



AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

23 APRIL 2018

AT 7.00pm

AGENDA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

APOLOGIES

PRESENT

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 26 MARCH 2018

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

COMMEMORATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS – Nil

MAYORAL MINUTES

STAFF REPORTS

General Managers Reports
Economic Development and Environment Reports
Operation Reports
Water and Wastewater Reports
Finance and Assets Reports
People and Services Reports

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Operations Committee Meeting - 9 April 2018
Finance Committee Meeting - 10 April 2018
Sports Advisory Committee Meeting - 11 April 2018
Economic Development Committee - 6 March 2018 and 12 April 2018

NOTICES OF MOTION

Portland Pool – Cr McAndrew
Energy Australia – Cr McAndrew
Coal Fired Power Generation Opportunities for Our LGA – Cr Thompson

BUSINESS OF GREAT URGENCY

as identified by Clause 241 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

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GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

ITEM-1 GM -23/04/18 - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE 2018 DELEGATES

REPORT FROM: GENERAL MANAGER

SUMMARY

The National General Assembly of Local Government conference will be held 17 – 20 June 2018 in Canberra.

COMMENTARY

The “theme for this year’s NGA – Australia’s future: make it local – reflects not just the wide scope and importance of Local Government, but its ability to influence and affect fundamental change and improvement at the community level.

The 2018 theme also hints at the strong possibility a federal election being called later this year or early next. That being the case, Local Government will need to be ready and able to speak up on behalf of our constituents.

ALGA and the State and Territory Local Government Associations are already well advanced in their election advocacy strategies, but this conference will provide important input into the fine-tuning of those plans.

All of the motions that are supported at the NGA are submitted to the ALGA board for consideration and, ultimately, to advance the cause of Local Government and the communities we seek to serve.

The program for this year’s NGA is extensive, with multiple streams of specialist presentations. A range of keynote speakers to inform and inspire attendees.

There have been indication from some Councillors that they are interested in attending the NGA18 conference and

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Conference registrations

- Budget approved - \$88,228
- Cost Centre – 1059
- Expended to date - \$48,334
- Future potential impact – Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Appoint the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and two other Councillors as attendees to the NGA 2018 Conference.
2. Authorise the General Manager or his delegate to attend the Conference

ITEM-2 GM 23/04/18 - MINIMUM GRANT - GRANTS COMMISSION RESPONSE

REPORT BY: GENERAL MANAGER

SUMMARY

The NSW Local Government Grants Commission has responded to the adoption of Lithgow City Council's motion at the NSW Local Government conference in December 2018 and expresses support for Council's position suggesting the matter be taken up at the Federal Sphere which has jurisdiction in this matter.

COMMENTARY

Representatives of NSW Local Government authorities adopted the following resolution advocated by Lithgow Council, at the NSW Local Government Conference held in Sydney in December 2018 –

That Local Government NSW advocates to the State and Federal Governments in the strongest possible terms for a review of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to local government to determine a more equitable methodology for distribution, including but not limited to, a reduction of 30% per capita component to not less than 10%. Amendment carried – became Motion

Motion carried

Correspondence from the Local Government Grants Commission is supportive of the recommendation and note/suggests the following –

“At the last Commonwealth review of general purpose grants under the provisions of the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 (Cwlth) in 2011, the Commission expressed its preferred position for the removal of the minimum grant principle, or if the minimum grant principle were to be retained to do so at a lower level. This was based on the Commission's experience of the skew in the grant allocations caused by the faster rate of population growth in metropolitan councils on the minimum grant compared to the state average growth and also from the population decline in many smaller more remote councils. To date the Commission is not aware of any other agency to make such a submission. It is therefore gratifying that the Conference saw fit to resolve as it did.”

“As the Financial Assistance Grants fall under Federal legislation and the grants are determined by the Federal Government, it would seem appropriate that NSW local councils that support the intent of the resolution individually or collectively now approach Local Government NSW to ask it to advocate to the Federal Government for the position reflected in the resolution.”

“The Commission continues to monitor the effect of minimum grants and to attempt to shift grants to councils of greater relative need within the limits of the national principles.”

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre –N/A
- Expended to date –N/A
- Future potential impact – Greater equity in Grants allocations to regional and rural Councils.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from the NSW Local Government Grants Commission received at Council on 3rd April 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Note the correspondence from the NSW Local Government Grants Commission.
2. Request Local Government NSW advocate to the Federal Government for the position reflected in the resolution adopted at the NSW local Government conference.
3. Correspond with Centroc and the Country Mayors association requesting they also request Local Government NSW to make representations to Local Government NSW as per 2 above.

**ITEM-3 GM - 23/04/18 - CONTINUATION OF REVIEW OF ORGANISATION
STRUCTURE**

REPORT BY: GENERAL MANAGER

SUMMARY

Council's organisational structure continues to evolve. A revised Structure is placed before Council for consideration that continues to support resourcing priorities in key areas of Councils operations. In July 2017 Council endorsed changes giving prominence to "Economic Development" and "Financial Services and Reporting". Council also endorsed Management's recommendation that the revised structure evolve over the ensuing 12 months so that the desired change could facilitate retention of existing staff and minimise cost in the difficult financial environment that Council is experiencing. There is no identified adverse impact on staffing resources at this time, and Management intends to utilise natural attrition and vacant positions as they arise to achieve the outcome desired. Future Organisation Structure changes will occur following the independent assessment of the Operations Division Review due for completion in early May 2018.

COMMENTARY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

In July 2017 Management recommended and Council resolved to do the following-

- The merging of administration's tourism function with the Economic development function to create a "Commercial Response Unit"
- The renaming of the Environment and Development Department to Economic Development and Environment (EDE).
- The establishment of the position Director Economic Development and Environment with the position recruited for a 12 month term using a secondment (Group Manager Environment and Development proposed) within the existing staff establishment. At the end of the 12 month period, Council may review the position.
- The separation of activities within the EDE department into three functions viz.
 - Health and Development which continues with daily operational functions
 - Strategic Land Planning and the
 - Commercial Response unit which combines tourism and economic development activities.

It is now timely to crystallise this structural change and designate the role of Director Economic Development and Environment as "Senior Staff" as per Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1993, with effect in the 18/19 Financial Year. Once designated "Senior Staff" the role will become a fixed-term, performance based contract.

PEOPLE AND SERVICES

In July 2017 Council resolved to transfer the Community Services functions, Communication and Organisational Performance functions to the responsibility of the Manager Organisational Development pending further review in the medium term.

Management now proposes to crystallise these changes together within one Division incorporating the following:

- Human Resources, Payroll, Injury Management, Work Health & Safety, & Risk
- Community Services
- Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R), Corporate & Community Engagement, and
- Aquatic/Leisure Centre (not-for-profit services).

The resourcing of this new Division will evolve over time and wherever possible retain and train existing Council staff to minimise budget impact.

It is timely to implement this structural change and designate the role of “Director People and Services” as “Senior Staff” as per Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1993, with effect in the 18/19 Financial Year. Once designated “Senior Staff”, the role will become a fixed-term performance based contract.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. Funding provisions have been made in the draft 2018/19 budget, with costs partly offset by savings from positions to be removed from the structure following the completion of Senior Staff recruitment.
2. Budget to be approved within the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan approval process.
 - Budget approved – funded from approved budget savings.
 - Cost centre – 3219
 - Expended to date – Nil
 - Future potential impact – dependent on the outcomes of the recruitment process; any costs not included in the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan will need to be offset by savings in the relevant business unit.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

As “Senior Staff” the two contracts of employment referred to above will not be Award based but rather fixed-term, common law employment contracts in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Indicates the current interim Organisation Structure of Lithgow City Council Administration.
2. Indicates the proposed changes to the Organisation Structure of Lithgow City Council Administration incorporating designated senior staff positions.
3. Item 2 of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 17 July 2017
4. Memo to Councillors dated 21 February 2018 re organisation changes
5. Memo to Staff dated 21 February re organisation changes

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Adopt the revised Organisation Structure as recommended by Management in this paper.
2. Finalise the Operations Division Review (Blackadder) Report in early May 2018.
3. Establish a designated “Senior Staff” position of “Director Economic Development and Environment” on a fixed term five year contract funded predominantly by the

budgeted position of Director Economic Development and Environment and proceed to advertise externally as per the Local Government Act.

