last year received a petition signed by 118 people requesting the name change. The petition noted that the Late Mr Simpson was a highly respected Bourke resident who demonstrated a strong dedication to the Bourke community through-out his very long life.

Submissions on the naming proposal, closing at midday on Wednesday, 17 April 2024, may be made in writing addressed to the General Manager, Bourke Shire Council, PO Box 21, Bourke NSW or by email to: bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au

Member for Parkes

I was disappointed to learn that the Federal Member for Parkes, the Hon Mark Coulton MP, will not be contesting the seat at the next federal election. Since being elected to Parliament in November 2007, Mark has been re-elected on five occasions at federal elections held in 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022. During his various terms as a local member, Mark has held various Parliamentary Party Positions (including the National Party's Whip in the House of Representatives) and served on numerous Parliamentary Committees. He was the Assistant Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (5.3.2018 to 29.5.2019); Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government (9.5.2019 to 6.2.2020); Assistant Minister for Trade and Investment (29.5.2019 to 6.2.2020) and Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government (6.2.2020 to 2.7.2021). In addition, at one point, he was the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. Despite these various roles, I have found Mark to be most receptive and attentive to issues raised by Council. He has been a regular visitor to our town.

Whilst I can understand Mark's reasoning for retirement, his efforts during his time as our local member have been considerable. Mark was to the forefront in assisting Council obtain significant funding for infrastructure works at the new Bourke Abattoir. His faith in the project, whilst undoubtedly tested at times, has certainly been repaid, with Thomas Foods International now successfully operating the facility, to the benefit of Bourke Shire and the western region. His assistance in advocating for small towns and progressing opportunities for remote shires to seek and obtain grant funding has been most appreciated.

The seat of Parkes covers a massive area of some 393,000 km². When travelling, Mark was most often accompanied by his wife Robyn, which I always thought was good to see. I am certain that

neither Robyn or Mark won't miss spending another day of travelling the long and lonely roads throughout the Parkes electorate, and beyond, once the next Federal election is held at some point in the next 18 months.

Drug Use

I recently read that New South Wales residents consume almost as much cocaine as that consumed in all other states and territories in Australia, combined. This information is as per the findings from the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commissions (ACIC) National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Program, which analysed sewage samples from 62 treatment plants across Australia, including plants at regional localities. Through the extrapolation of data from the wastewater results, cocaine use peaked in 2019/2020 across the nation when it was estimated that some 5.675 tonnes of the drug was consumed. It dropped to 3.385 tonnes in 2021/2022, with an estimated 4.037 tonnes consumed in 2022/2023. ACIC estimates that cocaine was part of an estimated \$12.7 billion spent by Australians on cocaine, cannabis, heroin, methamphetamine and MDMA in 2022/2023.

I suspect that cocaine usage will be reduced in the current financial year as a result of numerous media reports of cocaine 'bricks' being washed up on east coast beaches in recent months. Over the Easter weekend, it was reported in the media, that "another five 'bricks' of cocaine worth almost \$1 million have been washed up on Sydney beaches, the latest in a string of wayward drug parcels that have bobbed up in the past four months." More than 250 kilograms of cocaine has been found since the beachside cocaine discoveries began on December 22, when a package was initially found at Magenta Beach on the Central Coast. More packages were subsequently found at Manly and North Steyne, as well as Blacksmiths Beach, Pelican Beach, Pantaloon Bay around Lake Macquarie and Avoca Beach on the Central Coast. Larger packages of nearly 40 kilograms each were also found at Barrenjoey, Newcastle's Ocean Baths, Botany and North Bondi Beach. At this point Police are unsure as to whether the packages were thrown overboard or "attached to the hull of a cargo vessel." All these numbers are certainly staggering and reflect a big issue in society.

Tigers

After a most busy, and successful Bourke Easter Festival, I was happy to sit down and relax somewhat on late Easter Monday afternoon and watch the Tigers play Parramatta in the final game of the Easter Round of rugby league. As a long time Tigers supporter, I have to be honest and confess that I wasn't expecting a win over the Parramatta Eels. Such a win would mean back-to-back wins, which the Rugby League statisticians noted would mark the first time since round 3, 2020 that the Tigers would have achieved more wins than loses, by going 2-1 up for the season. At 6-6 at half time, I thought the Tigers were going okay. However, when one of the Tigers was sin-binned for 10 minutes in the second half, I thought the team's chances of a big upset win were quickly evaporating.

To their credit the Tigers defended well during the time of being a player down. When the previously sin-binned Tigers player broke through the Parramatta defence to offload to a support player to score next to the posts, and then a subsequent field goal, to take the lead, I was full of cheer. As quickly as I was up, I was bought back to reality when Parramatta was awarded a penalty within kicking distance, effectively right on full time. My mind quickly went back to past occasions where the Tigers have lost on the bell after getting to the lead. Thankfully, the Parramatta player hooked the kick with victory to the Tigers. With the Tigers getting to sing the team song for a

second week in a row, it was pleasing to see that after this week's victory, the Tigers players did not need the words on a piece of paper to their new team song, which was the case last week. In the past 19 years the Tigers have made the finals on two (2) occasions, back in 2010 and 2011. I don't see the Tigers winning the competition in 2024, however they were certainly full of energy and a different team to what past seasons have shown. Go coach Benji!

Youth Crime

Bourke unfortunately made the national news over the Easter Period when it was reported that according to NSW Police Deputy Commissioner, Paul Pisanos that "In Bourke.....we had a five (5) year old child with two 12-year old children breaking into a property and stealing a car." I have lived in this region basically my whole life, and during that time I have never heard of such behaviour from such a young child. I find the report very sad and am fearful for the welfare of all these children as allegedly involved.

Quote: "Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; truth isn't." – American writer, Mark Twain.

18 April 2024

Country Mayors Regional Meeting

I am preparing this Column whilst in Forbes attending the initial regional meeting for 2024 of the NSW Country Mayors Association. With a wide array of Federal and State Ministers and Departmental Officers in attendance, it was great to hear from speakers who are at the "coal face" of their respective portfolio of responsibility. I was able to meet with the NSW Minister for Water, the Hon Rose Jackson and give her a quick overview of Councils concerns regarding the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Waters (DCCEW) "Reconnecting the Northern Basin Project." Such concerns were the subject of a Mayoral Minute submitted to the March 2024 Council meeting. In respect of such matter, Council resolved to write to Minister Jackson, "expressing its disappointment as to what it views as inadequate consultation in respect of the Louth Weir Fishway and Weir Project and further request a review of proposals for the removal of weirs along the Barwon Darling river system and the installation of fishways that result in reductions in the height of current weirs within the river system." Time did not permit a comprehensive discussion on the matter, however the Minister advised that she was happy to meet with the Mayor and I at a time when we are in Sydney. Minister Jackson provided me with one of her business cards and on return to Bourke, I will be pursuing such a meeting.

As part of the regional meeting, a tour of Forbes and surrounds was provided. This included a visit to the Moxey Dairy Farm located southeast of Forbes. This 4,750-ha dairy farm is the largest single site dairy in Australia, milking 8,500 cows which produce 40 litres of milk per cow per day. These numbers equate to 340,000 litres of milk per day or an annual production of 121 million litres. It is a massive operation with feed requirements including 60,000 tonnes of corn silage, 30,000 tonnes of cereal silage and 20,000 tonnes of lucerne silage per annum. From an economic development perspective for the Forbes Shire, the dairy is a most important business which not only provides jobs for the community but also a business which invests heavily in capital improvements to progress its efficiencies. Agricultural related businesses are so important for regional localities. This is also exemplified in Bourke with the successful operation of the Thomas Foods International

(TFI) Small Stock Abattoir. Like the Moxey operation, the TFI operation provides employment opportunities for local residents with TFI also investing heavily in the future of the plant.

Road Safety

National Road Safety Week 2024 will be held from Sunday 5 May to Sunday 12 May 2024. The purpose of the week is to raise awareness about the importance of road safety in NSW and in turn seek to reduce the number of serious injuries and fatalities on our roads. The main theme of the week is *all road safety is local*. The release of recent figures from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOSCAR) regarding drug driving show, that as a society, we obviously still have a long way to go in terms of road safety and reducing the death toll.

In this regard BOSCAR has reported that the number of drivers detected using drugs before jumping into a vehicle had doubled between 2018 and 2022 - from 8,700 detections in 2018 to 17,792 drug detentions in 2022 .

The statistics actually get worse. TfNSW figures show that some 24% of road deaths in NSW (equivalent to 79 deaths) involve a driver who has a presence of illegal drugs in their system. This compares to 17% of fatalities that involve drivers with alcohol. Roadside drug tests can detect the presence of cannabis (marijuana), cocaine, methamphetamine (ice) and MDMA with the presence of cannabis and methamphetamine being the most detected drugs. It has been reported that one (1) in every six (6) roadside drug tests conducted by Police has resulted in an illegal drug detection compared to the one (1) in 230 breath tests that result in a positive reading for alcohol. Men are the worst offenders in terms of drug driving offences, with drivers in regional locations being the worst offenders. Unfortunately, the data shows that the highest rate of drug driving is in the Far West/Orana, the Riverina, and the Southern Highlands regions.