4. Establish the "People and Services" Department to incorporate: Human Resources, Payroll, Injury Management, Work Health & Safety, Risk, Community Services, Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R), Corporate & Community Engagement, and Aquatic/Leisure Centre (not-for-profit services).
5. Establish a "Senior Staff" position "Director People and Services" on a fixed five year contract funded predominantly by the budgeted position of Organisational Development Manager and proceed to advertise externally as per the Local Government Act.

**ITEM-4 GM - 23/04/18 - ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR COLEMAN AS
EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NSW BRANCH**

REPORT BY: GENERAL MANAGER

SUMMARY

The Australian Local Government Women's Association has advised that Cllr Cassandra Coleman has been elected as an Executive Member of the NSW Branch of that Organisation, and has requested that Council support Cllr Coleman in the duties associated with that position.

Cllr Coleman has requested Council's assistance in facilitating her attendance at a Women's Management skills development workshop over a four day period, held in June 2018 in Sydney.

COMMENTARY

The elections of the ALGWA NSW Branch Executive were held at the annual conference in Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council on Saturday 17th March 2018. Councillors Coleman and Statham attended the conference representing Lithgow Council. Cllr Coleman was elected to the ALGWA NSW Branch Executive for a period of 12 Months. Consistent with her representative role on the Executive, Cllr Coleman is seeking support to attend a four day managerial skills development workshop in June 2018 in Sydney at a cost of \$1190 plus GST.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - \$88,228 (all Councillor expenses)
- Cost centre – 1059
- Expended to date - \$51,858 (all Councillor expenses)
- Future potential impact – Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Correspondence from ALGWA dated 11th April 2018
2. Details of the "Springboard Women's Development Program"

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Note the election of Cllr Coleman as an Executive of the NSW Branch of ALGWA for a period of 12 months.
2. Approve Cllr Coleman attending the 'Springboard' Women's Development Program in June 2018 at a cost of \$1190 plus GST.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT REPORTS

ITEM-5 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - AUSTEN QUARRY EXTENSION PROJECT - MODIFICATION 1 (SSD 6084 MOD 1)

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE

Min No 14-480 - Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 15 December 2014- Austen Quarry Stage 2 Extension Project (SSD 6084)

SUMMARY

To advise Council of a State Significant Development that has been submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) for the Austen Quarry 'Extension Project' - Modification 1(SSD 6084 MOD 1), Jenolan Caves Road, Little Hartley.

COMMENTARY

A State Significant development application has been lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment.

The proposed modifications to SSD 6084 include:

1. An increase to the approved annual quantity of Quarry products transported from the Quarry is proposed to be increased from the approved limit of 1.1 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) to 1.6Mtpa and to increase the associated maximum daily product truck despatch limit from 250 to 300 trucks and the average daily product truck despatch limit from 150 to 200 trucks.
2. A modification to the approved hours of operations to permit truck loading and product transport activities to commence from 4:00am from the currently approved start time of 5:00am.
3. A re-alignment of the extraction area boundary to remove areas no longer to be extracted and to add small areas required to improve safety within the extraction area.
4. A modification to the approved boundary of the overburden emplacement to remove areas no longer required to be disturbed for development.
5. A modification to the wording of conditions relating to biodiversity offsetting obligations to reflect biodiversity credits and a modification to biodiversity offsetting requirements commensurate with the proposed reduction in disturbance.

The following comment is made in relation to the proposed modification:

1. Increase to Annual Production and Increase operating hours for loading, unloading of trucks and vehicle movements

Council Officers have no concerns with the potential increase to the annual production rate, however do have concerns with noise and traffic impacts to the surrounding vicinity.

In 2011, Council approved a modification to the original quarry approval 103/94DA to allow truck and transport movements, loading and unloading, to occur between the hours of 5.00am to 10.00pm Monday to Friday and 5.00am to 3.00pm on Saturdays. This was subsequently carried through to the SSD6084 approval which is a State Government consent. These hours were approved due to early morning noise issues to the most affected neighbouring property and to the surrounding property owners. Council previously commissioned advice from an acoustic consultant in regard to the extension of transport hours with a resolution that there is no guarantee the previous road works undertaken will achieve an acceptable acoustic outcome in the future. Council has concerns that the works on Jenolan Caves Road and Glenroy Bridge will have long term structural effects and will require ongoing maintenance or upkeep to continue to reduce potential noise impacts to the area.

An objector to the previous modification had complaints that vehicles were arriving at the site an hour before opening and queuing at the quarry entrance.

Noise would be required to be managed by all drivers and the quarry operators. There is no certainty of noise avoidance or implications for any breaches of any traffic management plans.

Due to the above concerns, Council Officers are unable to support the extension of operating hours for the loading, unloading of trucks and vehicle movements.

2. Biodiversity Offsetting Obligations

Council is satisfied that Condition 25 of Schedule 3 be amended to reflect the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and the Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2017. Any biodiversity offsetting obligations require the approval from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

3. Overburden Emplacement Boundary

Council is satisfied that the overburden emplacement boundary be modified as it involves a reduction in the offset area previously predicted in the SSD6084 consent.

OTHER ISSUES

The Environmental Impact Statement was supplied to Council and was placed on exhibition for public and authority comments which finished on the 10 April 2018. A submission was made on behalf of Council regarding the development including the above Council concerns and a request for information relating to mitigation measures for noise and traffic on the Glenroy Bridge. The assessment of the proposal will now be undertaken and completed by the Department of Planning and Environment.

During the exhibition of the proposed application, one submission was received by Council. This submission was made by the adjoining owners located at the Glenroy Bridge. The main objection within the submission related to noise and traffic impacts proposed for the extension of operating hours.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - Nil
- Cost centre - Nil
- Expended to date - Nil
- Future potential impact – Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

As the proposal falls within Part 4, Division 4.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* the Department of Planning and Environment will be the consent authority.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission from the adjoining property.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information in the report on the Austen Quarry 'Extension Project' - Modification 1 (SSD 6084 MOD 1), be noted.

**ITEM-6 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - DA041/18 - PROPOSED DWELLING - LOT 10 DP
1223585 - 2 MAYVIEW DRIVE LITHGOW NSW 2790**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY

To advise of the lodgement of Development Application No. DA041/18 by Councillor Ray Thompson and to recommend approval subject to the conditions listed in the 79C report.

COMMENTARY

A Development Application has been lodged on behalf of Ray and Ann Thompson for the construction of a dwelling on Lot 10 DP 1223585, No. 2 Mayview Drive Lithgow.

The residential lot is approximately 1027m² in area and was created by previously approved subdivision DA002/07. The proposal consists of a single storey 4 bedroom clad dwelling with a colourbond roof. The proposed dwelling will be constructed on a timber floor and the floor area is approximately 343.4m².

The proposal was notified to surrounding adjoining landowners for a period of 14 days. No submissions were received by Council.

The application has been assessed in accordance with relevant planning instruments that relate to the land. The proposal has an acceptable impact on the surrounding neighbourhood and environment and can be approved subject to conditions.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council's Policy 7.6 'Development Applications by Councillors and Staff and Relatives or on Council Owned Land requires that any development application lodged by a councillor must be referred to Council for consideration and determination. It further provides that no aspect of the application be dealt with under delegated authority.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - Nil
- Cost centre - Nil
- Expended to date - Nil
- Future potential impact – The Section 94A Contributions Plan 2015 is applicable for the proposed dwelling development.

Estimated Cost of Development	Percentage (%) Contribution/Levy
All development types valued at \$100,000 or less	Nil
All development types valued at \$100,001 and up to \$200,000	0.5%
All development types valued in excess of \$200,000	1%

The total construction cost was estimated at approximately \$419,570.00. Therefore Council's Section 94A Contributions are applicable to the development. A Section 94 Contribution of \$4195.70 was paid on 28 February 2018 by the applicant.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The application must be assessed in accordance with the heads of consideration of Section 4.15 (formerly known as 79C) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Complete 79C Planning Report under separate cover.
2. Proposed Site Plan
3. Proposed Elevations

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. Development Application DA041/18 be approved with conditions of consent as detailed in the Section 4.15 report.
2. A Division be called in accordance with the provisions of Section 375(3) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**ITEM-7 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - DA05818 - PROPOSED PATIO - LOT 2 DP 634789 -
445 SUNNY CORNER ROAD PORTLAND**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY

To advise of the lodgement of Development Application No. DA058/18 by Councillor Maree Statham and to recommend approval subject to the conditions listed in the 79C report.