I find these figures regarding drug driving simply staggering, especially when you consider the amount of money spent over the years to reduce incidents of drink driving. For us people in the Far West of the State who travel long distances on roads with speeds of up to 110 kilometre/hour, you really must wonder what state of awareness the driver coming at you, from the opposite direction, is actually in? I look forward to increased drug testing and increased penalties to push the message home.

Regional Crime Inquiry Submissions

I have previously advised of the NSW Government's inquiry into Community Safety in Regional and Rural Communities. The Inquiry seeks to address the dangerous increase in crime in regional and rural areas across the state. With crime statistics showing that there is a disproportionate level of crime in regional and rural NSW, when compared to metropolitan areas, the opportunity now exists for community members to bring the full extent of the issue to the attention of the State Government by making a submission to the Inquiry.

Unfortunately, in Bourke there will be numerous community members with a lived experience in respect of crime. It is important that these residents have a say in respect of the crime issue and at the same time, provide any suggestions they have about how to stop the severity and instances of crime. Whether you have been impacted by crime, know someone who has, whether you work or have previously worked in related services, or come from another state or country that has implemented great working strategies, you are requested to make your voice heard.

The deadline for submissions to the “Community Safety in Regional and Regional Communities Inquiry” is 31 May 2024. Further details regarding the Inquiry and the submission process are available from the NSW Parliament web site as follows:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=3042>

Bourke Shire Roads

Council’s road crews and contractors have been very busy preparing Toorale Road (RLR 10) for an additional 5 kilometre of seal on this road, from Louth towards Trilby. The actual sealing of this section of road is planned to take place mid-April, around the time of the release of this Column.

Emergency road works which were required following from the January 2024 storm event have now been completed on RLR 10 between Nulty and Toorale. Given the completion of these works, the Council Crews are proceeding to the Louth-Cobar Road (MR 407) to undertake repairs to this road.

Following the receipt of funding from the NSW Government under the Road Maintenance Council Contracts (RMCC) program, works on the Mitchell Highway (SH7) North Bourke to Enngonia, are also underway with sealing of these works expected in coming days.

No Fluoride in Water

Following a directive from NSW Health to various rural and remote NSW councils, residents are notified that the Bourke filtered water supply is not currently fluoridated. Councils’ fluoride plant failed back in 2016. At that time Council was in the throes of planning to build its new water treatment plant. The decision was taken at the time not to expend funds on repairing an old dosing system, so fluoride was no longer added. With the building of the new water treatment plant, a new fluoride dosing machine has been included as part of the new build and Council is now waiting for that component of the new plant to be commissioned in consultation with the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water.

This involves seeking all new approvals and following stringent protocols overseen by NSW Health when Council ultimately re-commences adding fluoride to the Bourke water supply. It’s quite a complicated process, but hopefully it won’t be too far off, and we’ll have fluoride back in the Bourke filtered water supply.

Quote: “It was relief and then it was just, ‘yes she’s ours’ and she does stay here and if we’re lucky enough she can be a racehorse it’ll be in Australia, and she can start off in Australia.” – An elated Debbie Kepitis after staying off bidders and providing a winning bid of \$10m to purchase a thoroughbred filly out of the legendry racehorse, Winx.

25 April 2024

ANZAC Day

I have no doubt that today’s Dawn Service and ANZAC Day Service in Bourke will once again see a strong level of participation from our community, as we recognise the heroics and bravery that was shown by our first ANZAC’s.

Despite being widely described as an ill-fated campaign, it was before dawn on 25 April 1915, when the first soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps landed on the shores of the Gallipoli peninsula. The Allies' mission was to destroy Turkish guns that were preventing naval ships from reaching and bombarding the Turkish capital, Constantinople. If they succeeded, Turkey might be forced out of the war and Germany would lose an important ally. Some 2000 Australians were killed or wounded on 25 April. At Anzac Cove, the Australians were the first to land. The New Zealanders followed later in the day. They advanced about a mile in some places, less in others, but they could go no further. For the next eight months, the campaign was a stalemate. In December, the Anzacs were evacuated. By then, about 8700 Australians and almost 2700 New Zealanders had been killed. They were some of at least 130,000 soldiers on both sides who lost their lives at Gallipoli.

Anzac Day is certainly not about glorifying war. Rather, ANZAC Day was initially instigated to give people a chance to honour the original Anzacs – the Australians and New Zealanders who fought on Gallipoli. It then became a day for those who had served in the First World War. With Australians experiencing the Second World War, and wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations that have followed, Anzac Day has become an occasion to honour all who have worn our country's uniform in service. Today, we reflect on that service. We recognise more than a hundred thousand Australian service men and women who have lost their lives in military operations carried out in our country's name. We honour the values that have been invested in the original Anzacs – loyalty, selflessness, courage – and the ways in which later generations have measured their own achievements against those of the soldiers who fought on Gallipoli. Lest We Forget.

Regional Development Australia – Orana

I was recently talking to a rather excited CEO of Regional Development Australia (RDA) – Orana, Justine Campbell, who was telling me of their success in lobbying the Federal Government to provide access to more overseas workers above what the standard skilled migration program provides for. Her excitement stemmed from the basis that the Orana region, of which Bourke Shire is part of, will be able to better respond to its unique economic and labour market conditions.

Known as the Orana Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA), the DAMA is a formal agreement between RDA Orana and the Australian Government to provide access to overseas workers. This recently approved variation to the original Agreement, which has been in place since 2019, will see a geographical expansion that includes an additional 41 local government areas across inland NSW. Justine is confident that the variation will provide for the development and growth of regional NSW expanding to 129 occupations under the Orana DAMA, giving businesses across 53 local government areas in NSW access to a broader range of skilled workers. The Orana DAMA has been granted a geographical boundary extension to include the RDA regions of Riverina, Murray, Southern Inland and Central West with RDA Orana to remain as the Designated Area Representative (DAR) with dedicated DAMA officers in each of the four RDA regions. Whilst the priority for RDA Orana and the Australian Government is to firstly promote jobs for Australians, the DAMA allows employers who are unable to find suitably qualified Australians to supplement their workforce with overseas workers. If you are a Bourke business that is struggling to find suitably qualified staff, have a chat to RDA – Orana to discuss your employment options.

Cemetery Levy

Council has been advised that the NSW Government has recently announced that effective 1 July 2024, an interment services levy will be imposed on effectively all burials and cremations across the State. The levy is to fund the cost of the Government operating its regulatory organisation, Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW. The levy will be set at \$156 per burial, as in the case of cemeteries located in the Bourke Shire. In localities where cremations are available, the cost of the levy will be \$41 per cremation and \$63 per ash interment. The Levy will not apply to the interment of destitute people or children under the age of 12. Commencing from 1 July 2024, the levy will be calculated based on the number of services the operator performs each financial year. For Council as an operator, this will mean that its first payment will be made at the end of the 2024/2025 financial year and will be based on the number of services the operator performs from 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025.

Whilst Council is responsible for the payment of the levy, it will be necessary for the cost of such levy to be passed onto families of the deceased, thus increasing the cost of burials at Bourke Shire cemeteries. I will be reporting this matter to Council in May 2024 for inclusion in its 2024/2025 draft Operational Plan (inclusive of Councils Fees and Charges), which has been on exhibition over the past 28 days.

Climate and Water Outlook

It is noted that the Bureau of Meteorology has released its Climate and Water Long Range Forecast for the April-June 2024 period. Such outlook provides that southwest NSW is forecast for below median chance of rainfall whilst northern and eastern NSW are expected to receive median levels of rainfall. Near median and low flow is likely for sites across northeast NSW; high stream flow is likely for sites across southeast NSW; and warmer than usual days and nights are very likely for all of NSW.

The Bureau notes that El Nino continues to decline, with a “return to neutral conditions expected later in autumn 2024. Warm ocean temperatures persist around Australia with the Pacific Ocean conditions also expected to be neutral during autumn 2024.” A video in respect of the forecast is available at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/video>.

Total rural dam storage levels across the state are at 72% of the total accessible storage capacity, compared to 90% this time last year. Burrendong Dam is at 59% capacity whilst the Menindee Lakes are at 53% capacity. There are currently various red alert warnings for blue-green algae across the state, including along the Darling River (at Pooncarie) and on the Bogan River at the Nyngan Weir Pool.

Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy

I was never a fan of Queensland in State of Origin rugby league games, but I did admire Wally Lewis for his toughness, footballing skills and his ‘never say die’ attitude which seemed to bring the NSW Blues undone on numerous occasions in Origin games during the 1980’s and early 1990’s. People of my vintage would undoubtedly remember when Wally stood up to a rampaging Mark Geyer in 1991. No show of fear there. All that is a very distant past for Wally Lewis these days, following being diagnosed with the brain disorder, chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE). CTE is caused by repeated blows to the head which often triggers memory loss and the deterioration of

basic cognitive skills and behavioural issues. Whilst Wally can remember the details of a game from 1983, it is reported that he can have a brain fade and not remember where something is in his house.

CTE goes back to the 1920's when it was referred to as the "punch drunk syndrome." Obviously, medical science has learnt a lot about the disorder since those early days, but there is no doubt the disease mainly occurs in people who have played high impact sports. There is currently no cure for the disorder, however treatment is available to slow progression. Sport is an important part of our lifestyle, and it is pleasing that many sporting codes are making changes to their rules to essentially, save players from themselves.

Quote: "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them." – The Ode, from the poem "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon.

Recommendation

That the report of the General Manager regarding General Manager Activity for April 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

21.5 LIBRARY ACTIVITY REPORT

File Number: 2780
Author: Jodi Hatch, Library Manager
Authoriser: Melanie Milgate, Manager Economic Development
Attachments: Nil

Current Situation

The following items for the April 2023 and April 2024 period are presented for information.

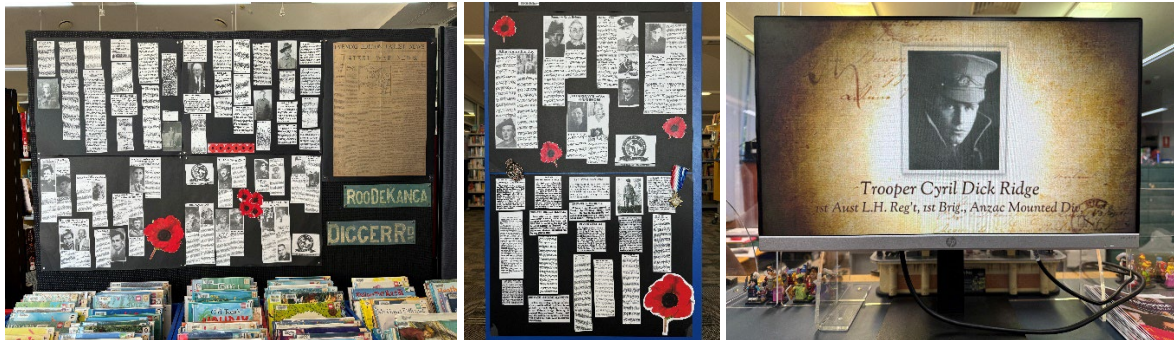
Item	April 2023	April 2024
Loans	604	679
New Members	10	9
Internet/Word Processing	56	39
Wireless Tickets	10	24
Number of Visitors	530	534
Scans	22	28
Information Requests	64	70
Technical Assistance / Printing	49	60
Faxes/ Laminating	4	5

- During the April school holidays the Library held a LEGO challenge. The children had a great time testing their skills in the various challenges, and the final was highly competitive, with some fantastic creations making the judging very difficult.





- An ANZAC Day display was available in the Library during the last two weeks of April. The display featured Bourke servicemen and women from the two world wars.



Recommendation

That the report of the Library Manager regarding Library Activity for the month of April 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, 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 April 2024
 2. BOBEC Website Statistics April 2024

Background

The Tourism and Events Report provides Council with a status report 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 April 2024, the Tourism and Events Team participated in the following activities:

Back O’ Bourke Information and Exhibition Centre

Performance Indicator	March 2024	April 2024	Trend	% Change
Visitor Numbers	1185	2117	+932	78.65%
Email Enquiries	707	769	+62	8.77%
Incoming Calls	580	599	+19	3.28%
Website Enquiries	2,397	2,493	+96	4.00%
Exhibition Tickets	130	409	+279	214.62%
PV Jandra Tickets	231	910	+679	294.00%
PV Jandra Cruises	8	55	+47	587.50%
Café Turnover (ex GST)	Closed for extensions			
Café Event Catering	2	2	N/C	0%
Functions	3	3	N/C	0%
Mt Oxley Tickets	30	95	+65	216.67%
Tour Groups	1	4	+3	300.00%

Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre (BOBEC)

BOBEC operated 7 days per week in April 2024 with hours from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

The Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre Garden staff were busy during April with mowing and cleaning areas of the centre. Maintenance continued around BOBEC, the Crossley engine and the Jandra.

The information Centre was busier in April with increased numbers of visitors and the Jandra running daily.

There were four (4) tour groups booked during April.

Café and Functions

Café renovations are progressing with a completion date expected towards the end of May 2024.

Catering continues to utilise the Function Centre kitchen. Staff catered for two (2) of the three (3) functions booked at the centre and two (2) breakfasts for tour groups, during April. Positive feedback has been received regarding the catering.

There were two (3) functions booked in April, 2 x 2 days and 1 x 2 days functions.

PV Jandra

The PV Jandra has operated daily during April with an impressive numbers of ticket sales.

Coach Bookings

There was one (1) tour group booking in March.

Crossley Engine

The Crossley engine was started every day throughout April. With the support of Bourke Shire Council depot staff the second engine is close to being operational.

Staff Training

There was no staff training during April.

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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	325	326	302	348	386	782	1109	816	603	609	699
Feb	271	373	391	220	282	1043	386	630	725	557	764
Mar	1051	1342	1612	1245	1274	1021	412	1389	1100	1006	1185
Apr	3146	3849	3118	3114	4024	3166	0	2387	2323	1709	2117
May	3988	4602	4073	3983	4770	3693	0	2564	2016	1713	
Jun	4275	5437	5199	4754	5634	4490	993	2366	2227	1971	
Jul	6241	6002	5941	5982	7614	6834	2570	1068	2998	2520	
Aug	4793	5078	4951	5051	5548	4052	1898	255	2557	2559	
Sep	4764	4489	4532	4246	4676	3601	3325	0	2203	2234	
Oct	2486	2370	2475	2463	3574	2222	5246	409	1094	1661	
Nov	671	610	1031	876	1014	1220	1989	866	710	1047	
Dec	242	272	281	255	630	860	1194	897	586	1099	
Total	32,253	34,750	33,906	32,537	39,454	32,984	19,122	13,647	19,142	18,685	

Events

Bourke’s BIG Auction - Tour De OROC

Bourke Shire Council welcomed several Tour de OROC riders and support staff back to Bourke in April. The members of the tour travelled to Bourke on Friday, 19 April 2024 to support the Big Auction planned by Council and the Bourke Rotary Club.

The night was a chance for the Bourke community to raise money for the Macquarie Home stay. Local business, residents and supporters of the Tour donated goods ranging from Weber BBQ's, furniture, Rugby League tickets, Bourke print, handbags and famous foods and drinks to the Bourke community.



Once again, the Bourke community got behind the auction and raised over \$15,000. Fund raising event such as these don't just happen, Council extends a word of thanks to Mr. Greg Seiler from Nutrient Ag Solutions, Bourke, who guided the crowd through the auction at the Bourke Bowling Club, as the auctioneer on the night.

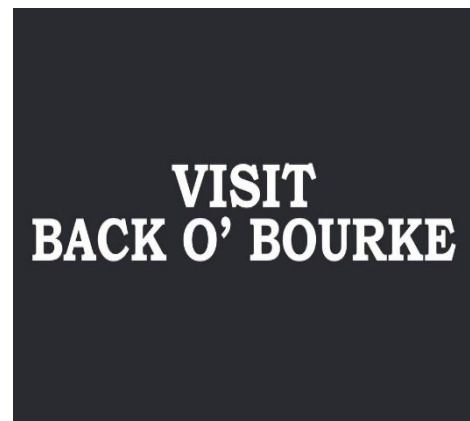
At the conclusion of the Auction the members of the Tour de OROC team could not believe that Bourke had yet again supported the cause to such a large extent through community engagement and funds.

Thank you again to those who contributed to the auction.

Regional Promotion

Back O' Bourke Little Black Book

Bourke Shire Council is inviting all tourism and hospitality businesses to be a part of the new Back O' Bourke Little Black Book and its continued development. The booklet has provided much needed exposure to visitor attractions and activities in the Bourke region. The quality of the booklet has seen it travel to all points of Australia and flown overseas as gifts for loved ones and friends to showcase our backyard and all its beauty.



As more and more Australians pursue the dream to explore "their backyard", the Back O' Bourke region is set for another major boost in visitor numbers.

Bourke and surrounding villages are major destinations with travellers who are wanting to stay a little longer and immerse themselves in local activities and events. To ensure local businesses can capitalise on visitors to the region, tourism and events material such as the book and brochures are critical for keeping travellers to our region informed.