COMMENTARY

A Development Application has been lodged by Councillor Maree Statham for the construction of a patio at the rear of the existing dwelling on Lot 2 DP 634789, No.445 Sunny Corner Road Portland which has an approximate area of 150 hectares and is zoned RU1 under Council's LEP 2014.

The proposal provides for the construction of a metal framed & roofed patio having external dimensions of 8m x 8m and gutter height of 2.3m, attached to the rear wall of the existing dwelling.

In accordance with Council Policy 7.5, the proposal was not notified to surrounding adjoining landowners.

The application has been assessed in accordance with relevant planning instruments that relate to the land. The proposal has an acceptable impact on the surrounding neighbourhood and environment and can be approved subject to conditions.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council's Policy 7.6 'Development Applications by Councillors and Staff and Relatives or on Council Owned Land requires that any development application lodged by a councillor must be referred to Council for consideration and determination. It further provides that no aspect of the application be dealt with under delegated authority.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - Nil
- Cost centre - Nil
- Expended to date - Nil
- Future potential impact – The Section 94A Contributions Plan 2015 is not applicable in respect to the proposed development.

Estimated Cost of Development	Percentage (%) Contribution/Levy
All development types valued at \$100,000 or less	Nil
All development types valued at \$100,001 and up to \$200,000	0.5%
All development types valued in excess of \$200,000	1%

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The application must be assessed in accordance with the heads of consideration of Section 4.15 (formerly known as 79C) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Complete 4.15 Planning Report under separate cover.
2. Proposed Site Plan
3. Proposed Elevations

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. Development Application DA058/18 be approved with conditions of consent as detailed in the Section 4.15 report.
2. A Division be called in accordance with the provisions of Section 375(3) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**ITEM-8 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - WALLERAWANG ASH REPOSITORY
MODIFICATION 1 - WALLERAWANG POWER STATION**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE

Min No 18-77 - Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 March 2018- Business of Great Urgency

SUMMARY

To advise Council of an application that has been submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department) for the Wallerawang Ash Repository Mod 1, Lot 16 DP 555844, Lot 17 DP 855844 and Lot 5 DP 829137, Wallerawang Power Station.

COMMENTARY

A modification of development consent application has been lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment.

The proposed modification seeks approval for the importation of capping material to Sawyers Swamp Creek Ash Dam and to the existing Kerosene Vale Ash Repository Area.

The project will allow for completion of capping and rehabilitation on the uncapped sections. Capping is required to prevent windborne dust generation at these sites that currently uses sprinklers.

The proposed capping material would comprise virgin excavated natural material (VENM) and excavated natural material (ENM), with majority of the material being crushed shale and sandstone. The material is proposed to be transported to the site via the Great Western Highway, Castlereagh Highway and the Haul Road between Angus Place and the Wallerawang Power Station site.

The modification does not involve changes to any other activities at Sawyers Swamp Creek Ash Dam or the Kerosene Vale Ash Repository Area. Council Officers are satisfied that the modification does not increase the potential impacts to the area in regard to noise and dust impacts. The hours of operation, noise and dust monitoring is to remain on the consent.

The hours of operation being:

Construction activities associated with the project shall only be undertaken during the following hours:

- a) 7:00am to 6:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays, inclusive;*
- b) 8:00am to 1:00pm on Saturdays; and*
- c) at no time on Sundays or public holidays.*

History:

The Kerosene Vale Wallerawang Ash Repository has been used as a dam since 1960 and has been filled with a combination for coal ash from the Wallerawang Power Station and mining spoil. This was capped in 1990 when it reached capacity. Ash placement was initially done using a slurry transfer system, then changed to dry ash placement as it was found to reduce potential environmental impacts. The Sawyers Swamp Creek Ash Dam currently has one main ash pond.

SUBMISSION

The Environmental Impact Statement was supplied to Council and was placed on exhibition for public and authority comments which finished on the 9 April 2018. In response to business of an urgent nature raised at Council's Ordinary meeting of 26 March 2018, a submission was lodged prior to the closing date primarily on traffic investigation of the rail option or strategies to ensure only clean material is transported to site. Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury Councils were also advised of the proposal. The assessment of the proposal will now be undertaken and completed by the Department of Planning and Environment.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - Nil
- Cost centre - Nil
- Expended to date - Nil
- Future potential impact - Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

As the proposal falls within Part 4, Division 4.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* the Department of Planning and Environment will be the consent authority.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The information in the report on the Wallerawang Ash Repository Mod 1, be noted.

ITEM-9 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - REAL ESTATE AGENTS - PROPERTY DISPOSALS AND ACQUISITIONS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY

To propose to Council that expressions of interest be called to seek services of qualified Real Estate Agents for potential property acquisitions and disposals.

COMMENTARY

At Council's Ordinary meeting of 25 September 2017 the Council resolved to set aside funds of \$3,626,130.30 for the purpose of a land bank which will primarily relate to strategic property acquisitions. There are also lands identified in Council's property portfolio surplus to Council's needs that can now be targeted for disposal and the proceeds of sale added to this land bank fund.

With regard to both acquisitions and disposal it would be proposed to engage the services of a local Real Estate Agent to handle these matters on Council's behalf. It may still be necessary to engage the service of a Valuer in certain circumstances to obtain market valuations rather than market appraisals in relation to the value of land particularly in a situation where Council is acquiring land for a purpose and wish to ensure that it is getting the best market price. For disposals, a valuation is required to access the GST margin scheme. In these cases the valuation would be sought from either the appointed real estate agents if they have that capability or an independent valuer.

Council staff are working towards a proper disposal strategy and unsolicited approaches have been made for the purchase of individual parcels. In such a case it may make sense to deal with individuals rather than going to the wider market (eg an approach from an adjoining neighbour) but if this is the case Council needs to ensure any return is in line with the market. There will be other cases where advertising to the wider market is necessary and in this regard the engagement of an Agent will be a pre-requisite. Initial lands for possible acquisition are being investigated and it is important as part of the due diligence process that professional Real Estate advice is at hand to ensure any potential purchase price is fair. Council does not have unlimited resources and owners of land that may be of strategic interest to Council for acquisition should be under no illusion in this regard.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – This would depend on the arrangement with the Agent. In the case of, for example, a property disposal, any cost or commission would be offset against the purchase price.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council call for Expressions of Interest from local Real Estate Agents to act on its behalf for a period of 3 years in property acquisitions and disposals.

WATER AND WASTEWATER REPORTS

ITEM-10 WWW - 23/04/18 - WATER REPORT

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR WATER & WASTEWATER

REFERENCE

Min No 18-65: Ordinary Meeting of Council 26/03/18

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on various water management issues.

COMMENTARY

Current Dam Levels for both Farmers Creek No. 2 Dam and Oberon Dam

Farmers Creek No. 2 Dam capacity on Monday 9th April 2018 was 74.4%. Oberon Dam capacity on Monday 9th April 2018 was 65.2%.

Current Water Usage from Each Supply

Table 1 below indicates total output from the Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant (consumption), the volume transferred from the Clarence Water Transfer System (CWTS) and the volume of water purchased from Water NSW (Fish River Scheme) for 2017/2018.

Table 1 – Oakey Park Monthly Output and Clarence Transfer 2017/2018

Month	Oakey Park WTP (ML)	Clarence Transfer (ML)	Fish River Supply (ML)
July	119.4	0	79.3
August	141.5	0	59.3
September	143.5	0	58.4
October	110.5	102.4	73.4
November	59.0	76.0	63.6
December	88.3	12.2	45.5
January	130.7	55.9	116.2
February	112.0	78.3	73.3
March	122.2	133.7	55.9
TOTAL	1,027.10	458.50	624.9

Clarence Water Transfer Scheme

The Clarence Water Transfer Scheme has been operating since 5th October 2017 and since commencing operation has pumped 514.6 megalitres of water into Farmers Creek No. 2 dam up to 31st March 2018.

Oakey Park Water Quality Summary

Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant is currently supplying water to Lithgow and was supplying water to the villages for the period. No health-based ADWG values were exceeded for the period 17/03/18 to 13/04/18.

Treatment Plants Monitoring Results

Samples are taken on a monthly basis at various locations within the STPs and WTP. Nine samples were taken on 28/03/18 and forwarded to Sydney Water for testing. There were no non-compliances recorded at Council's treatment plants for the month of March 2018, although samples were not collected from Portland STP as the contractors were carrying out the cut-in to bring the upgraded plant into operation. All test results are published on the Lithgow City Council website as required by the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

Fish River Water Scheme Water Quality Summary

Fish River Water Supply supplied water to Lithgow, Marrangaroo, Wallerawang, Lidsdale, Portland, Cullen Bullen, Glen Davis and Rydal. Fish River Water Supply is currently supplying water to Marrangaroo, Wallerawang, Lidsdale, Portland, Cullen Bullen, Glen Davis and Rydal. No health-based ADWG values were exceeded for the period 17/03/18 to 13/04/18.

Current Water Restrictions Update

Level 3 restrictions are effective from Tuesday, 26th September 2017.

Water Saving Schemes or Processes Update

Council's Rainwater Tank and Domestic Appliance Rebate Program continued with Council approving three (3) applications for household appliance rebates and not receiving any applications for a water tank rebate for the period 17/03/18 to 13/04/18.

Water Reticulation Complaints

Council received 11 complaints during the period 17/03/18 to 13/04/18 concerning water quality issues. The unseasonal warm and dry weather conditions have contributed to many of these complaints with samples taken at each location recording relatively high temperatures which is scouring the mains. The water mains were flushed in all instances of water quality complaints and the water was tested at the location of each complaint with there being no exceedances of ADWG values.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council note the water report.

**ITEM-11 WWW - 23/04/18 - CLARENCE TREATED WATER TRANSFER
 OPTIONS**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR WATER & WASTE WATER

SUMMARY

This report is to advise council of discussions being held between Lithgow City Council officers and Centennial Coal's Clarence mine in regards to further upgrade of the current Clarence water transfer scheme.

COMMENTARY

Lithgow City Council and Clarence Colliery have been undertaking water transfers to supplement the water supply for Lithgow since the mid 1980s when the first scheme was constructed and commissioned. The Scheme was then upgraded in 2014 and has been utilised to maintain levels in the Lithgow No 2 Dam. The Scheme has been in operation since October 2017 and has transferred in excess of 450ML to the Lithgow No 2 Dam.

Clarence Colliery currently treats water onsite through their own water treatment plant before it is pumped across to the Lithgow No 2 Dam, the remaining water is then released to the Wollangambe River through an EPA licenced discharge point. Clarence Colliery has been issued with a draft Pollution Reduction Program (PRP) by the NSW EPA. This draft PRP requires Clarence Colliery to remove any discharge from the Wollangambe River by a yet to be agreed date. Clarence Colliery & Lithgow Council Officers began discussions on options to upgrade the existing transfer scheme to be a mutually beneficial option for removing the release point from the Wollangambe River to a beneficial point for the Lithgow LGA.

It is proposed that the discharge point be moved to release flows to both Lithgow No 1 & Lithgow No 2 dams. This would mean an even greater water security for the Lithgow LGA and also maintain flows to other downstream users such as Lake Lyell Recreation Park and the greater Sydney basin water source.

Lithgow City Council and Centennial Coal Clarence would like to progress this proposal and are seeking in principle support to allow this to continue to progress.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – To be confirmed after agreement and adoption of MOU
- Cost centre - TBA
- Expended to date - NIL
- Future potential impact – To be assessed after agreement and adoption of an negotiated MOU

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Provide in principle support for the transfer of treated water from Clarence Colliery to Lithgow No 2 Dam.
2. Delegate the General Manager to negotiate an agreement for the transfer of Treated Water from Clarence Colliery to Lithgow No 2 Dam.

FINANCE AND ASSETS REPORTS

ITEM-12 FIN - 23/04/18 - CORPORATE IMAGE & COMMUNICATIONS POLICY SUITE

REPORT BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL & INFORMATION OFFICER

SUMMARY

To provide Council with a suite of policies to ensure that Council has a consistent corporate brand and presents itself in a professional and credible manner when engaging with the community. Also, to seek endorsement to place the following policies on exhibition for 28 days for public comment:

- Policy 4.6 Customer Service & Unreasonable Complainants Version 4
- Policy 4.10 Community Engagement and Communications Policy Version 1
- Policy 9.10 Council Workshops and Briefing Sessions Version 3
- Policy 9.12 Media and Social Media Policy Version 3
- Policy 9.16 Corporate Image Policy Version 1

COMMENTARY

Policy 4.6 Customer Service & Unreasonable Complainants

The Customer Service & Unreasonable Complainants Policy provides guidance for staff and Councillors in dealing with customers.

The policy has been comprehensively reviewed to ensure consistency with:

- The Council Customer Service Charter; and
- The NSW Ombudsman's Unreasonable Complainant Guidelines.

The policy statements have been consolidated into a more clear and concise policy document.

Policy 4.10 Community Engagement and Communications Policy

The Community Engagement and Communications Policy has been developed to ensure that Council meets legislative requirements for community engagement and communication. The policy encourages community participation in decision making. The policy presents an open and transparent process for informing, involving and engaging the community, as well as defining the role of Councillors, management and staff.

Policy 9.10 Council Workshops and Briefing Sessions

The Council Workshops and Briefing Sessions Policy has been updated to include reference to Policy 4.10 Community Engagement and Communications Policy. In addition, the policy has been linked to the Community Strategic Plan 2030.

Policy 9.12 Media and Social Media Policy

The Media and Social Media Policy has been comprehensively reviewed and presents an open and transparent process for Council's use of media and social media platforms. The policy also defines the role of Councillors, management and staff.

The policy statements have been consolidated into a more clear and concise policy document.

Policy 9.16 Corporate Image Policy

The Corporate Image Policy has been developed to protect the image and reputation of Council by clearly defining how the corporate Brand can be used. The policy establishes a framework to govern activities to ensure that Council is professionally represented in a unified, consistent and positive manner.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Following the exhibition period the policies will be returned to Council for adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved - nil
- Cost centre - nil
- Expended to date - nil
- Future potential impact - nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The policies reflect relevant legislation and regulations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Policy 4.6 Customer Service & Unreasonable Complainants Version 4
2. Draft Policy 4.10 Community Engagement and Communications Policy Version 1
3. Draft Policy 9.10 Council Workshops and Briefing Sessions Version 3
4. Draft Policy 9.12 Media and Social Media Policy Version 3
5. Draft Policy 9.16 Corporate Image Policy Version 1

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Endorse the following draft policies for public exhibition and comment for 28 days:
 - a. Draft Policy 4.6 Customer Service & Unreasonable Complainants Version 4
 - b. Draft Policy 4.10 Community Engagement and Communications Policy Version 1
 - c. Draft Policy 9.10 Council Workshops and Briefing Sessions Version 3
 - d. Draft Policy 9.12 Media and Social Media Policy Version 3
 - e. Draft Policy 9.16 Corporate Image Policy Version 1
2. Following the exhibition period that Policies be returned to Council for adoption.

PEOPLE AND SERVICES

ITEM-13 P&S - 23/04/18 - PROPOSAL TO TRIAL A NEW WAY OF WORKING WITH YOUTH COUNCIL

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER PEOPLE AND SERVICES

SUMMARY

Youth Council has been in operation for approximately 9 years and at various times has struggled to attract and retain members. There are currently 3 active members. In a bid to boost membership and youth engagement, it is proposed to trial a new way of working with the Youth Council, with a focus on project-based and youth led participation.

COMMENTARY

A youth-led and project-based Youth Council will involve members being supported by Council staff to identify priorities and engage in practical projects of benefit to young people. Youth Council will work to address local issues such as youth homelessness, lack of employment, drugs and alcohol, mental health, and better social and recreational opportunities.

As part of the proposed new structure, young people will assume the role of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Project Worker. The participation and contribution of members will be noted, with a reference outlining achievements provided by Council at the end of their term.

It is proposed that the Youth Council Terms of Reference be amended to allow for meetings to be held every six weeks, from 3.30pm to 5pm. This will allow for a smooth transition from school to Youth Council meetings and enable students from Portland enough time to attend. To facilitate access to resources and information, meetings will be held at Lithgow Library's youth space with afternoon tea provided.

The Youth Council will remain a committee of Council to ensure young people have a voice on Council, and the Minutes of the Youth Council meetings will continue to be reported to Council. However, to foster a more streamlined administrative process and retain young people's interest and engagement in Youth Council matters, it is proposed that membership be open and not require Council endorsement. Young people will be free to join at any time and participate in accordance with the Terms of Reference and Code of Practice.