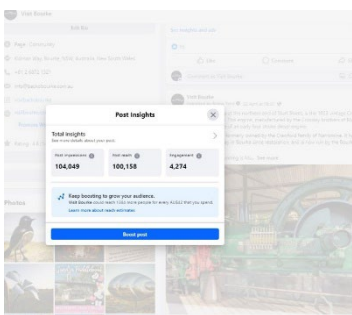
All existing and new tourism and hospitality operators have been invited to be involved in the second edition of the Back O' Bourke book. Council understands each tourism or hospitality operator offers a different experience and undertakes many activities across the visitor spectrum. With this in mind, staff continue to ensure all operators, both large and small, are catered for. This will be achieved through a three (3) tiered pricing structure for NEW and EXISTING advertisers based on their individual business needs.

Each tier includes.

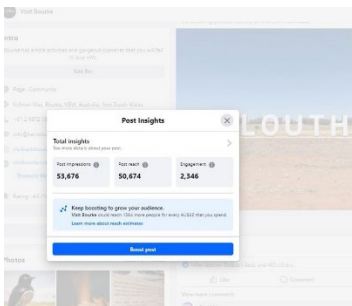
EXISTING ADVERTISER NO CHANGES TO DESIGN			NEW ADVERTISER INCLUDING DESIGN FEE / EXISTING ADVERTISER WITH CHANGES TO ORIGINAL DESIGN			
Tier 3	Full Page Ad	\$880	Price includes GST	Tier 3	Full Page Ad	\$1030
Tier 2	Half Page Ad	\$660		Tier 2	Half Page Ad	\$770
Tier 1	Quarter Page Ad	\$440		Tier 1	Quarter Page Ad	\$530

Content is the most important element, in products such as the “Little Black Book from Bourke” and will be crucial in ensuring the effectiveness of the new book. Council will be working closely with local designer, Laura Gillard, to produce the booklet.

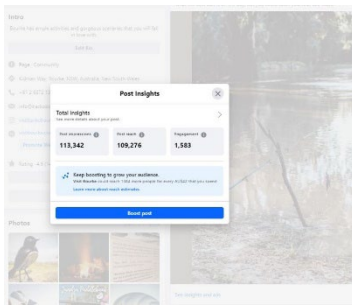
Back O’ Bourke – Promotional Engagement



The Back O' Bourke Information and Exhibition Centre tourism team work hard to keep visitors updated on available activities whilst they are staying within the Bourke Shire. The tourism team maintains 4 Facebook pages along with an Instagram page. These pages are managed and kept updated all year round, including in the off peak-season.



Post engagement includes actions that people take involving the post while they're running. These include engagement like post shares, post reactions, post saves and post comments. Recently a series of posts to the Visit Bourke Facebook page had a large number of social engagements.



The history and location of the Crossley Engine received 104,049 impressions, 100,158 post reach and over 4,200 engagements. A Village post regarding Louth received 53,676 impressions, 50,674 post reach and over 2,300 engagements. One last example is a post regarding recreational activities in and around the community eg; fishing, yabbing, bird watching etc. This post received 113,342 impressions, 109,276 post reach and over 1,538 people engaged with this post.

The new Visit Bourke website is brought to the attention of all visitors when they make enquiries via phone calls as well as emails. When visitors ask for information packs the Bourke Black Book is sent directly to an address provided, as well as any area and town maps that we have on hand.

Financial Implications

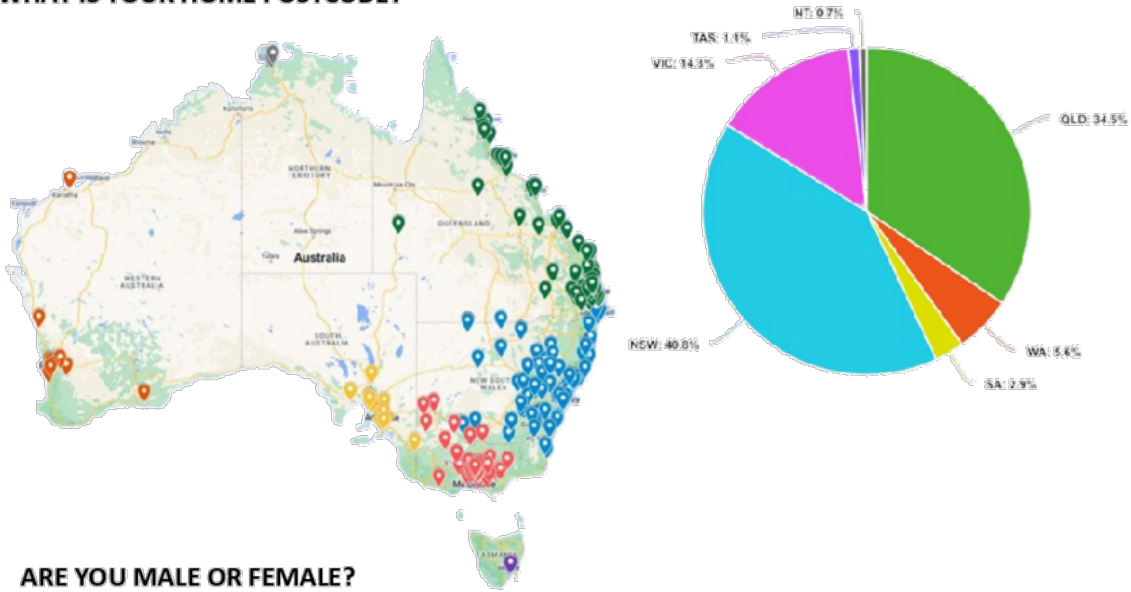
There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

That the report of the Coordinator Tourism regarding Tourism and Events Activity for April 2024, as presented to Council on Monday, 27 May 2024, be noted.

BOBEC Statistics April 2024

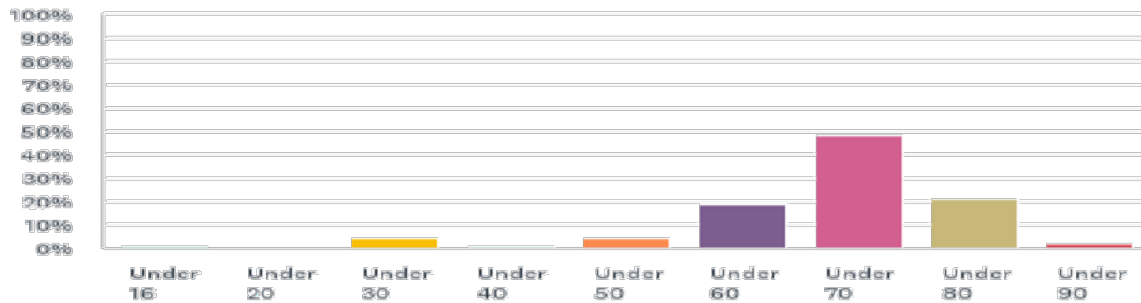
WHAT IS YOUR HOME POSTCODE?



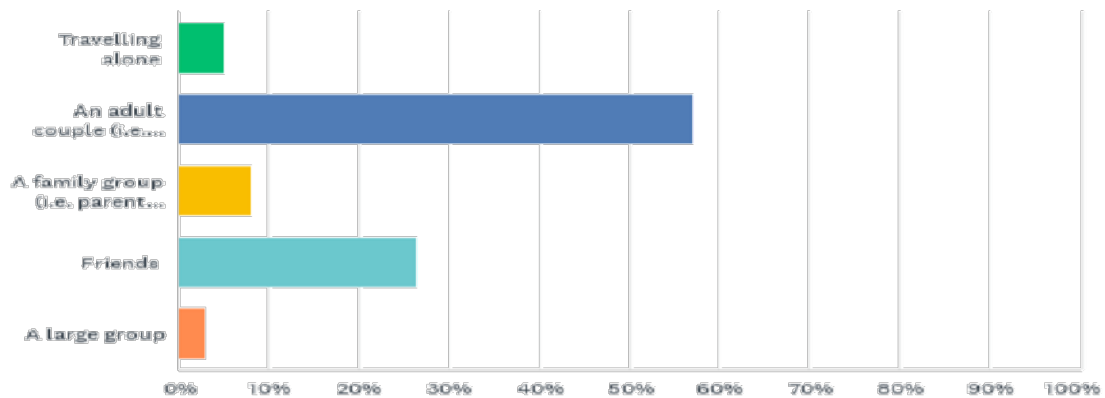
ARE YOU MALE OR FEMALE?



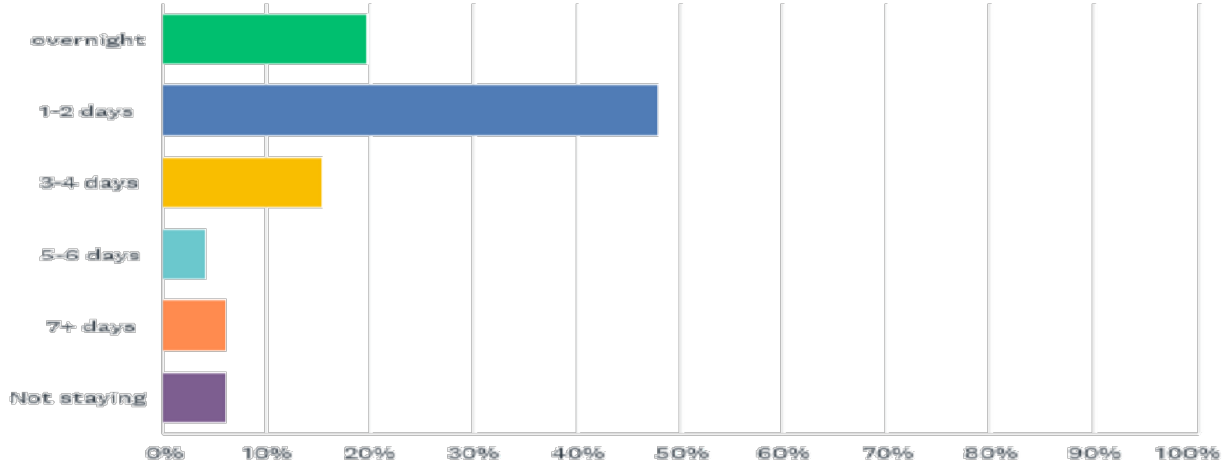
WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



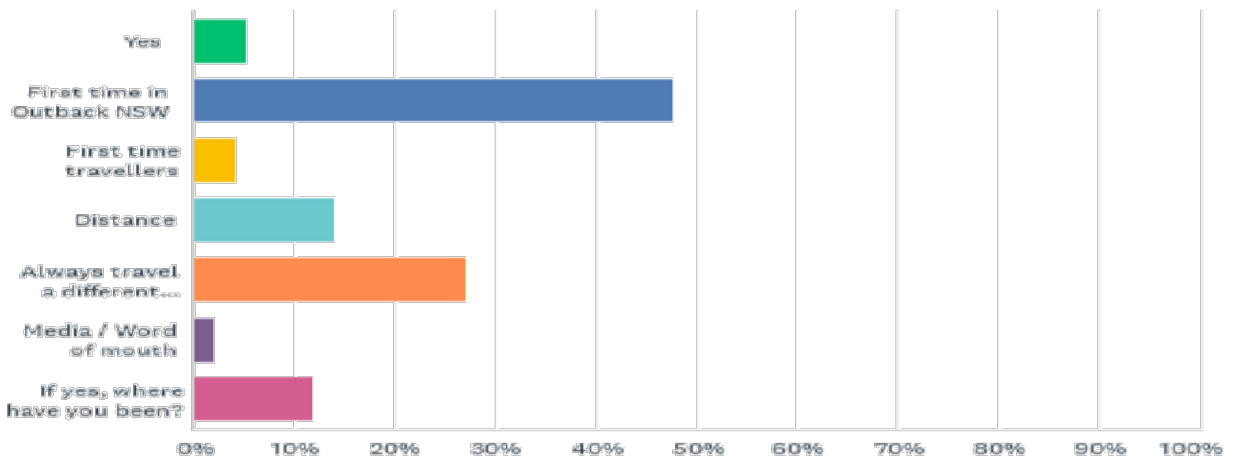
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR IMMEDIATE TRAVEL PARTY?



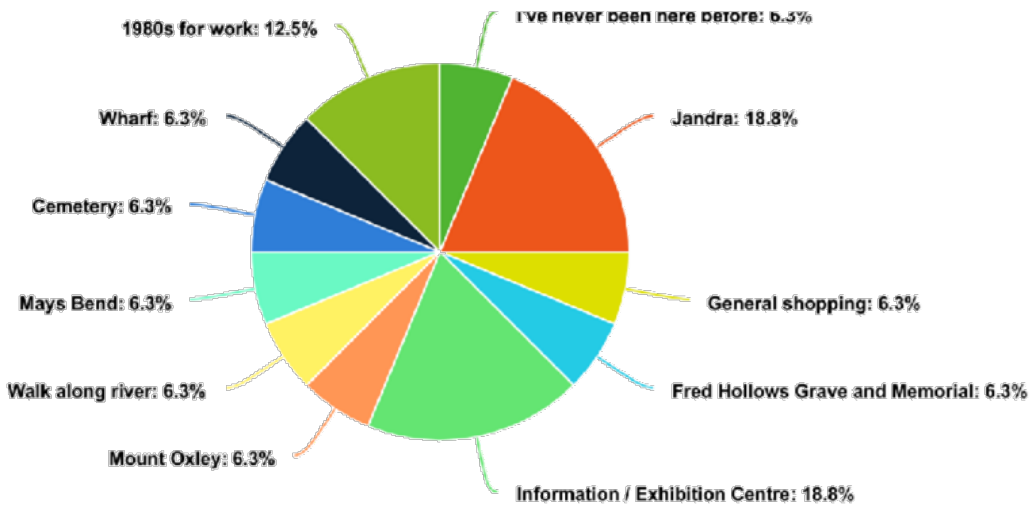
HOW LONG ARE YOU STAYING FOR?



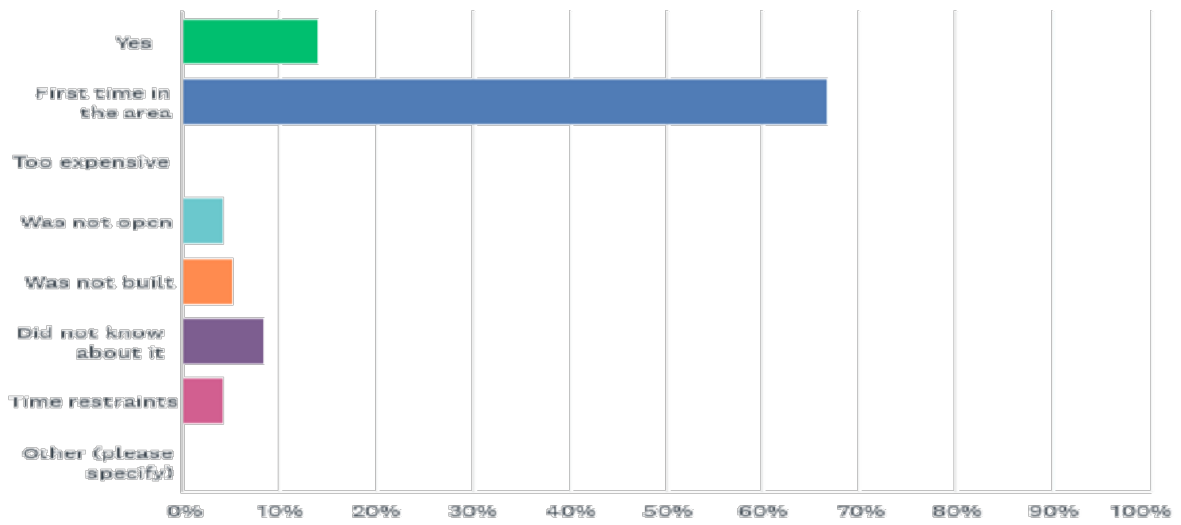
HAVE YOU BEEN TO BOURKE BEFORE?



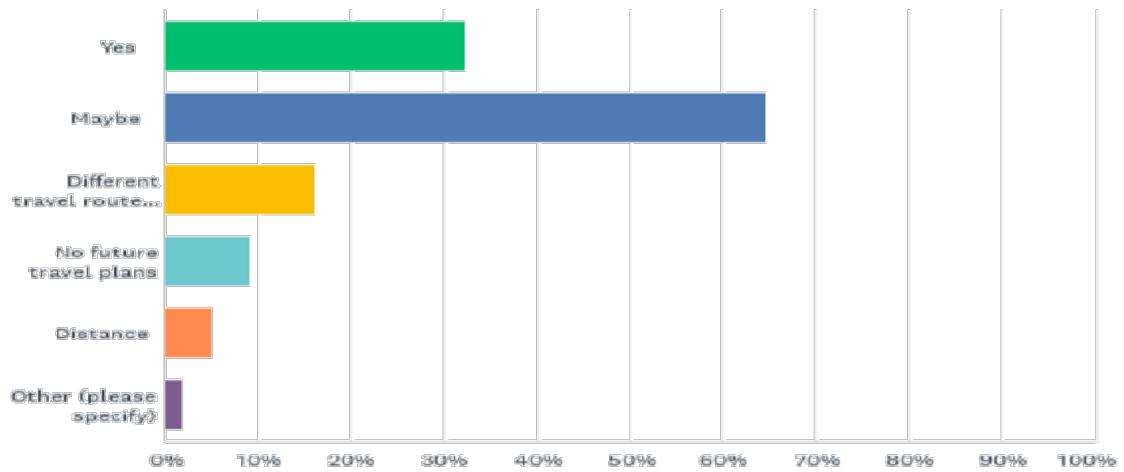
IF YES, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?