Councillors who sit on Youth Council, currently Councillors Lesslie and Coleman, will attend on a bi-annual basis where Youth Council members will report on their community concerns and the current projects they've been working on. Councillors will also be provided time to present to Youth Council on matters related to Council business, consultation and feedback. Organisational representatives will attend on an invite basis only as special guest speakers to support and enhance the goals of the Youth Council. Membership will strictly consist of young people aged 12-24 years.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Councils across the state work with young people in various formats and, provided members adhere to the Code of Conduct, there are no legislative implications tied to the structure and governance of youth committees in NSW.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Youth Council current Terms of Reference

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council amend the Youth Council Terms of Reference as follows:

1. The positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to be filled by young people.
2. Membership of Youth Council to not require Council endorsement.
3. Councillors to attend Youth Council meetings on a bi-annual basis
4. Organisational representatives to attend by invitation.
5. The quorum for meetings to be reduced from six (6) to four (4) members.

**ITEM-14 P&S - 23/04/18 - COMBINED DELIVERY PROGRAM 2017-21 AND
DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018-19**

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER PEOPLE AND SERVICES / CFIO

REFERENCE

Min 17-194 Ordinary Meeting of Council 26 June 2017

SUMMARY

The Council's Combined Delivery Program 2017/18-2020/21, Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 and Draft Fees and Charges 2018/19 have been prepared and are included as an attachment for the consideration of Council to place on public exhibition.

The Delivery Program 2017/18-2020/21 was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 June 2017 by Council for its four year term of office.

The Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 details the operational (recurrent or annual) activities, capital works and new initiatives to be undertaken in the 2018/19 financial year. The Operational Plan implements the Delivery Program 2017-2021 and is provided to Council for endorsement to place on public exhibition.

COMMENTARY

Background

In October 2009, NSW Parliament passed the Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Bill 2009 requiring all NSW local Councils to develop a 4 year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan as part of an overall Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

Lithgow City Council plays an important role in the community by undertaking a wide range of activities and works on behalf of residents and visitors. To inform the community of these planned activities and works, the Council prepares a combined four year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan. The Plan provides details of how Council will fund planned activities and how Council will measure its performance.

Following a series of internal workshops with Councillors, the draft Operational Plan 2018/19 has been prepared and details Council's activities and Revenue Policy for 2018/19. It incorporates the strategies of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 for the year ahead, including those activities which are operational (recurrent or annual) activities or capital works and new initiatives to be undertaken.

An overview of some of the key features contained in the Council's combined Delivery Program 2017/18- 2020/21 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 is provided below. The aim of the Plan is to provide a solid financial framework to ensure infrastructure and services can be provided to meet the requirements of residents and ratepayers within the means of the Council.

General Rates

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the task of setting the annual rate peg is delegated to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Authority (IPART).

In December 2017, IPART announced that the 2018/2019 Rate Peg Determination would be 2.3%. The rate pegging limit has been reflected in the Draft Operational Plan 2018/2019.

Land valuations as at 1 July 2016 will be applied for the 2018/2019 annual rate levy.

Fees and Charges

For 2018/19, the Council has undertaken a thorough review of its fees and charges, utilising an improved methodology which includes:

- The convening of a Fees and Charges Working Party which met regularly from September 2017 to January 2018;
- The 2.3% rate peg being applied to all non-regulatory / non-legislated fees and charges and rounding to nearest 50c or \$;
- A conscious pricing exercise to identify the pricing principle / basis for fees and charges under Council's jurisdiction and to set appropriate pricing for 2018/19; and
- A review of GST being undertaken to ensure tax was correctly applied.

A full summary of the main changes to Fees and Charges for 2018/19 are included on pages 5-11 of the Draft Fees & Charges document included as an attachment to this report. New fees are identified throughout the schedule of Fees and Charges pp13-113. Regulatory / legislated fees and charges are applied on advice from relevant authorities.

Interest Income

Interest income is an important source of revenue to fund services. The interest income earned on Council's investments is impacted by the average level of funds invested and the interest rates available. Whilst it is extremely difficult to forecast future interest rates, the 2018/19 budget allows for a modest increase in investment income of \$88,000.

Parking Special Rate

The Parking Special Rate is levied on 150 CBD business properties within the designated area of Lithgow. This rate is to fund the maintenance of parking facilities within the designated area. Council will apply the ad valorem rate for 2018/19, 0.9539, to the valuations of applicable properties. This will generate income of \$254,768.

Current Special Rate Variation – Infrastructure Levy

Council resolved in 2009 to apply to the Minister for Local Government for a special rate variation for infrastructure improvements in the local government area. The variation was approved for a 10 year period (ending on 30 June 2019). Funds raised by this special rate are being used to improve many of the local roads and community buildings.

Council continues to apply for grants to both the State and Federal Governments and for corporate sponsorship in addition to the special rate to progress improvements as quickly as possible.

The works funded by the Special Rate Variation are included in the combined Delivery Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 page 129.

Section 94A Levy Contributions

Council has undertaken a review of its Development Contributions Framework and has proceeded with the introduction of a Section 94A Levy Plan that will apply across the LGA.

The proposed S94A Works Program are summarised in the Operational Plan 2018/19 page 130. The summary identifies the Section 94A Levy Contribution portion only for each project.

Waste Charges

For 2018/19, it is proposed that there will be no general increase in 2017/18 Waste charges for residential and business properties.

A report presented to the March Council meeting provided details of a potential waste charge increase resulting from China's recycling ban policy. The Council resolved to “note the need to apply a special waste charge of approximately \$32 in the 2018/2019 financial year depending on whether government funding eventuates” (Minute No. 18-62). At this stage, a special rate charge has not been included in the draft 2018/19 waste charges.

Waste Charges		
Type of Service	Charge (\$) (GST ex)	Estimated Yield (\$) (GST ex)
Residential	431.81	3,650,738
Business	431.81	273,552
Non Rateable	431.81	54,840
Unoccupied Urban	176.11	85,413
Rural	113.54	269,658
Total Estimated Yield		4,334,200

Stormwater Charges

It is proposed that the following stormwater charges will be levied on all residential and business properties within identified urban areas (except those which are vacant land) and remain unchanged from the 2017/2018 stormwater charges. Income raised from the stormwater charge is allocated to both capital and recurrent projects relating to new or additional stormwater management services.

Stormwater Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	25.00	155,825
Strata Unit (Residential)	12.50	1,625
Business	25.00 per 350sq metres (\$1,500 Cap)	86,825
Total Estimated Yield		244,275

Grant Funding and Corporate Sponsorship

The Council will continue to apply for funding from the State and Federal Government and other sources. The Council prepares business cases prior to applying for funding. Many grants require the Council to contribute matching funds which depletes the Council's resources. Business cases take into account the whole-of-life cycle costs relating to funding applications for new assets, for example, maintenance and future renewal expenses. Business cases are only approved if recurrent and renewal costs can be covered.

In 2018/19, key projects to be funded by capital grants and contributions include:

- \$1.165M – CBD Revitalisation
- \$1.048M – Adventure Playground
- \$1.1M – Roads to Recovery (operational grant)
- \$1M – Lithgow Resource Recovery (waste transfer station)

- \$776K – Union Theatre Dressing Rooms
- \$2M – Cullen Bullen Sewerage Upgrade (project commencement)

In cases where grant funding has not yet been formally approved, projects may only proceed once grant funding is confirmed.

Best Practice Water and Sewer Pricing

The Council is committed to the ongoing implementation of the Water NSW Guidelines for Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage.

The 2018/19 water pricing structure ensures that the Lithgow local government area maintains water charges in compliance with the Best Practice Guidelines, that is, a minimum of 75% of residential income from usage and 25% of revenue from access charges.

As stated in the Water and Wastewater issues report which was presented to the March Council meeting (Minute No. 18-75), a complete review of water and wastewater access and usage charges will be conducted as part of preparation of the 2019/20 Operational Plan.

Sewerage Charges

Over recent years Council has spent approximately \$43 million on the upgrade of the Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland Sewerage Treatment Plants. Work is planned to commence on both the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme and the West Bowenfels Sewerage Scheme, to which Council has allocated \$10 million in the 2018/2019 budget.