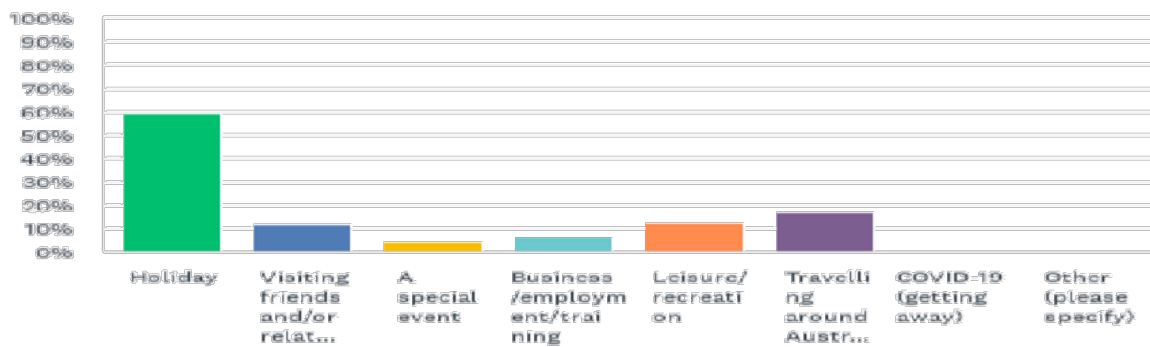
HAVE YOU BEEN THROUGH BACK O BOURKE CENTRE?



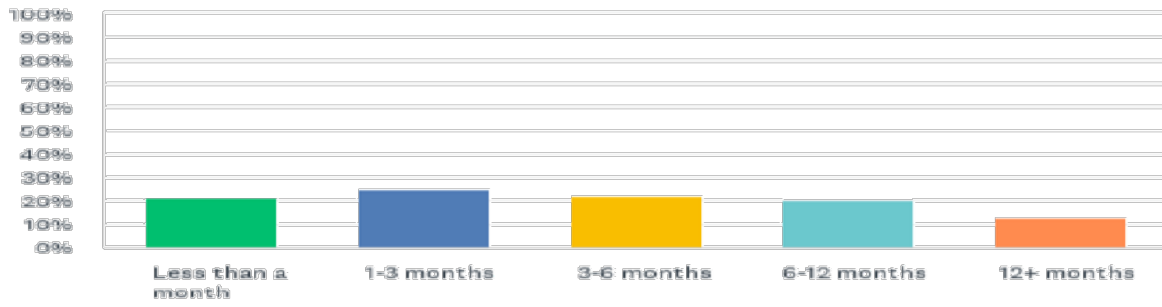
WILL YOU BE RETURNING TO BOURKE?



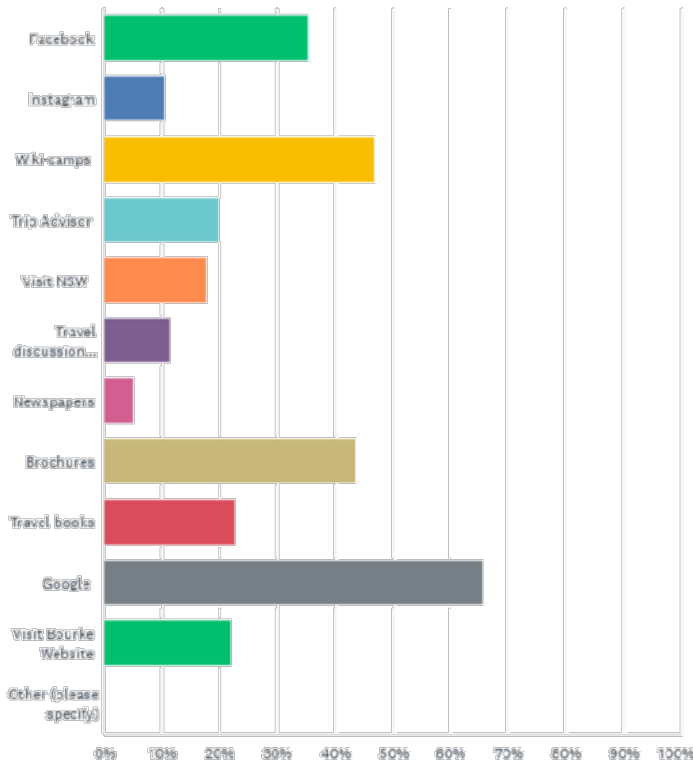
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP?



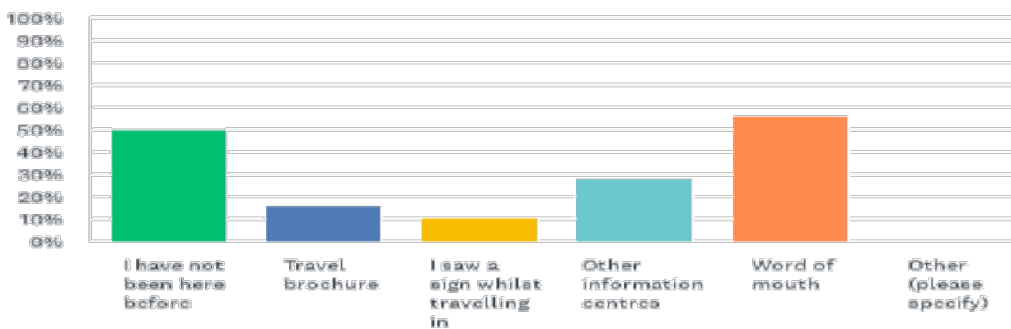
HOW LONG AGO DID YOU PLAN FOR THIS TRIP?



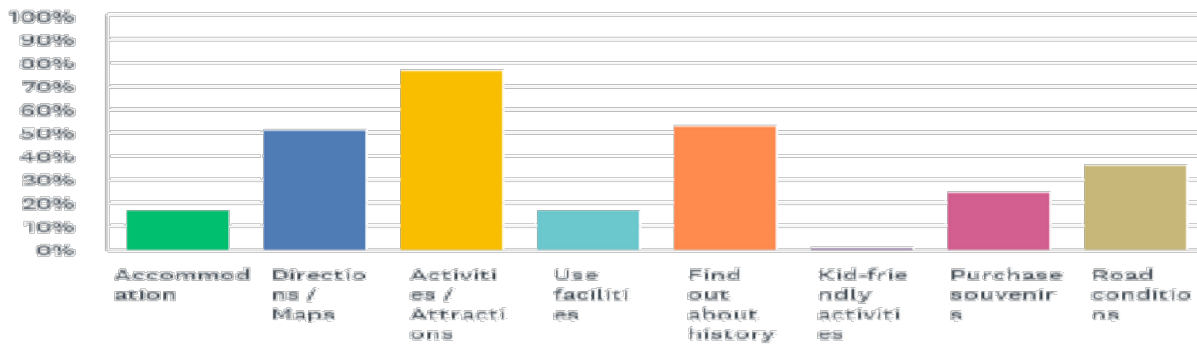
WHAT FORMS OF MEDIA DO YOU USE TO FIND INFORMATION?



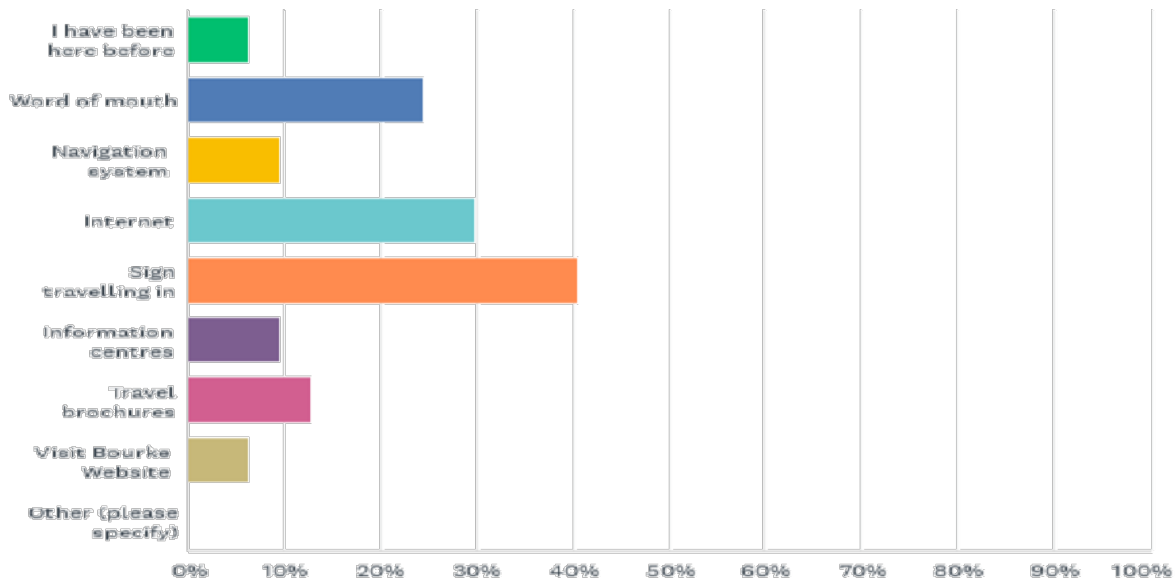
WHAT DETERMINES YOUR DECISION AS TO WHERE TO GO?



WHAT INFORMATION ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AT THE INFORMATION CENTRE?



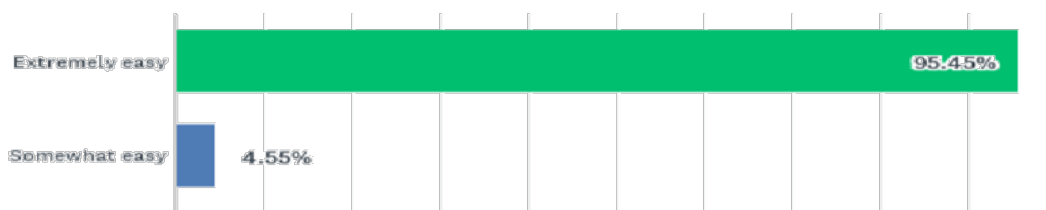
HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS INFORMATION CENTRE?



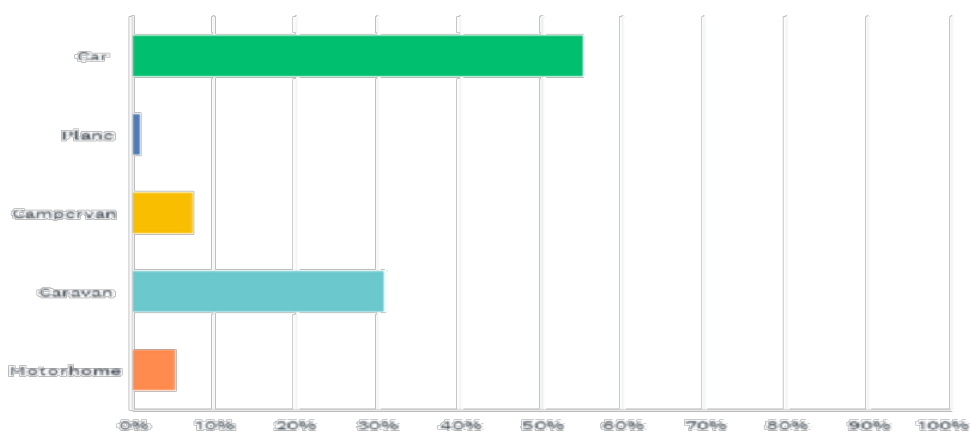
HOW DO YOU THINK THE INFORMATION THAT YOU GAINED FROM THE CENTRE MIGHT INFLUENCE HOW LONG YOU STAY AND THE ACTIVITIES YOU DO?



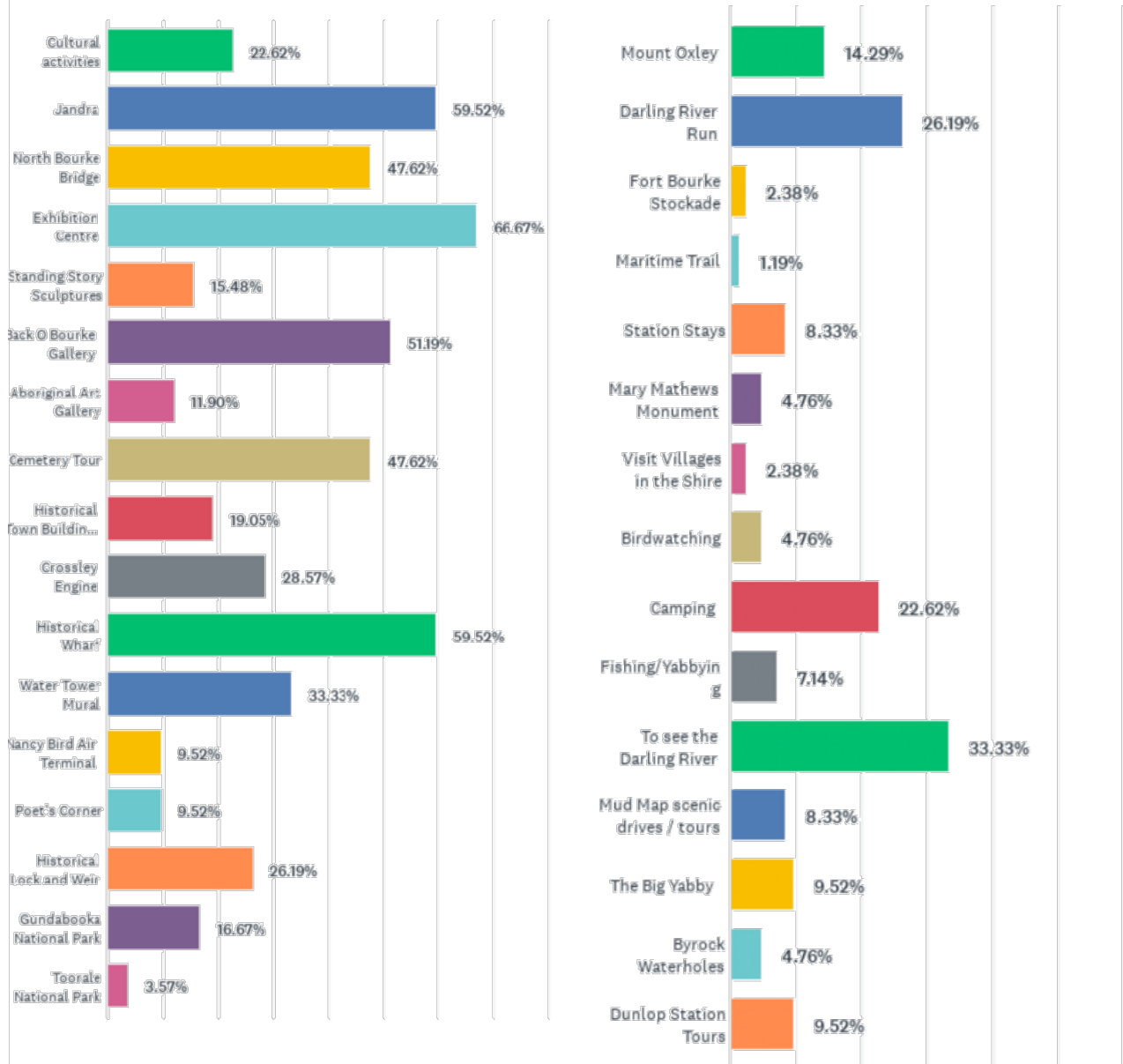
IN YOUR OPINION, HOW EASY WAS IT TO FIND OUR LOCATION?



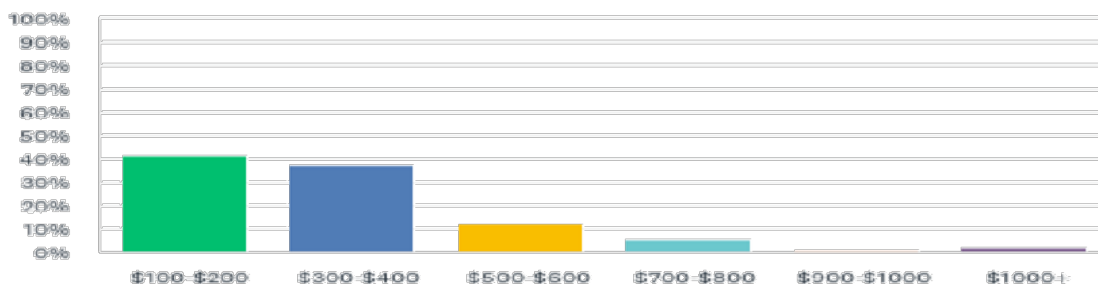
HOW DID YOU TRAVEL TO BOURKE?