Council has reviewed the sewerage access and usage charges and has decided to increase residential and business access and business usage charges by 2.3% from the 2017/2018 year.

The sewerage usage charges will be levied to all properties using Council's reticulated sewerage system.

Sewerage Charges		
Sewerage Access Charge		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	936.00	6,727,961
Less write-off pension rebate		(168,246)
Business (main size):		
200mm	1,212.26	727
100mm	1,212.26	24,815
50mm	1,065.97	65,344
20mm	805.10	287,461
Total Estimated Yield		6,938,062
Sewerage Business Usage Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	
Business (most commonly 95% of water usage)	1.74	

Water Charges

The residential or business water availability charge will be levied on all rateable and non-rateable properties which are connected to or within 225 metres of Council's reticulated water supply system. Water usage charges will be levied to all properties using Council's reticulated water supply system (charges rounded to nearest dollar).

Water usage charges for each tier of the residential and business water usage charges have been increased by the 2.3% general rate peg. All water access charges have also been increased by 2.3%.

The 2017/18 financial year was the first year in which the tier structure was used for Business Usage Charges. Based on feedback received during the year, Tier 2 for business has been adjusted to >500 kl water usage. Based on historical data, approximately 80% of businesses use less than 500 kl of water per annum and will only pay Tier 1 usage charges.

Water Charges		
Water Availability Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	189.26	1,472,782
Less write-off pension rebate		(171,076)
Business (main size):		
200mm	1,204.00	1,204
100mm	1,204.00	32,499
50mm	1,059.00	83,667
20mm	800.00	334,337
Total Estimated Yield		1,753,413
Water Usage Charges - Residential		
Kilolitres Used	Charge (\$)	
0 – 250 Residential	3.23 / kl	
250+ Residential	4.85 / kl	
Water Usage Charges - Business		
Kilolitres Used	Charge (\$)	
0 – 500 Business	3.23 / kl	
500+ Business	4.85 / kl	

Interest charges on outstanding property balances

Interest to be charged on rate and charges arrears has been set by the Office Local Government at a maximum of 7.5% for 2018/19.

Capital projects and discretionary expenditure

The draft Capital Works Program is summarised in the draft Operational Plan 2018/19 pages 125-126.

At the March Council meeting, it was resolved to “consider the construction of a footpath on Wolgan Road, Lidsdale subject to an assessment of current project priorities within the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan” (minute No. 18-63). The Lidsdale footpath project has not been included in draft Capital Works Program at this stage.

Proposed Borrowings

There are two borrowings planned for new projects in 2018/2019. These will be for water and sewer projects. Council may draw down a loan for the Portland Sewerage Treatment Plant approved by Council for the 2015/16 budget; the amount required is \$3,800,000. The borrowings will be sought from lending institutions approved by the Office of the Local Government. The loans will be secured against future Council income.

Proposed Loan Borrowings			
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	\$	\$	
Water Reservoirs Upgrade	2,500,000		
West Bowenfels Sewer Scheme	6,200,000		
Cullen Bullen Sewer Scheme		2,000,000	

Proposed 2018/19 Service Reductions

The Council took a zero-based budgeting approach in developing the draft 2018/19 budget. The approach involved a systematic review of the actual cost of funding service programs. Historical costs were utilised as a reference guide. In addition, internal overhead allocations were thoroughly reviewed to ensure that they accurately reflected direct and indirect costs.

The first draft of the 2018/19 budget using the new approach resulted in a consolidated operating deficit (before capital) of (\$1.373M).

To reduce the operating deficit (before capital), the following action was taken:

- 10% reduction in operating service levels (e.g. maintenance) in Transport and Recreation;
- Postponement of non-essential operating programs;
- Up to 25% reduction in priority operating project budgets;
- Adjustments to the materials and contracts and other expenses budgets to truly reflect historical funding costs, as well as holding budgets to 2017/18 levels;
- Review of revenue budgets to maximise own source operating revenue (i.e. income excluding grants and contributions); and
- Exclusion of all business cases involving new appointments, with the exception of a contract Service Review Coordinator role.

As a result of the above actions, the 2018/19 draft budget operating deficit (before capital) has been reduced to (\$637K).

Proposed Special Rate Variation

On 26 June 2017, the Council adopted the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) 2017-2026 (Minute No. 17-194) which is available for viewing on Councils website. The LTFP included “Scenario 3 – Sustainable Assets” which proposed the continuation of the existing Special Rate Variation (SRV) “when it ceases on the assumption that a new permanent SRV of the same amount will be applied for and approved” (LTFP - p25).

The purpose of the proposed SRV is to improve financial sustainability, to fund infrastructure renewals and to fund asset maintenance. The proposed SRV will enable the Council to meet all Fit for the Future ratios during the term of the LTFP.

The following are key considerations in the Council's decision to prepare a Special Rate Variation application:

- The Council has implemented a range of improvement initiatives to more accurately reflect the council's true financial position and to also demonstrate council's commitment to generate ongoing operational efficiencies;
- The Council is continuing to look for further improvements to reduce the reliance on extra rating revenue;
- The Council is committed to an extensive process to engage with the community to explain the reasons for seeking approval for an SRV. The community will be consulted in setting affordable levels of service, related asset planning, the impact of the SRV on rates and the alternative option to an SRV (i.e. further service reductions).

The proposed SRV represents the continuation of the existing 4.77% SRV together with a further 4.23% to ensure Council becomes financially sustainable by meeting all of the Fit for the Future benchmarks by the end of the LTFP period. The impact of the proposed SRV on rates is summarised in the table below:

Table 1: Proposed SRV Impact on Rates

ANNUAL RATE INCREASE (%)	2019/20	2020/21	2020/22
Rate Peg (estimate)	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Additional Special Rate Variation	6.5%		
Total Annual Increase	9.0%	2.5%	2.5%
* Expiring Special Rate Variation	-4.77%		
Net Impact on Rates	4.23%	2.5%	2.5%

* If there was no additional Special Rate Variation in 2019/20, ratepayers would experience a 4.77% decrease in rates, then the rate peg would be applied.

As detailed in the adopted LTFP, without an SRV the Council "is not able to generate an operating surplus nor achieve the Operating Performance Ratio. The backlog ratio has not improved significantly and does not achieve the target." (LTFP Scenario 2 – p23). Operating costs are rising faster than the Council's ability to generate operating revenue. The only alternative to an SRV application is to make further cuts to services to deliver a balanced operating result (before capital), consistent with Fit for the Future requirements.

Community Engagement

The Combined Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Draft Operational Plan 2018-2019 is provided for Council's consideration to place on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days. The closing date for public submissions will be Monday 21 May 2018. This will allow the document to be put to the Council for final adoption prior to 30 June 2018.

Should the Council endorse the Combined Delivery Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19, a video of the community presentation providing information on the contents of the Draft Operational Plan will be uploaded to YouTube, linked to Councils website www.haveyoursay.lithgow.com and promoted through media and social media channels. A Community 'Open House' Session will also be held on Thursday 3 May between 11.30am and 2.30pm in the Cook Street Plaza (weather permitting) to enable members of the community to meet with Council Officers and Councillors to discuss the Draft 2018/19 Operational Plan. In the event of inclement weather, the 'Open House' session will be held in the Council Chambers.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of the combined Delivery Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 are detailed in the financial plans provided.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Local Government Act 1993, Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Bill 2009 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 outlines requirements for the preparation, exhibition and adoption of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. The Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan must be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days

ATTACHMENTS

1. The combined Delivery Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19
2. Draft Fees and Charges 2018/19

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. The combined Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19 be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. This will include the following documents:
 - a. The combined Delivery Program 2017– 2021 and Draft Operational Plan 2018/19.
 - b. Draft Fees and Charges 2018/19.
2. The closing date for submissions is Monday 21 May 2018.
3. Council confirm Long Term Financial Plan Scenario 3 as its preferred option for financial sustainability and notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Authority (IPART) of its intention to prepare an Application for a Special Variation based on the table below:

SRV Information	Proposed Application
Type of Special Rate Variation	Application under Section 508(2) of the NSW Local Government Act – being an increase in a single year.
Percentage increase	9% in 2019/20 (to replace the expiring 4.77% SRV in 2019/20).
Permanent or temporary increase	A permanent increase which is retained within the rate base.
Purpose of the Special Rate Variation	Primary purposes (based on IPART categories): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvements in financial sustainability; and• Reductions in backlogs for asset maintenance and renewal.