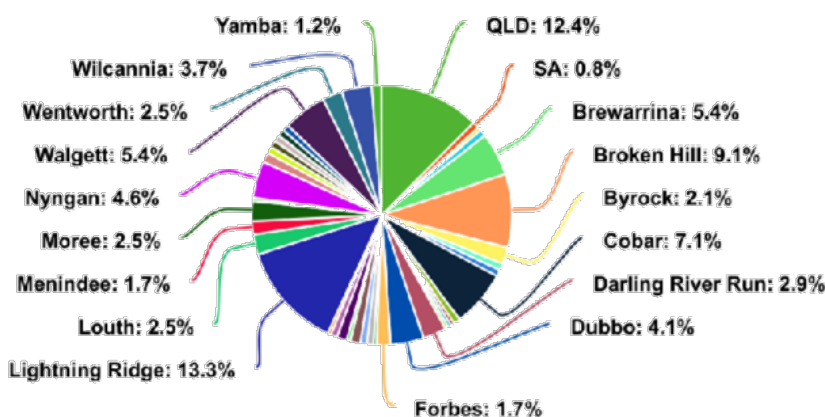
WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU DONE OR PLAN TO DO DURING YOUR STAY?



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?

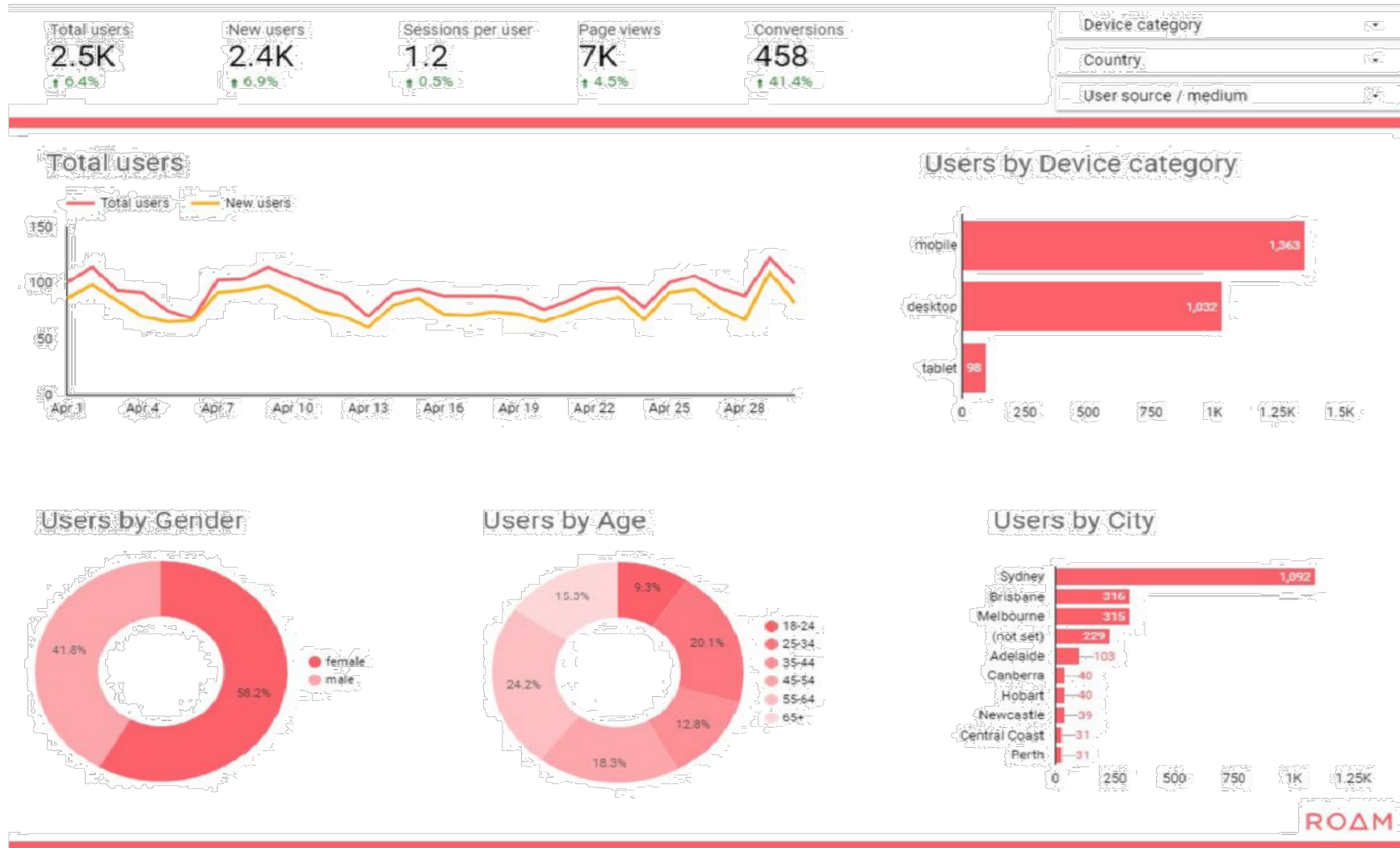


PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT ANY FEEDBACK YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR STAY

- “The Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre is wonderful and needs to be seen by many more people – unfortunately I think price may deter some people.... It would be great if you could reduce it somewhat. Better signage coming out of the last building would be great too. Some of the outdoor story boards are in small print and difficult to read in sunlight. There is a great deed of information in the exhibition – difficult to determine how much to read.... Some simpler/easier to digest exhibits may be better. But a great Centre – congratulations to the council for supporting it!!!”
- “very east to find the Centre – Grace the young girl behind the desk was very helpful”
- “very nice people with lots to see 😊 lovely people”
- “Exhibition Centre – such a wealth of amazing history, really puts Bourke in perspective as a Centre of the outback. We enjoyed attending ANZAC day parade and all ticketed activities. Accommodation clean and comfy. Everyone we met was fun, friendly and welcoming.”
- “The exhibition Centre was amazing. I spend 2 hours reading, listening and experiencing Bourke”
- “Always more sign posts! Accommodation was better than first appeared. Exhibition Centre a huge surprise and fabulous. Staff at exhibition Centre/ tourist info – brilliant. Aboriginal art gallery not open, would have gone there. I saw Cobar sound chapel on TV and wanted to see it and Bourke was nearby. The history in the area was unexpected and terrific. When I travel I always contact info Centre and ask for maps and brochures. Thank you everyone!”
- “Kidman camp lovely, birdlife, great having large sites and grassed areas, trees for shade, info Centre, very good & informative, friendly, knowledgeable staff.”
- “great area”

- “great 1st impression”
- “exhibition was excellent, really enjoyed PV Jandra”
- “exhibition Centre, well presented, but overwhelming amount of writing to read etc at times disjointed”
- “would like to see a laundromat here”
- “Kidman park caravan stay – good friendly people at the info Centre and all other businesses we visited”
- “First day here looking good so far!”
- “It was a great stay, info Centre very helpful! Grace sold us on the yabbies’ at Fords Bridge. Will definitely be back and tell people about Bourke info Centre”
- “Kidman camp – neat, tidy, lovely gardens, big sites Jandra – lovely relaxing two hours, interesting commentary”
- “our air bnb accommodation in north Bourke is a cozy + comfortable cottage (pel rio) with friendly and accommodating owners. There seems to be limited eating and sightseeing opportunities in Bourke but we are doing as much as we can in three days. We were particularly impressed by the back o Bourke exhibition center + its extremely friendly and well informed staff”
- “the staff were very lovely – Grace was very informative about things to do around Bourke and provided us with road conditions”
- “lovely friendly staff”
- “mays bend is great, could do with a dump point. Even if you ave a donation box to help cover costs. Jandra paddle boat will be great, really looking forward to that. The girls on the info centre were fantastic, very lovely + very informative, most enjoyable. They are Bronwyn, Tina and Hannah”
- “all the above activities need to easy to find or the internet”
- “Kidman’s camp very nice”
- “Mitchell caravan park great little park close to town. Bowling club great food
- “Camp Kidman is comfortable – great pools and close to PV Jandra plus had entertainment. Aboriginal Art Gallery is deserted – nothing at all inside. Beautiful original buildings. Great weather – for a Victorian”
- “very helpful staff”
- “kidmans camp – very restful, quiet, well maintained”
- “darling river motel excellent. Cemetery, info center, bowling club – great little town + clean”
- “wish we had more time, will be back”
- “brewarrina boat ramp was okay”
- “nice friendly town”
- “very interesting town, love the history”
- “exhibition is great – hadn’t read much before driving but was bowled over by extent, scale and professional presentation. Needs to be promoted more. Suggestion: recruit artist John Murray to create an iconic + comic image that represents Bourke and use it on all merchandise – t-shirts, stubbyholders, key rings etc”
- “thanks”
- “road conditions”
- “accommodation is cool – people are all friendly”
- “lovely hosts at major mitchell”

BOBEC Website Statistics April 2024



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 22/24 Provision of Pavement Reconstruction - Bourke Urban Areas**

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.

22.2 * Tender 23/24 Supply and Delivery of Aggregates and Raw Materials**

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.