4. Council staff prepare an Application for a Special Rate Variation and submit the draft application for endorsement prior to the 2018/19 SRV deadline.

ITEM-15 P&S - 23/04/18 - COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE TO NSW PUBLIC LIBRARIES ASSOCIATE

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER PEOPLE AND SERVICES

SUMMARY

The NSW Public Libraries Association has invited Lithgow City Council to nominate an elected representative to the Association.

COMMENTARY

Lithgow City Council's representative can support the Lithgow Library and libraries generally through lobbying and strengthening funding campaigns to the NSW Government. The representative would also be key to strengthening the partnership of the association with Local Government NSW (LGNSW). The representative will be invited to attend the Libraries – Central West Zone meetings (which occur 4 times per year), as well as the annual NSWPLA SWITCH Conference (this year to be held in Coffs Harbour in November). At the local level, the representative will be a strong support for the library and an advocate for resources and services.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – nil
- Cost centre – n/a
- Expended to date – n/a
- Future potential impact – travel and accommodation costs to Zone meetings and conferences.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Correspondence from NSW Public Libraries Association,

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council Nominate a Councillor as Lithgow City Council's representative to the NSW Public Libraries Association.

ITEM-16 P&S - 23/04/18 - POLICY 4.2 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER PEOPLE AND SERVICES

SUMMARY

Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance – Section 356 of the Local Government Act, is currently due for review.

This report recommends that, in view of the budgetary constraints facing Council and to ensure a rigorous assessment process for annual approval of financial assistance, Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance should be amended to remove the automatic allocation of Recurrent Financial Assistance each year to nominated groups. All community groups would be required to apply for Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance each year.

COMMENTARY

Council currently provides financial assistance to not-for-profit community groups and organisations under Section 356 of Local Government Act, 1993, in the following categories:

- Recurrent Financial Assistance
- Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance, including fee waivers and sporting related financial Assistance

Recurrent Financial Assistance

Recurrent Financial Assistance has been provided to the organisations listed below for a number of years as these organisations (in accordance with Policy 4.2) have been regarded as contributing to the retention and further development of social capital within individual communities. Council has determined the amount of the allocation in each year's Operational Plan.

Recurrent Financial Recipient	2017/18 Amount
Lithgow Show Society	\$12,300
Ironfest Festival	\$12,300
Lithgow Chamber of Commerce programs and events	\$12,300
Western Region Academy of Sport	\$1,780
White Ribbon Day	\$500
Schools for end of year academic prizes	\$930
Lithgow Tidy Towns	\$2,050
Wallerawang Tidy Towns	\$1,025
Portland Tidy Towns	\$1,025
Cullen Bullen Tidy Towns	\$1,025
Portland Golf Club	\$860
Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre Rental Assistance	\$11,000
Arts Outwest	\$12,749
Total	\$69,844

Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance

Council allocates an amount in each year’s Operational Plan for Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance and calls for applications in April and October each year. Applications from the community are considered by the Community Development Committee which makes recommendations to Council on the projects and amounts to be awarded.

The Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance allocation includes an amount of \$1,000 for the waiver of fees and charges for the use of Council facilities (approval delegated to the General Manager), \$10,000 for four Civic Ballroom and Tony Luchetti Showground fee waiver packages each (up to a value of \$2,500 each) and an allocation for sporting-related sponsorships / financial assistance (including the waiving of sportsground hire fees, as well as financial assistance for junior representatives). Sporting related applications are considered by Council’s Sports Advisory Committee and are reported separately for Council endorsement.

Council has allocated \$87,000 for Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance in the current year.

Draft 2018/19 Operational Plan

Council has made an allocation of \$147,500 in the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan as follows:

Recurrent Financial Assistance	\$52,500
Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance	\$54,000
Portland Pool	\$41,000

The allocation for both Recurrent and Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance is less than the current year allocation due to budget constraints.

The allocation for Portland Pool is outside the scope of Policy 4.2 and the allocation is set in the annual Operational Plan as a contribution to assist the non-profit Portland & District Olympic Pool Assn with the costs of operating a community facility. The Portland Pool contribution has been increased in the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan to include a specific allocation of \$6,000 towards the costs of water usage.

Conclusion

It is a number of years since the list of Recurrent Financial Assistance recipients was reviewed. Circumstances may have changed for individual recipients and may continue to change into the future. A reduced Financial Assistance allocation in the 2018/19 Operational Plan will reduce the amount available for allocation to recipients therefore it is timely to reconsider ways in which funds can be allocated to the highest need projects.

It is recommended that the Recurrent Financial Assistance category be deleted with current recipients required to apply for Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance each year. In this way, the Community Development Committee and Council will be better able to assess the relative merits of all Financial Assistance applications at the same time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report recommends that Council removes the Recurrent Financial Assistance category from Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – The draft 2018/19 allocation is \$147,500

- Cost centre - Recurrent Financial Assistance 600063 and Non- Recurrent Financial Assistance 600059
- Expended to date - Nil
- Future potential impact - The combined allocation for Recurrent and Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance may be reduced in future years.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council provides financial assistance to not-for-profit community groups and organisations under Section 356 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Amend Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance by removing the Recurrent Financial Assistance category and requiring current Recurrent Financial Assistance recipients to apply for Non-Recurrent Financial Assistance each year.
2. Note that a review of Policy 4.2 Financial Assistance has commenced and that the draft revised policy will be presented to the May Council meeting to be endorsed for public exhibition and comment for 28 days.

ITEM-17 P&S - 23/04/18 - RURAL SUICIDE PREVENTION FORUM

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER PEOPLE AND SERVICES

SUMMARY

This report advises Council on the recent Rural Suicide Prevention Forum convened by the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health at the University of Newcastle.

COMMENTARY

The Deputy Mayor and Manager Community and Culture attended a recent Rural Suicide Prevention Forum on 27 March 2018 in Sydney. Council was invited to participate in this select Forum by Dr David Perkins of the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health at the University of Newcastle (based in Orange) because of the work Council is doing in relation to mental health and suicide prevention.

The Forum participants included the NSW Governor, the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) and a range of participants from government, local government, industry and other sectors.

The Forum heard from a range of speakers on the nature and extent of suicide in rural and remote areas and current initiatives to address it. A central theme of the Forum was that the factors underlying suicide and mental health are far more than medical, but relate to social, economic and geographic factors. Certain groups such as young people and men may be particularly affected.

Of particular relevance to Lithgow was a presentation by Andrew McMahon of the Mates in Mining group on suicide prevention within the mining industry. Another presentation from Muswellbrook Council discussed how that Council is dealing with economic and industry change by promoting community resilience and jobs growth.

The papers from the Forum will be circulated to Councillors once available.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Rural Suicide and Its Prevention: A Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health Position Paper

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council Note the report on the recent Rural Suicide Prevention Forum convened by the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

ITEM-18 OPER - 23/04/18 - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 9
APRIL 2018

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER OPERATIONS

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held 9 April 2018.

COMMENTARY

At the Operations Committee Meeting held 9th April 2018, the following items were discussed:

- Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme – Update
- CBD Revitalisation Project – Update
- South Bowenfels Infrastructure Study
- Portland STP - Update

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held 9th April 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council note the Operations Committee Meeting Minutes; and

1. Request the consultant to nominate a specific result date and provide a timeline; and
 - Council staff notify all perspective developers of progress; and
 2. Council staff draft a media release for INSW approval to update Portland residents; and
 3. Council staff advise concerned residents of the options to deter vandals at Blast Furnace Park; and
 4. Council staff draft an informative media release on the process of removal and replacement of problem trees at Lake Wallace, Wallerawang.
-

ITEM-19 FIN - 23/04/18 - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 10 APRIL 2018

REPORT BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL AND INFORMATION OFFICER

SUMMARY

This report provides details of the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 10 April 2018.

COMMENTARY

At the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 10 April 2018, the following items were resolved:

- Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018.

The following items were noted by the Committee:

- Discussion regarding the setting of the business water usage tiers for the draft 2018/19 Operational Plan.
- The status of finalising the draft 2018/19 budget.
- March monthly performance report to the OLG.
- Report on March 2018 month & year-to-date financial results and budget variances.
- The Audit Action List.

The following business paper recommendations were endorsed by the Committee:

March 2018 Investment Report

THAT Council

1. Note the investments balance of \$30,390,000.00 and cash balance of \$74,117.97 for the period ending 31 March 2018.
2. Note the enclosed certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

Boundary Adjustment Between Lithgow City Council And Blue Mountains City Council

THAT Council

1. Receive the report by the Chief Financial and Information Officer on the Council Locality boundary adjustment between Lithgow City Council and Blue Mountains City Council.
2. Approve the boundary adjustment transferring Lot 1 DP 1223992, Lot 2 DP 1223992, part of Lot 5 DP 2941 and part of Lot 6 DP 2941 totalling 3396m2 to Lithgow City Council from Blue Mountains City Council.
3. Approve the amendment of rates related to Lot 1 DP 1223992, Lot 2 DP 1223992, part Lot 5 DP 2941 and part Lot 6 DP 2941 from the date the boundary adjustment is proclaimed in the Government Gazette.
4. Confirm nil rates arrears relating to Lot 1 DP 1223992, Lot 2 DP 1223992, part Lot 5 DP 2941 and part Lot 6 DP 2941, totalling 3396m2, will be accepted by Lithgow City Council upon Proclamation.
5. Confirm no provision for rates will need to be made in the Council boundary adjustment Proclamation.

Request for Adjustment To Water Account - Property 57050

THAT Council

1. Write-off \$3,822.73 for water usage charges on property 57050 due to hardship.
2. Notify the property owner in writing of Council's resolution.

Policy Reviews

THAT Council adopt the following policies as exhibited:

- Policy 8.2 Change in Category for Rating Purposes
- Policy 9.16 Compliance Policy
- Policy 1.4 Tendering Policy

Portland STP Loan

THAT Council approve the sourcing of a \$3.8m loan for the Portland STP upgrade from a lending institution approved by the Office of Local Government.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Finance Committee Meeting held 10 April 2018.
2. March 2018 Investments Report.
3. Boundary Adjustment Between Lithgow City Council and Blue Mountains City Council.
4. Request for Adjustment to Water Account - Property 57050.
5. Policy Reviews Report.
6. Portland STP Loan Report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Note the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 10 April 2018 and the items not requiring a resolution of Council;
2. Note the Committee's endorsement of recommendations proposed in the Finance and Assets business papers to be put to the April Council meeting.
3. Endorse the recommendations proposed in the March 2018 Investment Report, Boundary Adjustment Between Lithgow City Council And Blue Mountains City Council report, Request For Adjustment To Water Account - Property 57050 report, Policy Reviews Report and Portland STP Loan Report.

**ITEM-20 OPER - 23/04/18 - SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES 11 APRIL 2018**

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE MANAGER OPERATIONS

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held 11 April 2018.

COMMENTARY

At the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held 11th April 2018, the following items were discussed:

- LJ Hooker Reg Cowden Sports Star of the Year Awards
- Booking Requests

The following items were outside the Committee's delegations and require Council to formally consider the recommendations:

- New Member Request – Lithgow District Netball Association

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held 11 April 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council note the Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held 11 April 2018.

**ITEM-21 ECDEV - 23/04/18 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF 6 MARCH 2018 and 12 APRIL 2018**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meetings held 6 March and 12 April 2018.

COMMENTARY

At the Economic Development Committee Meeting held 6 March 2018, the following item was discussed:

- Presentations by Working Parties

At the Economic Development Committee Meeting held 12 April 2018, the following items were discussed:

- Recommendations of Working Parties
- Regional Economic Development Strategy

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget approved – N/A
- Cost centre – N/A
- Expended to date – N/A
- Future potential impact – N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting 6 March 2018
2. Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting 12 April 2018

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the recommendations of the Economic Development Committee meetings of 6 March 2018 and 12 April 2018 be adopted.

NOTICE OF MOTION

ITEM-22 NOTICE OF MOTION - 23/04/18 - PORTLAND POOL

REPORT BY: CR WAYNE MCANDREW

COMMENTARY

Portland Pool is run by a not for profit association and incurs significant and unavoidable costs for the services and facilities it provides to the Portland and surrounding users in the Lithgow LGA.

Council provides recurring financial support each year of an amount of \$35000, however increasing Insurance, maintenance and water costs require a reassessment of the level of support for this community focused organisation.

Portland pool have recently received their Water and Sewer Account in the amount of \$5280.36 and are seeking assistance from Council with this cost.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Agree to waive the fee of \$5280.26 for this financial year and
2. Increase its recurring annual contribution by \$6000 to accommodate future water and sewer charges so that this cost no longer remains a recurring impost.

Management Comment:

Background:

In 2017/18, the annual contribution paid by Council was increased from \$30,000 to \$35,000. In addition, Council resolved in January 2018, to refund \$2,916.68 to the Portland Pool Association for a previous water account.

ITEM-23 NOTICE OF MOTION - 23/04/18 - ENERGY AUSTRALIA

REPORT BY: COUNCILLOR WAYNE MCANDREW

COMMENTARY

It is now over four years since the closure of the Wallerawang Power Station and the subsequent loss of over 300 local jobs.

During that time there has been talk of repurposing the Wallerawang site and to that end, the Company have advised that they have sought a number of expressions of interest for future site use opportunities.

After four years nothing has eventuated and I am concerned that nothing ever will.

Indeed, recent discussions and media comments around Wallerawang and Mount Piper sites have been about asbestos removal and dumping, ash dam capping with Sydney soil transported by truck with up to 300 movements per day and the proposal to truck in and burn Sydney garbage at Mt Piper Power Station, all issues of concern for Council and our community

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council seek an urgent full and detailed presentation and explanation by Energy Australia on the ash dam capping and the burning of Sydney garbage proposals and an update on any progress regarding the repurposing of the Wallerawang site.

ITEM-24 NOTICE OF MOTION - 23/04/18 - COAL FIRED POWER GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR LGA

REPORT BY: CR RAY THOMPSON

COMMENTARY

Once again we are seeing much media discussion and political machinations around coal fired base load power and electricity affordability and availability within our Country.

The proposed closure or sale of the Liddell Power Station in the Hunter Valley of NSW is front pages news with some parts of the current Coalition Government also talking up the Latrobe Valley.

As elected representatives within our community, we need to ensure that we are not left behind in this debate. There is the potential for two extra coal fired units at Mr Piper Power Station and of course we have closed Wallerawang Power Station site with all the infrastructure in place that would enable a new high efficiency low emissions (HELE) coal fired plant to be built on the site.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council immediately lobby all political parties both State and Federal, brief media outlets and call for meetings with whomever we can to ensure that the Lithgow LGA is seen as a viable and real solution to our country's future base load power requirements.

BUSINESS OF GREAT URGENCY

In accordance with Clause 241 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 business may be transacted at a meeting of Council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the Councillors. However, this can happen only of:

- a) *A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting; and*
- b) *The business proposed to be brought forward is ruled by the Chairperson to be of great urgency.*

CLOSED COUNCIL

**ITEM-25 CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL - FIN - 23/04/18 - CENTROC TENDER
EVALUATION BITUMEN EMULSION**

REPORT BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL AND INFORMATION OFFICER

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

SUMMARY

This report seeks endorsement from Council to accept a tender submission for the provision of bitumen emulsion to Lithgow City Council for the period of 1 April 2018 through 31 March 2020

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider the report in relation to the tender submission for the provision of bitumen emulsion in Closed Council in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**ITEM-26 CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL - FIN - 23/04/18 - TENDER EVALUATION
SHAFT STREET RESERVOIRS**

REPORT BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL AND INFORMATION OFFICER

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

SUMMARY

This report seeks endorsement from Council to accept a tender submission for the upgrade of the Shaft Street Reservoirs.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider the report in relation to the tender submission for the upgrade of the Shaft Street Reservoirs in Closed Council in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**ITEM-27 CONFIDENTIAL COUNCIL - GM - 23/04/18 - CENTRAL TABLELANDS
 ALLIANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND
 MEMBERS**

REPORT BY: GENERAL MANAGER

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)

SUMMARY

Previously Lithgow City and Oberon Councils resolved to support the implementation of the Central Tablelands Alliance (CTA) Audit Committee. The Terms of Reference outlined that each Council should endorse a Chair for the committee subject to a number of concessions.

This report seeks Councils endorsement of the Chair and Independent Committee members.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider the report Audit Committee – Appointment of Chair and Members in closed council in accordance with Section 10A (2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.